



Bishop Monthly Message

JUNE, SOLEMNITY OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS



When the blow of the spear pierced the side of Christ from His heart flowed blood and water

- the water of Baptism, which with the power of the Holy Spirit makes us his children;
- the blood of the Eucharist that nourishes us and gathers us in the community.

This is how Saint John Paul II puts it: "From the Heart of the Son of God, who died on the cross, the perennial source of life that gives hope to every man has sprung. From the Heart of the crucified Christ is born the new humanity, redeemed from sin. The man of the year 2000 needs the Heart of Christ to recognize that God is love and to know that he is loved; he needs it to build the civilization of love. If we keep our gaze fixed on the Heart of Jesus we can face the whole of life, but above all the inevitable painful trials in communion of love with him, as St. Paul taught us: "I complete in my flesh what is lacking in the sufferings of Christ, in favor of his body which is the Church "(Col 1:24).

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THIS IS WHY DEVOTION TO THE SACRED HEART CONSISTS OF:

- in welcoming and living these gifts that flow from his heart: new life in the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the communion of love in the blood of the Eucharist;
- in making our own the sentiments that led Jesus to give his life for us, nourishing us every day with the Word of God to transform our heart and make it merciful;
- in offering all the actions of the day, the joys and sorrows, in spiritual union with the offering of Jesus to the Father, which is renewed in every Eucharist;
- in uniting in prayer with Mary, who stands at the foot of the Cross intercedes for all the men who have been entrusted to her as her children.

The true goal of devotion to the Sacred Heart it is to transform our way of living and loving, to become people who are committed to making known and witnessing the Mercy with which the Lord Jesus has given new impetus to their life. People who choose to live like Jesus and, in communion with him, intercede for the conversion of those who do evil, pray for those who do not pray, and repair the damage caused by sin

Thus the Heart of Christ is no longer just a symbol, but becomes the source of the life of the Christian community and also makes it clear to people who do not believe that Christianity is the religion of brotherly love, solidarity, forgiveness, mercy.

"Mercy is the main pillar that supports the life of the Church: the first truth of the Church, in fact, is the love of Christ" (Pope Francis)

May these reflections help us to appreciate and celebrate the month of the sacred heart not only in our prayerful devotion but in our renewed style of life: yes, to Him, no to sin.

Jesus, merciful Love, I trust in You!!!

With my best greetings for a happy month of the Sacred Heart to you all from your bishop who loves you with a solo heart made in Italy: Bp Luciano Capelli, sdb, Gizo Diocese

BAPTISED AND SACRAMENTED

Inside this issue

- Pg 1. Bishop Monthly Message
- 2. Diocesan pastoral Calendar
- 3. FSW at Noro
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.

THE DIOCESE OF GIZO UPCOMING EVENTS 2021

- **Month of February** 8–12 Hey Dad training, northern deanery at Moli
22–26 Hey Dad training, southern deanery at Gizo

- **Month of March** 8–12 NFP moral issues training, northern deanery at Nila
22–26 Priest meeting, Gizo

• **Month of April (pilgrimage with the Candle)**

- 13–15 Candle to Noro
- 15–17 Candle to sacred heart, Wagina
- 17–19 Christ the King, Voruvoru
- 19–21 St Dominic Parish, Sirovanga
- 21–23 John Bosco Parish, Taro
- 23–25 St Joseph, Moli
- 25–27 Holy Rosary, Nila
- 27–29 St Peter parish, Gizo



- **June** 14 – 17 Media training at Gizo
18 – 20 FSW Northern Deanery, Moli
21 – 25 Priest retreat, Gizo
25 – 27 FSW for the Southern Deanery, Noro

- **Month of July** 5– 9 come and see (venue depend on candidates)
12–16 Hey Mum southern deanery at Gizo
26–30 Hey Mum northern deanery at Moli

- **Month of August** 6–8 YE Christ the King, Voruvoru
9–13 Training for new Catechists, Nila
13–15 YE Sirovanga, St Dominic
20–22 YE St John Bosco, Taro
27–29 YE St Joseph Moli



- **September** 3–5 YE Holy Rosary, Nila
13–17 Priest Meeting, Gizo
17–19 YE St Peter, Gizo
24–26 YE St Eusebius, Noro



- **Month of May** 3–7 SCC follow up, St Peter parish, Gizo
10–14 SCC follow up, Holy Rosary parish, Nila
17–21 SCC visitors training, St John Bosco parish, Taro
24–28 SCC follow up, St Dominic parish, Sirovanga
31–4 (new month) SCC follow up, Christ the King, Voruvoru

- **Month of June** 1–4 SCC follow up continue, Christ the King parish, Voruvoru
7 – 11 SCC follow up, Sacred heart parish, Wagina

- **October** 1–3 YE, Sacred Heart, Wagina
11–15 Justice and Peace Workshop, Nila

- **November** 4–6 Media Training northern deanery, Moli
11–13 Media Training southern deanery, Noro
15–19 DTPA evaluation and planning, Gizo

- **December 13–17 Bishops cup northern deanery parishes, Moli**
27–31 Bishops cup southern deanery parishes, Vanga

YE (Youth Encounter) Facilitators Workshop, St. Eusebius parish Noro

A Youth Encounters Seminar that was facilitated by the Youth team from the Diocese of Gizo has commenced on the 25th and ended successfully on 27 June 2021 this weekend at St. Eusebius parish Noro.

A formation seminar is purposely to equip the 19 participants to become trainers, which they may organize themselves and they can facilitate the program to their parishes.

The Youth Encounter is also called YE; A 3-day formation



program for the young people, and those who work among the youth ministry.

The youth program, which is the Virac model that was started in Virac Catanduanes in 1971 founded by Msgr. Jose Sorra, the Bishop-chairman of the Episcopal Commission on youth. The program was also introduced in the Philippines, which was conducted in various parishes, schools, and diocese all over the Philippines.



The YE program was also introduced by the priests and the teachers from the Philippines who works for the diocese of Gizo during their previous years in the diocese and now was adopted by the Catholic church of Gizo.

A 3-day session where the facilitators have their time to explain the context of the trainers' booklets; a facilitator's booklet that may guide the trainers to facilitate their program way back to their parishes.

This program is mainly based on scriptures provided which guide the trainers to reflect on, and have their choice to choose what is best for their lives and to become good trainers and become a good citizen.

Between sessions, trainers were put in groups for sharing, demonstration and presentation.

The program was facilitated and led by a diocesan youth coordinator Mr. Kolody and his youth team of four animators.

The program continues on Sunday the 27 of June after the Eucharistic celebration and ended successfully at 5:30 pm.

Rellysdom A Malakana
Catholic Media office Gizo



Corona - Crown thorny thou art ?

'Infected, treated, survived, revived and nearing former healthy self' is how I love to describe the past 30 days of duet/duel with corona. Starting from May 9th, when the symptoms of cough, fever, restlessness etc., bothered my caretaker Maryammal, though she returned happily after the marriage of her first grand daughter on May 6th in her native village, she was rushed to a nearby hospital and some medication had given her some relief. But the fever continued and this time, I too had to join her to visit the hospital and both were treated with a hoard of tablets, apart from the special swab taken from nostrils for the corona test.

May 13th, the result said that both of us were corona positive and we had to isolate ourselves in our homes with enough doses of tablets. That was not of much help to Maryammal, though I did not feel the severity of the attack of the virus. She further suffered from diabetes and obesity. But the infection had always been mild with me. She suffered more and did not have a wink of sleep for about 24 hours, uneasiness all over her body, mental anxiety added to all these. Tried to send her to an emergency hospital by calling the free ambulance service 108. There was no response and I was told all 108 vehicles were lined up before hospitals with patients lying inside awaiting a bed in the hospital.

A good friend came to my rescue on May 15th and his doctor friend had succeeded in obtaining a bed for Maryammal. With the medical papers I rushed her to NM hospital, Annur, about 25 kms from our residence in Kallar. There she was asked to undergo CT scan test to verify her admissible limits of the score. Another hurdle in obtaining a bed. Fortunately she found a bed and on that evening she was admitted in the hospital and I came home peaceably.

At home I was not feeling very well, over exhaustion and feeling like a rotten cabbage. Again fortunately a friend came to my rescue and suggested that I go to a government hospital as he has managed to book a bed for me. First time in my life, I travelled on in an ambulance on May 16th, (lockdown times and no vehicles) and spent four days there. Only tablets and food. A shared room with another patient in unhygienic rooms and bathrooms. Fortunately on 19th I was sent home as I seemed to be in good oxygen and temperature levels.

But Maryammal's situation has been one of oscillation - good and hopeful to miserable and a near death experience. And it took her more than a week to come to have a sense of positivity and that she would be well and would go home. Constant conversation with her by

her dear ones, encouraging her with the assurance that she would be fine in a few days time injected some stamina i

n her. Finally on May 29th, she was discharged and her youngest brother (A Montfort Brother) drove her home to Martalli to be with her dear ones. She is doing well in her home village with all of them around, caring for her.

There is a sense of satisfaction in me that I had managed to offer her the best possible medicare in the area with support from friends and well wishers.

And the exhaustion (post covid trauma) did refuse to leave me and so I went on 7th June to another hospital, run by Sisters of the Destitute in Connoor. Good care, five bottles of sodium chloride with multivitamins, nutritious food etc., with a negative corona infection result, I left the hospital on 9th June and I am here in the Jesuit house in Kallar where the priest, a good friend of mine, was a constant morale booster for the whole of the past month.

Now both of us, Maryammal and I, are doing well and in a month's time Maryammal would be able to come to Kallar to begin our normal life and work in the farm.

Corona, what has it done to me/us in the past one month ? Apart from physical pain, suffering, loss of appetite and at times hope, has made me **grateful** to very many friends/well wishers for their care, concern, kindness, encouraging inquiries, energy vibrations of good wishes and prayers, gentle chiding for not having gone for vaccination in time and their readiness to help us in whatever way possible.

From finding a bed to Maryammal in a private hospital to constantly inquiring about her health, offering encouraging words to lift up her spirits from the pool of despondency that she had fallen into, a little boy carrying a can of hot water for me in the hospital, drivers at their own risks steering the wheels, sharing my food packet as I could not finish one in the hospital, readiness of friends to share the costs of private hospital bills for Maryammal, etc., etc., make my heart well up with gratitude for all of them.

Of course, I had been slow in responding to the queries of friends on my/our well being, mostly due to flailing of limbs, weariness and the fatigue that seem to go with covid survival.

Now that I am fit as a fiddle, I want to inform you all that I am doing well, so too my caretaker, as many of you have been inquiring about her too. And I am grateful for your concern, anxious inquiries and above all for your energy filled vibrations, prayers and good wishes.

Thank you all. Fr. Tony S

7 DIOCESE OF GIZO Happy diamond jubilee

.....UPDATES

Aug: 6—8 YE, Christ The King

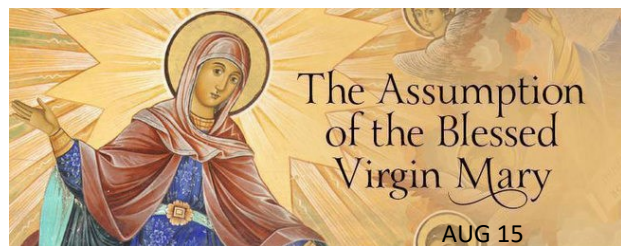
13—15 YE, St Dominic

20—22 YE, st John Bosco

23—26 NFP/ Southern Deanery
Venue, Noro

27—29 YE, St Joseph, Moli

FEASTS



CNC

CATHOLIC NEWS COLLECTIONS

Chinese Ambassador visits Archdiocese of Honiara

Chinese Ambassador to Solomon Islands His Excellency Mr. Li Ming joined the congregation at the Eucharistic celebration on the Feast of Pentecost and Birthday of the Church at Holy Cross Cathedral in Honiara on Sunday 23rd May.

Mr. Ming's visit follows after a courtesy visit in 2020 to meet Archbishop of Honiara, Christopher Cardone. Celebrating mass Abp Cardone shared in his homily the importance of the feast of Pentecost and encouraged people to pray for Peace and Unity.

Mr. Ming expressed his joy and happiness, and said he was blessed to be able to witness such a great ceremony.

WORSHIP

PRESENTED BY FR LAWRENCE KIMAERE OP

Let me share with you our good readers that we have to tell the truth and explains these two words **“Worship and Veneration”**. Many people are still confused with these two words mentioned above. Some who understands the Scripture well knows that Worship and Venerate are not the same but they are different. Let us take our time to read the scripture readings that are stated in this article. Catholics please do read your Bible, **Bible is your compass for life.**

Latria, **Latria** or latreia (also known as latreutical worship) is a theological term (Latin Latrīa, from the Greek λατρεία, latreia) used in Roman Catholic theology to mean adoration, a reverence directed only to the Holy Trinity. **Latria** carries an emphasis on the internal form of worship, rather than external ceremonies.

Hyperdulia: (latin)A level of veneration higher than dulia but less than latria, properly given to the Virgin Mary. Etymology: From **hyperdulia**, from hyper-, from ὑπέρ + dulia, from Webster Dictionary Rate this definition:

Dulia: (Latin) veneration and invocation given to saints as the servants of God.

Protestants often accuse Catholics of idolatry whenever we venerate the saints or pray to them. They frequently quote a passage from the book of Exodus to make their point that we are guilty of idolatry for venerating and praying to saints.

In order to understand where this accusation is coming from we have to first to know the Protestant understanding of worship. Non Catholic believes that prayer and worship are equal and that its object is only God. This Protestant notion of worship is different from what the Bible says and what the Catholic Church believes.

The Catholic Church believes that prayer and worship are distinct from each other; for Catholics prayer is not equal to worship, when we pray to the saints we do not worship them like how we worship God.

When a Catholic prays to a saint he is asking the saints intercession or asking the saint in heaven to pray for him, like how we ask our friends to pray for us. This concept of asking our friends to pray for us or the saints to pray for us is deeply rooted in Scriptures. St. Paul in his epistle to Timothy urges Christians to pray for one another; First of all, I urge that petitions, prayers, intercessions and thanksgiving be made for everyone. 1 Timothy 2:1

- Latria – An act of adoration or worship due to God (Holy Trinity) alone (This is what Catholics do during the Holy Mass). Exodus 20:1-5
- Hyperdulia – An act of respect towards the Blessed Virgin Mary (Luke 1:48)
- Dulia – An act of respect towards the saints (Romans 13:7)

This teaching of St. Paul is the basis why we ask our friends to pray for us, especially the saints who are in heaven because the prayers of the righteous is powerful (James 5:16).

Catholicism and Protestantism have a different understanding of the word “worship”. Protestants believe that worship automatically equates to adoration of God. Whereas, Catholicism follows the biblical understanding of worship wherein it is a general term that have three distinct actions.

The term “worship” being a general term itself is perfectly demonstrated in the Old Testament in the book of Daniel we read;

Then King Nebuchadnezzar fell down and worshiped Daniel and ordered sacrifice and incense offered to him. Daniel 2:46

King Nebuchadnezzar “fell down and worshiped” Daniel, yet, notice that Daniel did not correct the king and told him not to worship him. How is this possible? Why did the prophet Daniel accepted the homage done to him by the king?

The prophet Daniel perfectly understands that what the king is doing is not “Latria” or adoration due to God alone, but an act of veneration or respect.

This is exactly what Catholics are doing towards Mary and the saints; we are not worshipping them like how we worship God. We are rendering veneration or act of respect towards Mary and the saints.

Catholic Church is so rich with its different types of prayers. I am proud to be a Catholic.

Holy, Formed & Sent For A Mission

Holy Father on Pentecost Sunday

On Pentecost Sunday Pope Francis invited the faithful to open their hearts to the Holy Spirit and go out in the world with courage, hope and faith to witness the love of the Risen Jesus Christ.

The Pope highlighted two main points: The Spirit is the Lord and giver of life, and the Spirit changes the heart.

Regarding the first point, the Pope said the Holy Spirit cannot be understood within our human exigencies, in our methods and our preconceptions: "The Spirit proceeds from God the Father and from his Son Jesus Christ and bursts upon the Church, giving life to our minds and our hearts. As the Creed states: He is 'the Lord, the giver of life'".

Stressing on the second point, The Pope said that the Spirit changed the heart and broadened the disciples' view enabling them "to communicate to everyone the great, limitless works of God, surpassing the cultural and religious confines within which they were accustomed to thinking and living."



COURAGE



HOPE



FAITH

Holy Cross Relic to be used at Vanimo Veneration

Permission has been granted for the relic of the Holy Cross to be exhibited at the veneration of the Diocese of Vanimo that is preserved at the Basilica of Saint Anastasia in Rome.

The cross will be used during the veneration period which is the last year of the Laity that commenced in January till 30th November 2021.

Bishop of Vanimo, Francis Meli, has expressed his gratitude to His Eminence Angelo Cardinal De Donatist, Vicar General of His Holiness for the Diocese of Rome, and Most Rev. Fabio Fabene, Secretary of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints, for granting permission to send the relic of the Holy Cross.

The Holy Cross Relic will accompany the Diocesan Pilgrimage Cross to all the Parishes in the diocese of Vanimo. Bp Meli had Appointed Priest Fr. Zachary Miroi as Guardian-Porter to accompany the Holy Cross Relic to all the Parishes.

"The living sign of god the trinity is love for all"

While recalling the feast of the Most Holy Trinity, Pope Francis said the feast made us contemplate the wonderful mystery of love and light from which we came and humanity is guided.

He made the sharing during the Sunday Angelus of 30th May 2021, in St Peter's Square. Addressing the faithful, the Pope explained that it is the Father who gave himself by generating the Son, who in turn gave himself to the Father, and their mutual love is the Holy Spirit, the bond of their unity.

The Holy Father said that the unity of the Holy Trinity is essential to the Christian life because unity is born of love, God's mercy, the justification of Jesus Christ and the presence of the Holy Spirit in our hearts.