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Diocese Pastoral Theme for the month of August

“We unite to fully give ourselves to each other”

Bishop's Pastoral Message for the Month of August

(August Theme)

“United to fully give of ourselves to each other”

“Communion of communities” is the true definition of Church, the body of Christ alive here and now

The nature of the church is communion, the mission of the church is communion, the message of the church is communion. The building of kingdom of God of communion, peace, love, truth and justice needs a people united in communion with God and each other

Our pastoral monthly themes for this year are about communicating, dialogue, listening, sharing in three dimension of our Christian life: In our relationship with God, in our relationship with each other as a community and in the missionary and pastoral services to our neighbor.

The aspect of August focuses more **on the reason why we must be one**, why we should listen, to God and each other and try to be one community...

Why listen to God, why listen to each other? Why must we be united? Is there a good reason why we should be united?

Yes there is A REASON TO BE UNITED

Because we need each other...
Because we have been made for each other

Because we have been called to share ourselves
Because to give ourselves to each other is part of our nature, the way we have been made...

Because alone we are incomplete, unhappy
Because I cannot be truly myself unless I share myself with you...

Because you cannot be yourself unless you share yourself with me

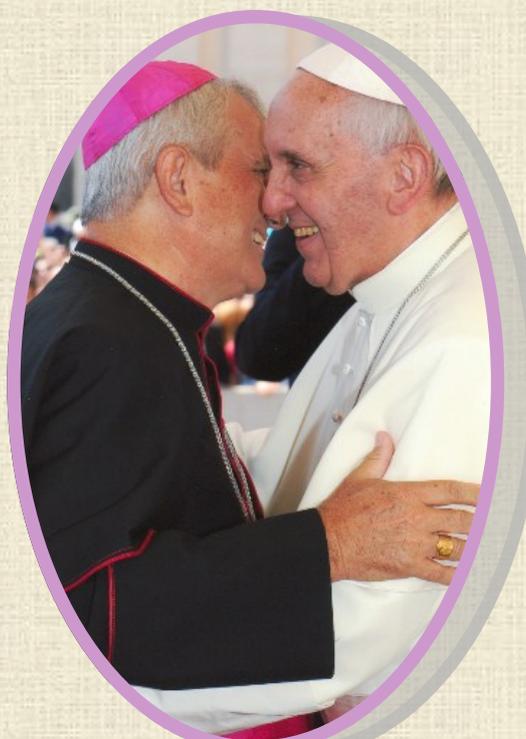
Because unity if the message and the purpose of the kingdom Christ came to establish
Because he prayed for us to be one
Because Christ died to make us one
Because when we become one we defeat the viruses

which spoil the world: selfishness, pride, jealousy, envy, hatred,

May He lead us to unity so that we may be HIM here on earth

With my best wishes and blessings
From your bishop who loves you with a solo heart made in Italy

Bp Luciano Capelli, sdb
Gizo diocese





“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.”



WORLD YOUTH DAY 2013

28th of July



WYD
CATHOLIC DIOCESE
OF GIZO

**“Go and Make Disciples of All Nations”
Theme for World Youth Day 2013**

THE PURPOSE OF WORLD YOUTH DAY IS THREEFOLD

1. Putting Trust in the Young

World Youth Day is a coming together of young adults from the four corners of the world and a strong reminder of the strength and confidence the young bring to the Church today.

2. Gathering Together

World Youth Day is not simply a gathering for the young people of the world, but a time to put trust in the world's youth. A calling for the world's youth to come together as one people.

3. Meeting the International World on a Human Level

It is still a marvel in this the 21st Century to exchange with others and to be a part of an international experience. International events are able to stir much hope but also many fears (increase in fundamentalism, nationalism and other new conflicts. . .) The Church and Christians themselves have a role to play in preventing the development of these fears, and in aiding each person in finding their way and discovering hope.

Let us join with others from all over the world.

WE ARE CALL TO listen and reflect on the word of God.



Jerome Kuibatu.
(Pastoral Coordinator)

Let me share with you my short reflection on our Diocesan Message for this month which reads, **"WE LISTEN ATTENTIVELY TO THE WORD OF GOD, THE SOURCE OF STRENGTH FOR OUR JOURNEY"**

This message has reminded us again to reflect on the word of God and believe it. Reflecting on the word of God should strengthen us to continue our Christian Journey. Our action is the evidence of the word of God alive in us.

As the letter of St James 2:14 say to the early church and to us, *"My brothers, what good is it for someone to say that he has faith if his actions do not prove it?"*

Therefore, faith always calls for actions of good deeds. To put into practice our Christian faith is always challenging which sometimes we find it hard to overcome. But the Message of this month we are again reminded that only the word of God can strengthen us to do his holy will. We cannot do it with our own strength. We cannot listen attentively to His word with out His Grace.

Therefore, we have been invited by this month's message to invite the Lord to strengthen us to experience Him in his Holy word. On the 7th of July we have commemorated the feast day of Blessed Peter To Rot.

Peter to Rot had given us a good and a concrete example of somebody who had experienced the word of God. The word of God, Jesus His Beloved Son, is the source of his strength. He was tested for his faith at the time of hardships and difficulties, and he gave up his last breath for his faith because of His great love for God and for His people the church.

As lay people we are also called to walk in the footsteps of Blessed Peter to Rot to always listen to the word of God to strengthen us to face the challenges of life. And at the end of the day we might say yes, I've done it Lord.

I would also like to encourage us all to take the diocesan monthly message seriously. Find a time to reflect and pray about it. The monthly message is there to help us in our Christian Journey to experience the word of God alive in each one of us.

God bless us all!

**FEAST OF
BLESSED PETER TO ROT**
(1912 - 1945) Feast Day July 7



"I am here because of those who did not want the growth of God's Kingdom"

Peter To Rot was a married layman and a native of Papua New Guinea. A brilliant and intuitive catechist, this father of three was martyred "for the faith" in a Japanese concentration camp at the end of World War II, at age 33. The willingness of this young man to "witness" in its particular sense as a "martyr" is a sign of commitment to the life in the Holy Spirit among the indigenous people of Oceania.

PRIESTHOOD ANNIVERSARY
(2007–2013) July 7th

*Your generous service as Priest is much appreciated
Thank you and God bless you.*

2 Corinthians 9:12

For the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God.



Happening in our Parishes.

WYD PENTECOST CELEBRATION REFLECTIONS FROM SEVERAL YOUTH OF ST DOMINIC



(By Dominic Tamanabatu)

I am one of the youth members in the St Dominic Parish, and I like to share my experience of the WYD celebration on **PENTECOST DAY**, I really experience the fruit of the spirit, joy and happiness with me, as we participate together in the liturgy, action choruses, leading prayer devotions, listening to different speakers about the spirit, which is very fruitful in my life,

I learn new hymns and gain my confidence as I dance the offertory procession.



(By Marina Qilaruma)

I am one of the youth leaders in St Dominic Parish and I am very grateful this year for the performance of our youths in the Parish, since the Youth Encounter was conducted, more youths were enroll in the youths program, I would like to share my experience during the **WYD celebration** that took place on **PENTECOST SUNDAY May 19th**, I really experienced the difference in which I used to celebrate on this **PENTECOST DAY**, I felt that the Holy Spirit really empowers me during the Entrance procession with the seven gifts, the candles with the red ribbons that were brought in by several youth members singing the Holy Spirit song, whilst in procession. The seven gifts really come alive in me with their different works. The symbols used to make the message of the seven gifts

have deep meaning in my life and touches me a lot. It helps to change my life to value more these seven gifts.



(By Concilia Ilavavine)

I am one of the youth members and very grateful for the programs and activities that has been taking place so far, especially for the Youth Encounter, session on storms in Life, which referred to problems in life. I came to identify my own personal problems and as a shy person, activities on sharing in smaller groups and share in front of everyone vanished that shyness in me, and made me value the stage for being youth which initiates me to willingly participate in the youth program and activities on "**PENTECOST DAY**" I felt the fruits of the Spirit Unity and love as we participated together in the activities.



(By Bridget Maduvavine)

I am one of the students in Pirakamae secondary school form two, attending the WYD day celebrations on **PENTECOST DAY**, and would like to share my experience as well. I felt very happy in participating in the activities, such as action songs, performing our groups roles in serving each other such as, cooking, clean up, leading prayer devotions etc. I felt the happiness of being together, and experienced the joy in me when I participated in the Entrance procession carrying the candle, the light of the Holy Spirit..



"Children must be taught how to think, not what to think."

~unknown Author

NEWS IN BITS

Education for Life Likely to Continue its Second Program.

Education for Life (E4L) program for Shortland Island is likely to continue its second program.



Result from the first program run by the team was successfully completed, and after a 3 day evaluation of the office responsible in Honiara, the E4L program was the best around the country.

Though the program is looking forward to set up a VCCT center but similar program run for catholic villages will likely continue for villages outside catholic community, that is for Mono and Kariki.

A funded program of the National AIDS Council which is coordinated by the Oxfam Solomon Island is looking ahead for its capacity program to equip the E4L team for the second program.

Though the first program was for Short land Islands, - under Western Province, the E4L office will also submit an application for other parishes reaching out to Choiseul Province as this would certainly benefit the whole Diocese.



Siro Ahead for Celebration, WYD 2013. Parish Youth Chairman (Paul Sipabatu)

St Martin youth of St Dominic Parish Sirovanga..celebrated the WYD event on the 18th to 19th May 2013 at the Sirovanga mission station which was organized by the Youth Leaders assisted by the Sisters, Postulants and Deacon Stephen OP .

49 youth members, attended the program held on Pentecost Sunday. Throughout the two days camping several activities were organized to engage the youth participants, to experience the work of the spirit in each and everyone of them, as they underwent such preparation towards Pentecost Sunday. Participants, have expressed themselves that it has been such a wonderful and faith filled experience for them as they felt the presence of the Spirit through the Unity, Joy and Courage as they participated together in the liturgy, prayer devotion, action cho-ruses and being attentive to different speakers etc. The participation



and

creativity of the youths in the liturgy was the highlight of the program. It was very touching, indeed - using symbols to explain the gifts and fruits of the spirit. To those present at Mass that time, it was a really moving and meaningful experience.



EDUCATION 4 LIFE

FOR AN EDUCATION TO VALUES AGAINST HIV/AIDS

GROWING UP

4 ABSTINENCE

STATEMENTS:

“My girlfriend and I have chosen abstinence in order to avoid being disturbed in our studies. We first want to get our degrees.” (YL, 21 years old)

“I abstain. My ‘guy’ too. We

know that true love is something more than sex.” (A, 18 years old)

“I take abstinence seriously because I believe in it very much . I’m keeping on with it till I find my ‘Miss Right’ .”

(E-19, years old)

ADVANTAGES OF CHASTITY and ABSTINENCE :

It is possible to love without having sex. True love goes beyond sex. That is why, in order to prepare better for the future, you should not have sex before marriage.

Abstinence is the best means of fighting and preventing STDs-AIDS, underage pregnancies and unwanted pregnancies.

Choosing to abstain will cut out false declarations of love, just aimed at getting sex.

It saves you from the burden of having to bring up a child on your own.

It frees you from having to worry about abortion.

It ensures that you will never be left with “souvenirs” (infection) by former partners.

It gives you time to observe and get to know the ways of life of the other sex.

It enables you to keep your mind first of all on developing your intellectual and physical abilities.

It tests your spiritual development and devotion to GOD.

TIPS TO AVOID BEING TRAPPED INTO ‘DOING IT’ AT THE WRONG TIME

COURAGE:

The very first thing is to know how to say, “NO!”

DIALOGUE:

If you want to have ‘true love’ rather than just sex, getting to know one another is a “must.”

TAKE PRIDE IN YOURSELF:

Don’t copy others but keep your mind on what is important now (study, health and so on).

KEEP TRUE TO YOUR RELIGIOUS BELIEFS:

If you believe in a religion which encourages abstinence before marriage, stick to your belief.

USE GROUP TACTICS:

Don’t stay alone in dark corners, especially if you are a girl.

KEEP BUSY:

Very often, thoughts about sex start and develop when we have nothing to do. Keep busy all the time with something useful; sport, group activities, reading... and avoid x-rated magazines, films and songs.

DON’T RUN UNNECESSARY RISKS:

Avoid clothes that cause sexual arousal in others, suggestive ways of sitting or standing, lonely places, bad company, alcohol and drugs.