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**Diocese Pastoral Theme for the month of November**

**“We Listen; open to serve each other”**



## LET'S PREPARE TO CELEBRATE A PEACEFUL CHRISTMAS BY A PEACEFUL ADVENT SEASON

As we begin the Advent season let us reflect on how we can plan and experience a season of TRUE and deep Christian Peace in our hearts, families and communities.

Christmas is a season of peace, but if we forget Christ this Christmas then Christmas will be empty experience, without meaning and without peace deep inside. In this case we will have to try to fill the emptiness with other 'surrogates' or emptying experiences like alcohol, games and other substances. These will knock out our self control center on the top two inches of our heads making us behave like 'brainless people'. Then violence will most probably follow and take over our lives and that peace filling Christmas experience will be lost again... what might then follow is a 'superficial short lasting and romantic payer and feeling' followed by drinking, gambling and troubles.

This kind of Christianity and Christmas is meaningless and leaves us totally empty; it gives us a wrong experience and a wrong message to our youth. It is a pagan Christmas, a Christ-less one.

Christmas without Christ is not Christmas at all... it is like a radio or torch or mobile phone with flat battery...a light without bulb... useless and meaningless. Even sharing of gifts becomes meaningless

Let us then defend peace in our communities' this Christmas:

I CHALLENGE EVERY man and woman, every family, every mom and dad, every youth, every priest and catechists, every prayer leader. I challenge every man and woman who was trained by our pastoral team these past years: **let us renew the way we celebrate Christmas.....**

### WE WANT A PEACEFUL CHRISTMAS

*WE WANT CHRIST'S PEACE THIS CHRISTMAS...  
NO TO VIOLENCE IN THE HOMES, IN THE COMMUNITY, IN THE CHURCH,  
NO TO ALCOHOL, KWASO, MARIJUANA...  
YES TO CHRIST THE NEW BORN KING OF OUR HEARTS  
Yes to his peace, joy, love, service, good will*

We can do it if we decide to: let us prove that we can!!  
With my blessings for each one of you and your families,

**Have a Peaceful and holy Christmas**

For you a Bishop  
With you a brother



**“We promote, live and experience in our lives, the Value of DIALOGUE as a way to live Church as Community with our brothers and sisters and the nature around us.”**



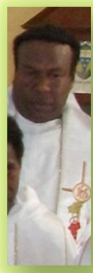
## **Priesthood Anniversaries**

**Fr. Peter Kobakini op**  
Parish Priest, Christ the King  
Parish  
Voruvuru  
2nd December  
1992—2013



**Fr. Gabriel Matotewa**  
Parish Priest, St. Joseph Parish Moli  
6th December  
2009—2013

**Fr. Stephen Kamo**  
op  
Parish Priest for  
Gilbertese Community of  
Diocese of Gizo  
10th December  
1985—2013



**Fr. Peter Lalaigalo op**  
Assistant Parish Priest, St Dominic Parish Sirovanga  
2009—2013

### ***IT IS CHRISTMAS WHEN:***

*You smile to a brother and reach out to him with a hand shake*

*You remain silent in order to listen*

*Every time you refuse to accept what puts the poor aside and emarginates them*



*Every time you hope with those who despair in physical and spiritual poverty*

*Every time you recognize with humility all your limitations and weaknesses*

*Every time you allow the Lord to be re-born in you in order to donate it to the others*

*M.Teresa di Calcutta*



# CHRISTMAS WISHES



Love, care, friendship and togetherness make the Christmas time all the more unique.

Christmas also means spreading the affection of our heart into the lives of

others & bringing in pleasure & cheers. Christmas is a perfect time to say love & good wishes for those we care for.

*May the spirit of Christmas bring you peace. The gladness of Christmas give you hope. AND The warmth of Christ-*

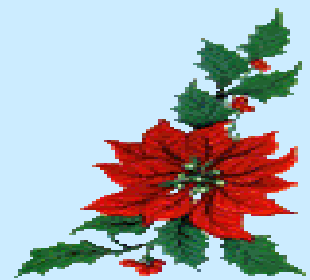
*mas grant u love. Happy Christmas.*

*"Let us enjoy this Christmas which has allowed us to share our joy with near and dear ones. Merry Christmas",*

*Love start from your house, to your neighborhood, to your community, to your nation and to the whole world. Spread love to all those you meet. Let everyone feel the love of Christ. Merry Christmas to you!*

## A Christmas Prayer

*Jesus, the Light of the World, as we celebrate your birth . . . may we begin to see the world in the light of the understanding you give us. As you chose the lowly, the outcasts, and the poor to receive the greatest news the world had ever known, so may we worship you in meekness of heart. May we also remember our brothers and sisters less fortunate than ourselves in this season of giving. Amen.*



# \_\_ Happenings in Our Diocese \_\_

## Ongoing Establishment, Expect to Graduates more for the next Decades

Our Catholic Diocese of Gizo is expecting to graduate more students from its secondary's and training centers in the next forthcoming years.

The diocese which prioritizes education for youths, ensured achievement of its goals, through building schools to cater for both primary and secondary schools dropouts.

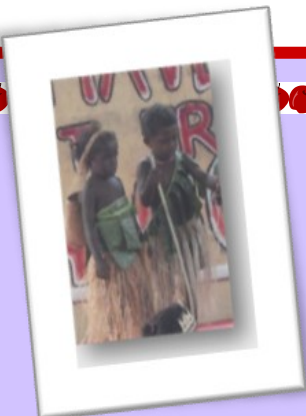
This ongoing establishment has enabled, young school dropouts, to continue with their education through enrolling, in either technical or urban and rural training centers. These establishments, currently ongoing are sure signs of progress in line with its planning and development program.

We have the long time established rural training center and the prestigious teachers college situated at Vanga on Kolombangara. St. Ann's vocational school, now has been boosted with the newly opened St Don Bosco School, venturing into both academic and technical streamlines at Nila.

Moli School Project will soon see and upgraded St Joseph's Senior High, and to soon boast a new technical school.



It is likely that the es-



**Your children will become what you are; so be what you want them to be.**

*~unknown Author*

# — NEWS IN BITS —

## Cultural Day for Children Praise.

A cultural day for Saint Peter's Kindergarten children is being praised by parents and guidance.



A mother said that young age is the time for many questions to be raised by these children, and such an event enabled them to explore new things and allowed parents to have the opportunity to sit close with them, and tell

them all about the event.

She said that these days people ignore our culture and start to adopt a new style of life. And more find it harder to adopt our culture. Younger age is a right time to involve them in such activity, and when they grow up they may keep alive their identity.

The event which took place at St. Peter's hall on the 20th of this month highlights the different kinds of costumes worn by these children and everyone can tell where each child is from. The activity ended successfully with local fruits for the children.

## ST. Peter's U.T.C Graduate Second Batch of Students.

Saint Peter's Urban Training Center here in the Catholic diocese of Gizo again graduated its second batch of students on the 29<sup>th</sup> of November 2013.

The graduation ceremony began with the Thanksgiving Mass with the bishop's wonderful send away homily to graduates and



parents. The occasion which gave an opportunity to hear from the different guests of honor, perhaps would enlighten the graduates, in their quest to achieve their goals.

Attending the occasion were guests, from the church representatives and guest of honor the provincial minister for

the Education Western, the bishop of the diocese of Gizo, parents and friends.

The presentations of awards really challenged other students who cannot make it this year.

The program continued with food, dully prepared, along with entertainment from students.

## More from St. Peter's Kindergarten to attend Pre-school next Year



Twenty graduate children will on pre-school next year 2014. This is after the supervisor of the Saint Peter's Kindergarten school made an announcement to parents, that this children

who paid there school fees are likely their names been registered for next year seating. Dorothy remind every parents that this practice will now come to effect.

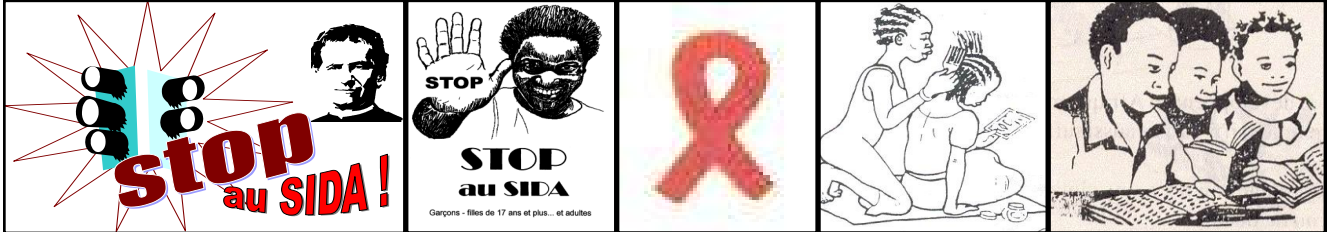
The graduation on the 4th of December makes the ending of the school year of the St. Peter's Kindergarten.



FROM NOVEMBER ISSUE

EDUCATION 4 LIFE

FOR AN EDUCATION TO VALUES AGAINST HIV/AIDS



FRIENDSHIP

4 LOVE CALLS FOR TRUST

ask anything and so you will never receive anything.

Trust can be shown by:

- Borrowing and lending things;
- Trying to convey your thoughts;
- Accepting good advice;
- Speaking respectfully of the one you trust



Some people say:



*“No one can be trusted, not even your own father.”*

Trusting involves taking risks. If you daren't make the first move, you will never get anything. If you don't trust someone you will never give that person anything, nor will you ever

**If the other person changes friends like changing clothes, it show that friendship is not being taken seriously**

*The Koran: “God doesn't love misers who force others to be like them, Nor does he love people who hide what God in his goodness has given them.”*  
(4,41)