



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Pg 1– 2: Bishop's P/ message, Pg3: Vatican News, Pg 4: VN and other Hapenings, Pg 5: Corpus Christi Celebration, Pg 6: Southern Deanery News in Bits, Pg 7 & 8: Northern deanery news in bits, Pg 8: Health & coming Events.



Bishop Peter Houhou

Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)

Dear beloved Sons and Daughters of God in our Diocese of Gizo. Before we enter the month of June, I want to take this time to thank each and every one of you for the journey you have taken during the month of May, together in your families, communities, parishes, and in our diocese, and above all with our beloved Mother Mary. I want to encourage you all, never to do anything or journey without her. She is a mother who always cares for us. If you are in need, ask her for intercession. As a mother, she is always ready to help you.

In this month of June, there are a few important Feast Days to be celebrated, but since this year, the Catholic Church Solomon Islands CCSI has planned to have it as the Year of the Eucharist, under the Theme: "I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE". In brief, I will share with you something on Eucharist, quoting a homily from Abbot Christian Leisy, OSB. It is a very beautiful reflection on the Eucharist. He began his Homily by quoting the very moment that Jesus had His Last Supper with His disciples, and I quote:

"On the night before giving His life on the cross, Jesus instituted the Eucharist, the gift of His Body and Blood, in the form of bread and wine, as the perpetual Passover sacrifice for his followers. This was done in the context of what is traditionally called the Last Supper. The Solemnity we celebrate on this Sunday centers on the gift of the Body and Blood of the Lord, which we partake in at Holy Mass (the Eucharist) until the Lord comes again in glory at the end of the ages.

Instituting the Eucharist at the time when the Jewish Passover lambs were being sacrificed, Jesus inaugurated the Christian Passover. As the ancient rite commemorated the freedom of God's people from slavery in Egypt, so the Christian ritual recalls

freedom from sin and death and the gift of new life being offered in and through Christ, who rose from the dead to bring eternal life.

A happy echo of this feast is often seen and heard in the rite of first communion on Corpus Christi Sunday, when children, and sometimes adults, come to receive for the first time the consecrated bread and wine at the Mass, the Holy Eucharist.

While the celebration of the Lord's Body and Blood has been taking place since the Last Supper and continues to be celebrated at every Holy Mass, the more formal feast of "Corpus Christi" has been observed since 1246, beginning in the diocese of Liege in Belgium. This feast entered the Roman Missal for use in the Latin Church later in the same century, incorporating many of the texts composed by the Dominican Saint Thomas Aquinas, who lived from 1225 to 1274. Aquinas' words became the hymns for the Mass and Divine Office (Liturgy of the Hours) of this great feast.

From its origin in the Middle Ages, the Solemnity of the Corpus Christi was intended to affirm Catholic belief in the real presence of the Risen Christ in the consecrated bread and wine at

Cont' next page

BISHOP'S PASTORAL MESSAGE CONTINUE

....Mass. The feast came to be accompanied with processions where the Blessed Sacrament, held in an elaborated monstrance, would be carried to "altars of repose," for adoration by the faithful and Benediction (blessing) with the Blessed Sacrament. The practice is still carried out in many places, with procession and Benediction afterwards, traditionally held on the Thursday following Trinity Sunday. Why Thursday? The idea then was to recall the institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper on Holy Thursday. Today, Catholics normally keep the feast on the Sunday following Trinity Sunday.

Firm belief in the Body and Blood of Christ and regular reception of the Blessed Sacrament or Holy Communion is fundamental to Catholic doctrine, spirituality, and growth in holiness. This is our inheritance. Let us joyfully embrace the "fine wheat" which God offers us regularly, even every day.

The unbroken teaching of the Catholic Church is that we behold and receive in the Eucharist the real presence of the Risen Lord, who promises to be with us until the end of time. It is a great mystery yet at the same time a simple truth: God-is-with-us in a very special and singular way in the Blessed Sacrament, both received at the Holy Communion and adored in the tabernacle or exposed on the altar at Exposition and Benediction.

The Mass, Holy Eucharist, is the sacrifice or offering of the new covenant in the Blood of Christ. It is likewise the offering of the faithful, God's people, united to Jesus in praise of the one God.

Saint Paul the Apostle preached that the entire life of a Christian is a prolongation of the Eucharist, as a spiritual sacrifice offered to God in union with Christ. For this reason, Saint Paul exhorted his hearers to offer themselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God. This is the message for each of us today as well and the heart of our religion and worship, in spirit and in truth (see Saint Paul's letter to the Romans 12: verse 1)

We should not come to Mass out of mere obligation, but because the Eucharistic celebration is an integral part of our life in Christ and our communion with others. The celebration and reception of the Eucharist should be our strength and joy, a commitment in faith and love that gives meaning to all our existence.

We aren't Christians because we go to Mass, but we go to Mass because we are Christians, to celebrate God's unbounded love for us and to participate in the action that followers of Christ have engaged in since the Lord walked among his own.

The Mass never ends, we might say, because at the conclusion of every Mass we are "sent forth," to announce the Good News of salvation in Jesus Christ, to the ends of the earth, by our words and especially by our deeds. As tabernacles of the Lord, by receiving His Body and Blood, we are commissioned with a special task that not everyone has embraced to be "bearers of Christ," Christophers (christoferos, in Greek), to all people, until our final breath. Could there be a higher call?

To conclude, I hope the above message, in reflection on the homily of Abbot Christian Leisy, strengthens you in your Faith in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. And also to have a great love for the Eucharist as the real food that will nourish you spiritually to reach eternal life with the great multitude angels and saints in the Kingdom of God.

May the Blessing of God the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit be with you throughout the month of June 2026.

Bishop Peter HOUHOU



POPE LEO XIV LEADS CC SUNDAY CELEBRATIONS



VATICAN
NEWS

Pope Recalls how Eucharistic Grace Transforms and Makes us Protagonists of Hope

In the heart of Madrid, Pope Leo XIV leads Corpus Christi Sunday celebrations with over 1.2 million people participating, encouraging Spaniards "to ensure that the religiosity which has shaped and defined this country for centuries is not a museum of the past to be visited, but a school of faith from which to draw even today."



At the beginning of the second day of his pastoral visit to Spain, Pope Leo XIV presided over the Mass celebrating the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. With over 1.2 million

He noted how these traditions down through the centuries marked by solemn processions have given unique and creative expressions of piety, art, music, architecture and life of the Spanish people. And they represent more than just folklore and art, but "a profession of faith in the presence of the risen Lord, who is alive and continues to walk among us, who becomes bread to satiate our hunger for life, and visits the recesses of our hearts and history, even those shrouded in darkness."

Nourishing and accompanying us

The Eucharistic processions recall how Jesus as Christ nourishes us, but also how He "comes out to meet us" and accompanies us in our daily lives and activities, the Pope explained.

The Pope explained how Corpus Christi calls on us "to be brought out of our selfishness and indifference, of a comfortable, private faith, so as to respond to his invitation to conversion, to change our perspective, and to welcome his presence which transforms us and makes us builders of a new world."

And today's celebration of Corpus Christi with special processions is an ever current invitation "in our daily lives, in our relationships, in society, and in the building of the future" to "remember", as heard in the readings for the liturgy, how God loves us, nourishes us, accompanies and saves us.

people crowding the Plaza de Cibeles in Madrid and surrounding avenues, the Pope expressed his joy in being with them, "gathered around the Eucharist, the gift of Christ's living presence among us."

he Pope said on this day we remember in a special way how the Lord willingly offered us his life "so that we might enter into communion with the Father and become his children" and how He "is here as the living Bread come down from heaven, to nourish us with the very life of God, with a love stronger than death."

Living faith of Corpus Christi traditions

The Pope paid tribute to the rich history of Spain's celebration of the Lord's presence in the Eucharistic Bread where in Madrid and many parts of Spain, the feast of Corpus Christi is celebrated in a special way to return "to the heart of the faith to renew our love and fidelity to God."

Living religiosity

Pope Leo then outlined "the task of Spain today and in the future" which is "to ensure that the religiosity which has shaped and defined this country for centuries is not a museum of the past to be visited, but a school of faith from which to draw even today."

Pope's Message Continue

POPE'S MESSAGE (ECCLESIASTICAL) FROM PREVIOUS PAGE



....This school calls on us "to kneel before God and before our neighbor" so that "the gratuitousness of love that becomes a gift...may flow among us and break the chains of all selfishness." And just as God is "a real presence", we also "are called to be present in the realities and challenges of society...personally committing ourselves to the building of the common good."

Drawing from the Eucharistic spring

In conclusion, the Pope encouraged everyone to return to the Lord "with sincere love", to be open to encounter with him and to "allow him to quench

the thirst of our hearts, so that we may then go forth into the paths of life and history, bringing to the people this stream of fresh water, a stream of love, peace, justice and joy."

He prayed that we may all "drink anew from this Eucharistic spring" that "sends us out to refresh our brothers and sisters, our families, the poor, the suffering, and those who have lost hope."

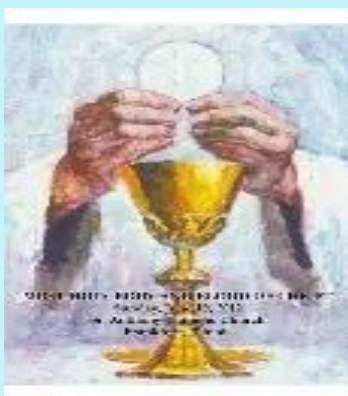
The celebration concluded with a Eucharistic Procession and Benediction led by Pope Leo who carried the monstrance with the Blessed Sacrament along pathways adorned with sixteen different flower pedal tapestries made up of over 30,000 flowers.

More candidates for First Holy Communion

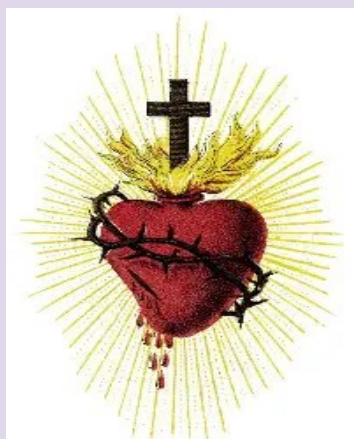
More candidates for Holy Communion are receiving their first Holy Communion at the Thanksgiving Mass, on the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ (Corpus Christi), this Sunday, June 7. We express our gratitude to those responsible for their efforts in preparing them to receive their first Holy Eucharist, especially the catechists, Religious Sisters, and their parents, for enabling them to begin their spiritual journey, as they get ready for the other Sacraments that lie ahead.



**Feast of Corpus Christi
(7th June, Sunday)**



**The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
(12 June, Friday)**



**Saint Peter and Saint Paul
Feast day (June 29)**



CORPUS CHRISTI CELEBRATION IN GIZO

Gizo Cathedral Celebrate CC 2026.



The name 'Corpus Christi' is Latin for 'the Body of Christ'. This joyous festival is observed by Roman Catholics globally to affirm the doctrine of transubstantiation, wherein bread and wine are transformed into the actual Body of Christ during the Mass.



for its public Eucharistic processions, during which the consecrated host is paraded through the streets.



In Gizo, Catholic members marked the occasion with a procession that commenced at the Gizo Cathedral and proceeded to the Gizo main market for its initial station, where the first mystery (Hail Mary) was recited. Subsequent recitations (Hail Mary's) took place at the Western Provincial Office, Gizo Hospital, Gizo Correctional Center, and then back to the Cathedral.

Additionally, intercessory prayers were offered at each station.

Thanks also to our sister parishes at Western and Choiseul, who also celebrated the Feast Day with us.



Currently, Catholics around the world are observing the feast, which is particularly recognized



SOUTHERN DEANERY NEWS IN BITS

Catechists and Prayer Leaders Commissioned



Following their involvement in the Catechists and Prayer Leaders Workshop that took place earlier at Bethania, Gizo, they received their commissioning on Sunday, May 10th.

Sister Teresa OP, who was instrumental in organizing the event, expressed her gratitude to all the facilitators and the community for their tremendous support in ensuring the program's success leading up to their commissioning at St. Peter Cathedral, Gizo.

Sister Teresa encourages everyone to persist in offering their support through prayers, encouragement, and collaboration.

40 Youths for Weekend Evangelize, Success.



Approximately 40 young individuals took part in the Youth Evangelization program last weekend, on May 22.

The weekend event gathered youths from Nusaburuku and Gizo at St. Peter parish, with the theme,

"Young Hearts on Fire for Christ," aimed at encouraging these youths to evangelize amongst themselves.

As stated by Sr. Salome, the program provided opportunities for key people in the parish to motivate these young individuals to draw nearer to the church.

She mentioned that they also had the benefit of the parish priests, who reminded them that genuine evangelization starts from within by nurturing positive attitudes towards themselves, their families, and others.

The program commenced with the recitation of the Rosary, followed by the sharing of the word of God through drama, songs, and personal testimonies, adoration, and Mass the following day, along with a church clean-up as a demonstration of their service. The day ended with enjoyable games, promoting social interaction and fellowship among the youth.

Sister, and the Team have privilege with Babanga Children.



Sister Teresa and her team have successfully prepared the Babanga Catholic Children for their first Holy Communion.

The team also dedicates time to these children for prayer activities, educational inputs, indoor games, and action choruses.

As Sister Teresa described, they had a wonderful time, and she expressed her gratitude to the Catechist, prayer leaders, and parents for their tremendous support.

NORTHERN DEANERY NEWS IN BITS

Ascension Day, Parishes Turn out Beautiful.



Samanagho from the Holy Rosary parish, and Sisiki from Christ the King Parish have their successful celebration to commemorate the Ascension of the Lord on Sunday, the 18th of May.

They have the nice information from Nila, Fr. Qelo, who celebrated with the community, and with him was Br. Michael Kelly for his beautiful reflection.



And at Sisiki village, also thanked to Fr. Tomas Pata and Deacon James for their beautiful gathering with the community. Their Ascension gathering program was a privilege to have the Mama Mary statue pilgrimage into their community.

This gathering served as an opportunity for the community to reflect on the Ascension of Christ and the pilgrimage of His Mother to their community.

FLA Training Successful, St. Dominic Sirovanga Parish

A successful 2-day training session for the Family Life Apostolate (FLA) concluded on May 21, with participation from the parish FLA team, the women's coordinator, youth leaders, the parish chair-



person, and the parish coordinator.

According to a report from the St. Dominic parish, Sirovanga, Chris mentioned that the program was facilitated by Sr. Rita OP, and Genecis from Moli, St. Joseph parish.

7 Couples Receive SM, Agho, CTK Parish Voruvoru



What God has united, no one can divide.

This was a prominent message delivered to seven couples who partook in the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony at Ogho village on May 20.

Congratulations to each newlywed couple, who are now referred to as Husband and Wife.

Tagio Fr. Tomas and Deacon James for having them in their new life



NORTHERN DEANERY NB CONTINUE

3-day YE for Zone 2 Youths, Nila, Shortland Island.



A successful 3-day Youth Encounters Seminar took place for the youth in Zone 2, which encompasses Nila, Kohapa, and Pirumeri, from May 8 to May 10.

The seminar was led by Fr. Qelo, Fr. Haritoka, Br. Kelly, and Colody, who dedicated time to engage the youths in both day and night sessions.

The Youth Encounter (YE) is a well-regarded 3-day, scripture-centered formation program and retreat aimed at assisting young individuals in cultivating a relationship with Christ and enhancing their community. It includes group sharing, meditation, and leadership development.

Mary's Pilgrims to Zones Success with Beautiful Celebration.



A greater number of parishioners from the Northern Deanery parishes have joyfully concluded the month dedicated to Mary.

Their program began in the first week of May and continued until the month's end, featuring the pilgrimage of the statue of Mary to the parish mission station. The statue was received with warmth, signifying the success of Mary's pilgrimage to the various areas.



At St. Joseph, Moli parish, the celebration of Her return coincided with the observance of the Feast of the Holy Trinity Sunday, during which secondary school students actively participated, enhancing the beauty and vibrancy of the celebration.

Each parish has also held a similar program.

ALL ABOUT, THE FUCTION OF THE LIVER

<https://www.healthdirect.gov.au/liver>

THE LIVER**What is the function of the liver?**

The liver has many important functions. It:

- makes and stores sugars and fats to be used for energy
- makes bile to help digest your food
- makes important proteins for use in the body, including albumin and blood clotting factors
- clears waste products from your blood, including medications (like paracetamol) and toxins (like alcohol)

stores [vitamins and minerals](#), including [iron](#)

helps your immune system to fight infection

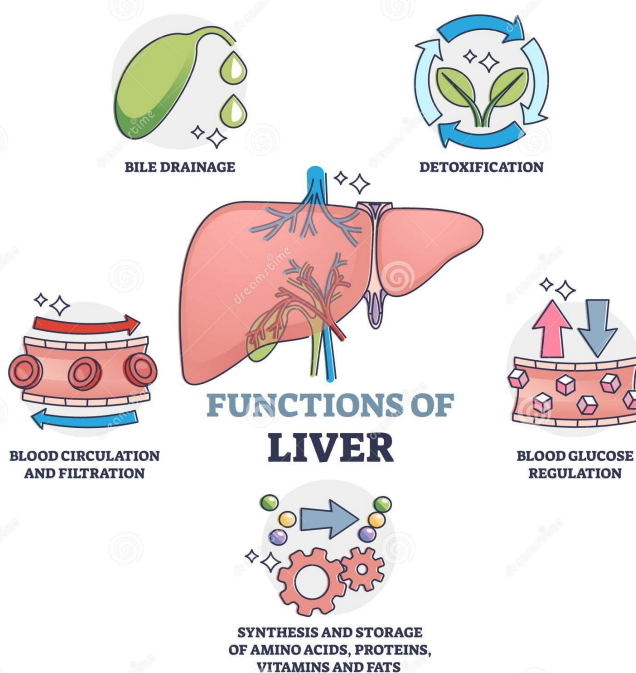
What medical conditions are related to the liver?

The liver has many roles in the body, so a wide range of conditions can affect it, including:

- [hepatitis](#) viruses — [A](#), [B](#), [C](#)
- other viruses, such as [cytomegalovirus \(CMV\)](#) and [Epstein-Barr Virus \(EBV\)](#)
- [fatty liver](#) disease

- [haemochromatosis](#)
- Wilson disease
- [autoimmune](#) liver diseases
- cancer — including primary [liver cancer](#), as well as metastasis (spread) of other cancers to the liver

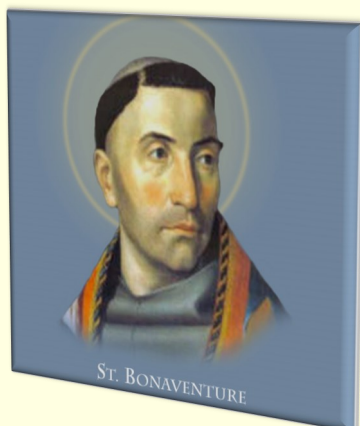
Conditions that affect the liver can cause scarring, also known as [cirrhosis](#). Cirrhosis can lead to [liver failure](#).



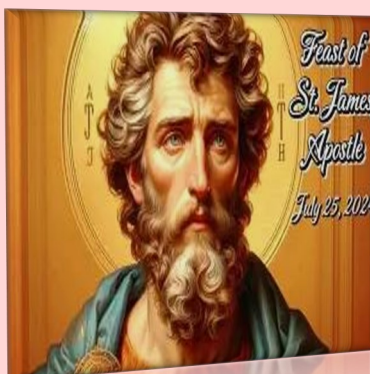
To be continue next issue

▪ UPCOMMING SOLEMNITY FOR JULY 2026 ▪

Saint Bonaventure, bishop and doctor of the Church (15 Wednesday)



25 Saturday
Saint James, Apostle



29 Wednesday
Saint Martha, Saint Mary and Saint Lazarus

