



MONTH OF DECEMBER 2022

BISHOPS' ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS MESSAGE



Missing the point:

I saw a driver with his taxi at the side of the road. He said he had a serious engine trouble. He was trying to solve the problem just polishing the dashboard, cleaning the seats, pumping air into the tires, spraying perfumes... I had malaria and

was trying to get rid of it... I tried changing bed... even tried changing my room, I tried changing my clothes... but malaria was still there. I understood that if I have Malaria I have to take my dose and wait. Healing comes from outside with my help

As we go through life we experience good things but at the same time we see and experience evil. Where is evil coming from? What is the solution? Unless we understand this, all remedies might be good but not will not be the right solution of the roots of the problem We cannot solve the problem unless we identify it correctly and take the right remedy. **Can Advent and Christmas inspire us in this search?** Is the identity of the problem of evil Political? Military? Religious? Can evil be abolished by our political leaders in parliament, by our police, by our churches? Can we destroy evil with good laws, bullets, religion?

We know by experience and by God's word that the root of evil is in the hearts of people... nothing but change of heart can be the only possible and real solution. We know by experience that this cannot be done by the laws of our parliament, by policing the people who do wrong or by simply belonging to a religion-church affiliation.

The Advent and Christmas liturgy speak of a change of heart, of allowing Christ to enter the heart and converting us from within. Good politics, policing and religious practices can help only if we allow Christ to come in and change our hearts. Advent and Christmas is all about a change of direction, conversion, taking the right remedy to the real problem of evil, eliminating it

*from the heart, the place where it starts and come from.*

**Advent and Christmas are not about washing the wind shield, it they are all about a total engine overhaul, they are about becoming better persons, preparing the way of the Lord with His help, with a change of heart, a new identity, news life style, new destination**

**This kind of journey is made of two moments:**

- **The negative part: removing the dirt,** casting off the deeds of darkness, the dark side of our lives: orgies, drunkenness, sexual excess, violence, jealousy, pride, selfishness
- **The positive part: filling** the heart with Christ, climbing the lord's mountain, that he may instruct us in his ways and walk in his paths and sharing in His own same light

This is a journey with a destination: doing something positive to build a new world: defending and proclaiming the truth, promoting justice, spreading peace and love, changing our swords into plowshares, our spears into pruning hooks

**Advent and Christmas are all about opening and widening our life's horizons**

- Millions of people do not have the necessities of life, they are victims of collective evil, the evil we do together by doing nothing
- Fighting evil is to give priority to His kingdom of peace, truth, justice and love. To build the common good, to defend our common home as universal brothers and sisters with a new heart: a Christmas heart

Let us avoid useless expenses, smoke, drinks, beetle nut, let us contribute to help the poor, let us abolish violence from our minds and hearts, let us keep SOBER...

**WISHING YOU ALL HOLY AND JOUYFUL CHRISTMAS WITH YOUR FAMILY AND YOUR COMMUNITY**

For you a Bishop, with you a brother who loves you with a SOLO heart made in Italy: Bp Luciano Capelli, sdb

**BISHOP'S ANNIVERSARIES**

**Inside this issue**

Bishops Pastoral message  
Priest Page  
BP Pastoral visitation

page 1  
page 2  
Page 3

Youth Page  
Southern Deanery News in bits  
Northern Deanery News in bits  
Health Tips

page 4  
page 5  
page 6  
page 7

**HAPPY CHRISTMAS & PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR**

May this season find you among those you love,  
sharing in the twin glories of generosity and gratitude. May the magic of  
the Christmas and new year season fill your home with joy and peace.

Sending lots of love to your family, and looking forward to  
the day we can see you again.



**IT IS LOGICAL TO BE GOOD**



*If you are a businessman,  
you want to gain at the end of a business venture.  
Life can be analogous to this.*

If you are bad, and there is no heaven nor hell,  
when you die you lose nothing.

If you are good, and there is no heaven nor hell,  
when you die you lose nothing.

If you are bad, and there is heaven and hell,  
when you die you go to hell, you lose everything.

If you are good, and there is heaven and hell,  
when you die you gain heaven (as promised),  
you gain more than everything.

If you are bad,  
you either lose nothing or lose everything.

If you are good,  
you either lose nothing or gain everything.

Therefore, I think it is more logical to be good,  
it is the only way you gain in the end.

## BISHOPS PASTORAL VISIT TO PARISHES

### Bishop Completes his Final Pastoral visit to Parishes.



Bishop Luciano Capelli has finally completed his pastoral visit to our eight parishes as he prepares for his retirement as a shepherd for the diocese.

He visited the Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish at Wagina in June and visited the Holy Rosary Parish of Nila and St Eusebius Noro parish in October.

While in Wagina, he had the privilege to visit seaweed farming and observed the effect of climate change that affected the coastal areas.

On November 16th, he took a plane to Taro airstrip, boarded a boat and travelled to Moli and returned back to Taro. He then travelled to Sirovanga, and Voruvoru parishes.

He visited the schools at Moli on Choiseul and

Nila in the Shortlands. He also had the opportunity to visit Maleai village in Shortlands and continued to celebrate the feast day of their Parish of the Holy Rosary.

The beautiful and very touching moment was when he celebrated the Thanksgiving Masses, where about 450 children received their Confirmation. Part of those who received their Confirmation were Edward Bakabio in his 90s; a pagan from Malaita and Miss Susan Mabe who is in her 70s who was converted from the United Church.

Bishop's visitation was to bring encouragement and hope to those who were involved in pastoral work and all people of the parishes and to have time to talk with his priests and individual.

During this period, he celebrated his birthday and his episcopal anniversary here in St. Peter's Cathedral Gizo. Bishop Luciano Capelli sdb then announced his retirement in his episcopal retirement letter to the Pope.

Celebrating his birthday, the bishop asked everyone to have a dream. He clarified that without a dream there is no energy to go through the challenges of life, however, he encourages us to have the energy to go through.

"There are so many dreams that, with the help of each other we are able to achieve."

He said that without resources but because of dreams, there are so many realities that happened, built by all of us in communion.

In his messages, he continued to ask us to promote and highlight three words promoting Synodality. These are Communion, Participation, and Mission.

He also reminded us of a sentence he said during his installment as a bishop fifteen years ago, telling us he will spend his last breath here in the diocese.

He also reminded us that we are his family, he felt at home, and his home is to be with us.

Bishop Luciano Capelli sdb is now 75 years old and awaiting his retirement to be accepted by the Holy Father.

## HOLY ROSARY AND ST. JOSEPH PARISH

### Moli Youths maintain involvement in Sports.



MYSA (Moli Youth Soccer Association) soccer and netball continues to involve youths in their parish so as to be motivated.

One of the privileges is to have these youths involved in other activities like fundraisings and parish programs.

One area that improves their physical and mental concern is to keep them fit through private exercises. By seeing themselves improve, they become motivated in other areas.

The biggest outcome is; one is actually refraining from alcohol and smoking, setting goals to do better.

### About 80 Students Sit for the Final Exam.



About 80 students from our diocesan schools are among those from other schools who sat for their final exams in the month of November 2022.

After some long academic years, we wish these students from Nila and Moli the very best and good luck with their final exam.

One might think of just one final exam for him/her, but those who have achieved their hard work have many more to come.

The only secondary schools administrated by our Catholic Diocese here in Gizo; are St John Bosco Nila Junior Secondary School with 30 students in Form 3 and 24 students from Senior Division in Form 5. In addition, 26 are Form three students from St. Joseph's Moli Catholic School.

A big thank you goes to the parents for doing the feeding during the 2022 final exam.



## ST. PETER PARISH GIZO

### 28 Children Receive First Holy Communion for St. Peter Gizo.



Twenty-eight candidates received their first Holy Communion here in St. Peter's Cathedral Gizo, on Sunday 6th November.

A touching celebration began with the Thanksgiving Mass with the bishop's homily. His message encouraged everyone to have Jesus in one's own life.

After the Mass, they gathered for their refreshment, which allowed their parents and Religious Sisters to thank them.

They were reminded that they still have to prepare for Confirmation.

Candidates were from Titiana, Nusabaruku and Gizo.



### St. Peter Gizo receives Aid from the Don Bosco Mission, in Germany.



St. Peter's Parish Gizo was fortunate to receive purchased items for the schools around the parish.

These are projects applied for by our Parish Priest, Fr. Lawrence Kimaere OP.

The grass cutters were purposely for the followings:

1. One for St. Peter's Parish
2. One for St Marcellin Primary School
3. One for St Dominics RTC
4. One for Vanga Teachers College
5. One for Nusabaruku Clinic/Church
6. One for Nusabaruku School

Purchased items include a 300 L deep freezer for St Martha Women's Group and 3 x 30 watts solar panel sets for St Marcellin Primary School in Vanga.

Items have already been distributed to the recipients.

## ST. JOSEPH MOLI & DON BOSCO PARISH.

### Remembering the Deaths, Still Maintain.

All souls day is the only day to commemorate our loved ones who left us.

This kind of practice was not new to our ancestors who frequently visited them for other ritual purposes.

Today we believe All Souls Day is a day to commemorate all the faithful departed, those baptized Christians who are believed to be in purgatory because they died with the guilt of lesser sins on their souls.

Remembering them through prayers is not enough, keeping their home well organized is keeping them closer to us.

For St. Joseph Moli parish, cleanup is progressing well with the Assistant Parish Priest who is also part of Piumadara All Souls day visitation.



### 12 Receive Sacrament of Marriage

Six couples from the St. Don Bosco parish Taro finally received their Marriage Sacrament after their marriage preparation.

At the signing of their vow for their lasting commitment as man and woman to a lifelong partnership, all who gathered witnessed and congratulated them on the occasion on 11 November.

Fr. Jacob Qetobacho celebrated their thanksgiving mass and delivered a challenging and



encouraging homily for these couples and all the parishioners.

**CHRISTMAS**



Bible Reading;  
**Is 9:1-6 / Tit 2:11-14**  
**Lk 2:1-14**  
**Is 52:7-10 / Heb 1:1-6**  
**Jn 1:1-18**

## VIRUS AND BACTERIA

### Virus vs Bacteria

Viruses are not living organism

Viruses only grow and produce inside of the host cells they infect. When found outside of these living cells, viruses are dormant. Their "life" therefore requires the hijacking of the biochemical activities of a living cell.

Viruses are submicroscopic

A viral infection is systemic. Viruses infect a host cell and then multiply by the thousands, leaving the host cell and affecting other cells of the body.

Systemic diseases caused by viral infection include influenza, measles, polio, AIDS, and covid 19.

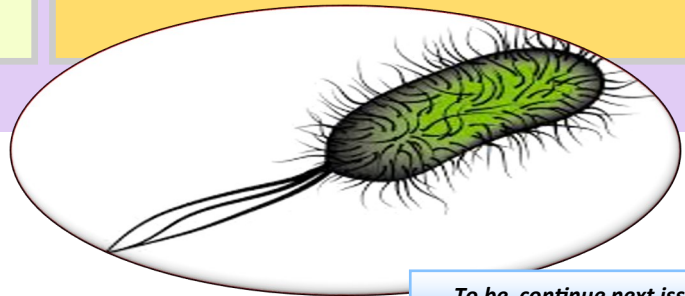
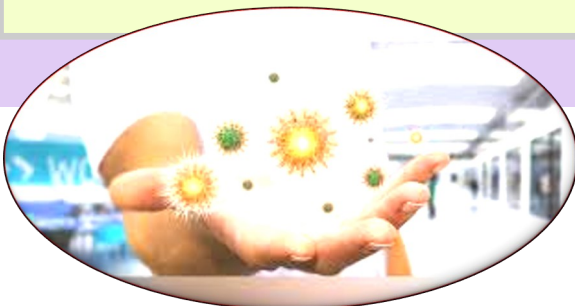
Bacteria are living organism

They are living organisms that consist of single cell that can generate energy, make its own food, move and reproduces. This allows bacteria to live in many places—soil, water, plants and human body—and serve many purposes.

Bacteria are giant compared to virus

Bacterial infection is usually confined to a part of the body, described as a localized infection. Infections may or by toxins produced.

Bacterial diseases include pneumonia, tuberculosis, tetanus, and food poisoning.



To be continue next issue

## THE DIOCESE OF GIZO UPCOMING EVENTS 2023 - YET TO COME

### Happy New Year 2023!!

“Here's to a bright New Year and a fond farewell to the old; here's to the things that are yet to come, and to the memories that we hold.” “May you have a prosperous New Year.”  
“Wishing you a happy, healthy New Year.” “May the New Year bless you with health, wealth, and happiness.”