



PONIFICATION MISSION SOCIETIES

Fr. VALENTINE GRYK, SVD
National Director for PNG/SI

Highlights the Month of September

1. 8th—Feast Day of the Blessed Virgin Mary
2. 14th—The triumph of the Cross
3. 15th—Our Lady of Sorrow

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Education for life &

October 1st-3rd



Children's mission Sunday

Dear Catholic Education Coordinators,

As we are coming closer to October I would like to propose again that this month will be focus more on our - Catholics - mission mandate. The church is missionary by her very nature (Redemptoris Missio 5). Every Christian/ Catholic has the duty to "proclaim Christ to all people" (RM 3). Sometimes we (people) forget about this and live this duty to bishops, priests, religious, and catechists only.

Let us do something to change this mentality. Looking at the situation of the Church in PNG and SI on all movements and the involvement of the lay people in the ministries of the Church, we see much potential. The Church in PNG & SI slowly becomes not a receiving Church but "sending Church". It is a very good sign.

In order to strengthen this move we need more awareness about our Christian missionary mandate that the people will be aware that the proclamation of Good News, it is not a work of the expat missionaries only, who are slowly fading out from PNG and SI but it is the work of all members of the church.

Therefore, I propose:

that **ALL OCTOBER WILL BE FOCUS ON THE MISSIONARY AWARENESS**. It will be **the MISSION MONTH**. During the whole month we should reflect on our missionary mandate.

We can start this Mission Month (**1st October**) with the special **MISSIONARY CHILDHOOD - MISSION DAY**. It is the feast of St. Theresa of Lusieux, the patron of missions. We can make a special day for children in our schools. Talk about the missionary mandate, what is the mission, how we can take part in it, how we can help in the mission. This can be connected with prayers for the mission in and outside PNG and SI, dramas, talking about other children in different countries, etc... The children can bring some presents (money) for other children in the spirit of "Children helping Children".

During the month we can have **special prayers for our missionaries** and the missionaries all over the world. We can talk about mission work in other countries (change the focus).

We can make **special liturgies - each week** - stressing our missionary mandate.

Prepare the meaningful **MISSION SUNDAY LITURGY** - with the stress of supporting mission work of the **UNIVERSAL /Catholic Church**. (**MISSION SUNDAY COLLECTION**).

There are already many good initiatives during Mission Sunday celebrations, but it would be good to challenge people and make awareness about being **CATHOLIC/ UNIVERSAL CHURCH**, and helping each other. We are receiving a lot of subsidies for our Church activities and the good sign is that our contribution to the Universal Fund is getting bigger and bigger. It is a good sign that our awareness bears fruits.

I believe that these activities in the Mission Month of October will have a big impact on the live of the Church in

PNG & SI. If we make it work and put some effort into it, it will help people to understand their role of being the witness and apostles of Christ.

All materials for the Mission Month will be sent shortly to all dioceses. Please make sure that they are distributed to all parishes. Don't keep it in the office.

May the Lord bless all your efforts and ministries

With prayer,

Fr. Valentine Gryk, SVD (National PMS Director for PNG & SI)

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY BACKGROUNDER

- ⇒ **The Church is missionary by her very nature.** (Redemptoris Missio 5). **Every one of us has the duty to "proclaim Christ to all peoples".** (RM 3)
- ⇒ Even as the way of "doing mission" evolves, the **responsibility to share witness to the Gospel** remains.
- ⇒ The Popes since 1926 have mandated our participation in and **support of Mission Sunday through prayer and with our material offerings on World Mission.**
- ⇒ **The collection taken up everywhere in the world on this day is given in its totality to the support of Churches in the developing world.**
- ⇒ **The support is universal,** not just for one mission but for all missions.
- ⇒ This year the **Society for the Propagation of the Faith will help support the ordinary pastoral work and pastoral projects in about 1100 dioceses or territories.** Many of these are in some of the poorest countries in the world and depend heavily on our support.
- ⇒ **Even the poorest countries take up collections to give what they can materially. More importantly they give their prayers and a depth of spirituality that enrich all of us.**

What are the principal works the collection is for?

1. to train and **support catechists** (There are about 1.6 million mission catechists)
2. to **provide education** through schools, colleges, universities, some seminaries
3. to **build rural health clinics** to support specific diocesan pastoral projects
4. to use **mass media for evangelization**
5. to provide emergency **aid to refugees and aid to disaster areas**
6. to **safeguard the livelihood of missionaries and local clergy**

7. to train local religious
8. to establish new religious houses
9. to **open new missions and to establish new dioceses**
10. to **assist people of poor communities to build decent structures** for prayer and community meetings.

How to Promote World Mission Sunday

1. **Use the mission materials** (parish kit) that is mailed to every parish and will arrive in end-September. In the kit are posters and missionary prayer, sample homily, practical ideas to be used with World Mission Sunday liturgy.
2. **Be sure to announce the collection the Sunday before World Mission Sunday.** Perhaps you can have a parish council member or another parish association leader speak to promote generosity.
3. **Put the posters up early and try to make the whole month of October center on missions.**
4. **The Feast of St. Theresa of Lisieux, the patron of missions on OCTOBER 1, will be the**

CHILDREN MISSION DAY!!!

!!!!!! MAKE IT HAPPENED !!!!!



"We give & re-give ALL the sense of the value of SOLIDARITY by promoting our being in UNITY with our brothers and sisters and with the nature around us"

Relationships and Partnership are the basis for UNITY, and Unity is the basis for both of these: as we grow in relationship and partnership our unity develops and grows; it reveals to us in our experience the reality of our unity as humans, as Christians and as citizens of our nation



LITURGY NOTES FOR MISSION SUNDAY

SCRIPTURES FROM 30th SUNDAY AND PRAYERS OF THE MASS FOR THE SPREAD OF THE GOSPEL.

INTRODUCTION: MISSION: IT IS OURS TO DO!

Today we celebrate World Mission Sunday when Catholics on all continents recall Christ's command to "go and make disciples of all nations": While all who are baptized are called to be witnesses in everyday life, today, the focus is on Missionaries who work to preach the Gospel on all five continents. On this day especially we are invited to support their efforts by our prayers and financial offerings. Let us live the gospel mandate to go and make disciples of all nations: " We wish to see Jesus – it is our mission"

PENITENTIAL RITE

Lord Jesus, you call us to show our faith in action.
 Lord, have mercy.
 Lord Jesus, you call us to persevere through hope
 Christ, have mercy
 Lord Jesus, you call us to work for love Lord, have mercy

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Sirach 35: 15 - 17, 20 - 22
 2 Timothy 4: 6 - 8, 16 - 18
 Luke 18:9 - 14

HOMILY NOTES:

"We wish to see Jesus" (Jn 12:21) It is our mission.

We are united in the one call to God's mission in the world. As God sent Jesus into the world, we too, are sent into the world. By our Baptism we are commissioned to be missionaries, to create the Body of Christ, the Church, therefore, the Church is missionary by nature. Baptism is our call to mission. We share in the Great Commission, to hold, to celebrate and to help the universal church.

We are to be creative with the gifts of Baptism through the Holy Spirit. These gifts are given for the service of mission. We cannot ignore the call to mission. The Holy Spirit generates the light of Christ, inwardly and this attracts new life outwardly. Missionaries are people like you and I who go forth and enter into relationships with other people in the name and spirit of Jesus Christ. For some mission means to cross cultures, learn a new language or cross into new geography, new boundaries. The church does not exist except by constantly being on a mission. Like the widow, who keeps up her petition and wears the just judge, she does not lose hope that eventually justice is granted, so too our brothers and sisters around the world rely on our response. We may not all be called to go afar but we are called to share in the task of reaching out to them with prayer, support and financial aid. Think about ways to help or get involved, "Mission: it's ours to do"! Become more fully engaged in God's family, God's mission.

INTERCESSIONAL PRAYERS

1. That our Holy Father Pope Benedict continue to guide her and proclaim the compassion of Jesus to our fragmented world.
2. That all new mission churches especially those in Africa and Asia. May they continue to actively build the faith preserving hope and self giving love.
3. That missionaries everywhere that they may proclaim the Gospel message with courage and sensitivity.
4. That the Holy Spirit may draw people of other religions to dialogue with minds and hearts open the light of the gospel
5. That the prayers of the sick may be a source of strength and encouragement for the missionaries especially those serving in war torn places and areas rebuilding due to natural disaster.

—Reflections Around Our Diocese—



Simon Telovae
(Media / Communication Volunteer)
Moli Parish

Closing of the Bible Month Highlights the Togetherness among the Parishioners

The closing of the Bible month really brought the spirit of togetherness of people within the different communities in the Moli Parish. This is the result of the preparation done by the PTPA (Parish Team of Pastoral Animators) and cooperation between our people in the parish.

The program allowed each family to participate in the activities which we involved ourselves to carry out the activities right in our homes. During the Bible month we were urged to place our Bible at home where we have the time to reflect on the messages or verses provided. This program really benefitted and challenges family members to seek first our Heavenly Father and then to our private businesses.

As a result of such activities like prayer and sharing the word of God, the people themselves can see some changes in their lives and their families in the parish. Such activities may engage families like children and parents to have their own structure to develop their spirituality at home.

So lets implement our pastoral activities to each family so that it may involve everyone to take part and participate fully.

Conrad Poqeava.

(Student, Moli Community High School)

The Word of God

The Bible is useful for teaching the truth... The writings in the Bible are inspired writings. The Bible tells us the truth, when we are full of questions and doubt.

For example, for the question of, how many God? The Bible tells us that there is only one God, our father and Creator. (Mt.6:9, 1Cor.8:6, Eph.4:6)

If we want to know something about woman and man, the Bible tells us that we are God's children (Mt. 5:9, Lk. 20:39, Jn. 1:12)

If we want to know who is our real enemy we can read these texts: (Job 2:7, Lk 13:16). If we want to see the saving hands of God when we are in all kinds of trouble we can read this text: (Rom 16: 20)

If we want to know where our real home is the Bible tells us that Heaven is our real home (Jn.14:2-3)

We must read the Bible daily to help us understand God better, and about His ways and how He is at work in our lives. We must read the Bible so that God's words can truly be alive in us and change our lives. The Church explains to her Children the right meaning of what the bible says, since no Prophetic message ever came just from the will of man.

Moses Poqeava
(Bible Apostolate Coordinator)
Diocese of Gizo

St. John Calls Jesus "the Word of God"

The eternal Son became man, a human being just like you and me except sin. In his preaching he revealed to us that God the Father loves us despite of our sinfulness. He made known to us the thoughts and feelings of God our father. (Jn. 1.1,3,14, 16)

There is no doubt then that the whole Bible inspires us to love. Experience tells us that no one can separate us from the love of God. No trouble, hardships, persecution, hunger or poverty or danger or death can separate us from the love of God. (Rom. 8: 35- 39)

Things of this world can not separate us from the love of God. Our personal relationship with the Word of God always gives us a new meaning in our lives, a new direction to follow and a new understanding of how to build unity in our communities.

There is a striking encouragement in the words of Pope Leo XIII. "The Saviour of this world must be found in the whole bible. In the pages of the bible we find the image of His face, we see His life, we hear His breath, He consoles us in our troubles, He encourages us to live a holy life and gives us the desire to love God.

My dear friends, let us meet Christ, the person of Christ in our daily reading of the Bible – the Word of God, fully alive amongst us.

Amanta Lukasava
(Moli Women's Participant)
Moli Parish

"A Home is a Small Paradise"

To strengthening of the women's program around our diocese may depend much on our commitment at home; our small paradise at home is where each (mother, father, children) of us may develop trust, love, faithfulness between the family members. Home is a place were our children recognize our voice and language. Home is a dwelling place for a husband & wife to teach, listen and share etc.

It is believed that most mothers are far behind, knowing nothing. There are many distracting influences which keep them away from maintaining their health and spiritual being at home.

Lets build up tolerances among those being train to promote the women's program in our parish so we can make a better home. This attitude and behavior may gain us to develop a better mother for the family, community, parish and the diocese as a whole.

News In Bits

Three Parishes Successfully Completed Women's & Media Program

More Women from Kavata, Moli and Wagina were grateful and appreciative to participate and have the opportunity to attend the Women's Strength-



participants, introductions and getting to know each other with games which helped participant's to gain self-confidence.

On day two, women participants encountered 4 sessions involving them to reflect on the 2009 women's rally. They tried to identify some of their weaknesses, challenges, and strengths and look for some possible ways to overcome some of their weaknesses.

On day three, role plays including demonstrations, which really illustrated some of the minor and major barriers to communication. The sessions included barriers, interpersonal communication, effective listening and

tion, the different groups were commissioned by the parish priest, which they were strongly encouraged them to walk in the light of Christ.

The Seminar was an opportunity for mothers, fathers and children to involve themselves and give their own views and suggest some possible ways to solve problems arising in their families and communities.

For Wagina parish, the program has to fit into 3 days giving extra time so to catch up on the sessions provided.

The program was facilitated by Br. Joseph Talibe op, Joseph Lalaubatu, Rellydom Malakana, Moses Velomama, Sr. Maria Tom op, Jerome kuibatu and Br. Robert Yanowae op.

More reflect on the role of Mother Mary, Noro/Canaan

More than 35 women from Noro sub-parish reflected on the role of our Lady, Mother Mary.

The program really involved mothers from Ringi, Surumuni, Noro and Canaan. Every women had time to reflect on the virtues of Mary. Each one discussed some of the ways that might improve their living as mother for the church of God.

It was a 3 days program which really stirred and motivated every women who took up responsibilities to participate. There was Drama, liturgy, prayer and visitation which highlighted the oneness among the women of Noro sub-parish.

One of the impact of the program was the visitation to the disabled people which the groups shared joy and gift.

The program commenced on the 10th to 12th September and was facilitated by Joana Tailofilu and Sr. Marie Tora Op.

ening and Communications listening Skills Training Program.

The program continued for two weeks in two separate venues. From 13th to 17th September, sixty people participated from Kavata and Moli at Sirovanga mission station, and from 24th to 26th, twenty nine people participated at Wagina Parish.

The seminar included youths, men and women from those parishes. The Seminar was held purposely to strengthen the Women's program in their parish, to listen to youths and fathers, and have the opportunities to develop a positive, cooperative and supportive attitude towards others and have self confidence to gain further skills in effective communication.

The theme for the Seminar was, "Our Unity together in the Body of Christ". And each day a message was include on the responsorial psalm during the morning Eucharistic Mass.

On day one, activities were introduced for

two ways of communication.

On day four, participants involved deeper into discussions and were privileged to learn Communication qualities from levels one to five. They had time to look back on the structures or aspects of communication; from dialogue, participation, communication, co-responsibility, communitarian discernment and hope & trust.

On day five, participants recapped back on the four days activities. They were put into their different groups or category to discuss and set up their three months pastoral plans.

To conclude the program, each participant was given responsibilities to involve into Communication for life; a spiritual activity which everyone had own reflection on their personality.

During the thanksgiving mass celebra-



FOR AN EDUCATION TO VALUES AGAINST HIV/AIDS

Sexuality and God's Will

SEXUALITY IN THE BIBLE

•The Bible takes an extraordinarily positive but yet realistic view of the human body and sex. Sex is not idealised or idolised; it exists for love, for God.

•Above all its weakness is clearly recognised. For that reason, the rules for its right use should always be meant for love and growth.

THE BIBLE SAYS:

"You know the instructions we gave you by the authority of the Lord Jesus. God wants you to be holy and completely free from sexual immorality. Each of you men should know how to live with his wife in a holy and honourable way, not with a lustful desire, like the heathen who do not know God. In this matter, then, no man should do wrong to his fellow Christian or take advantage of him. We have told you this before and we strongly warned you that the Lord will punish those who do that. God did not call us to live in immorality but in holiness. So then, whoever rejects this teaching is not rejecting man, but God, who gives you his Holy Spirit." (1 Thes 4, 2-8)

"Since you are God's dear children, you must try to be like him. Your life must be controlled by love, just



RESPONSIBLE BEHAVIOUR

- You are beginning to have difficulties because of your body's growth.
- It is up to you whether you choose good or bad friends.
- You know what good behaviour is in regard to sex. You also know how your friends behave about sex.
- Belonging to a group of friends in your parish or youth centre will help you to learn correct behaviour.
- You are free to choose what to read and who your friends are.



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