**News Compilation for Catholic Church News aired on Radio Maria**

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**Welcome to another weekly Catholic Church News on Radio Maria. I am Nigel Akuani, and I am Rosemary Yambune with the news.**

**Our stories for the week:**

1. **Pope: A Sunday For All Mothers**
2. **Holy Mass in Honour of Mother Mary**
3. **Archdiocese of Rabaul calls for ‘Quality Vocations’**
4. **ENB Catholic Schools Resume Classes with Caution**
5. **Migrants and Refugees ‘Hit-Hard’ in SOE**
6. **Savio Haus Celebrates Long-Awaited Feast Day**

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**News Item 1 –** **Pope: A Sunday For All Mothers**

“Mother’s Day on Sunday is a day dedicated to honour all mothers around the world and the sacrifices they make for us”, said Pope Francis during the Regina Coeli prayer on Sunday 10th May, at the Vatican’s Santa Marta guesthouse.

# As many countries worldwide celebrated the day, he called for everyone to remember mothers with “gratitude and affection”, and pray that the Lord entrust to them the protection of Mary.  He said that in many countries around the world, the second Sunday of May marked Mother’s Day, but due to the lockdown measures in place against the COVID-19 Coronavirus, mothers and children have been separated.

# Pope Francis urged faithful to pray and remember Mary, Mother of the Church, and all mothers who are suffering during this time of trial. He said that humanity was “built on mothers” and that their love was a cure for a world and commended the constant heroism of mothers.

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**News item 2 – Holy Mass in Honour of Mother Mary**

A Holy Mass dedicated to Mother Mary is set to be held at 5pm on Wednesday 13th May, at the St. Joseph's parish, Boroko. Cardinal Sir John Ribat MSC, Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Port Moresby, will be celebrating the mass.

The theme of the Holy Eucharist is " Bringing Mary's Smile to Everyone", and recalls the day Mother Mary appeared to three children at Fatima in 1917.

This mass will also start the fundraising drive of Radio Maria PNG. All Priests, Religious and all catholic people, are kindly asked to support Radio Maria PNG.

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**News item 3 – Archdiocese of Rabaul calls for ‘Quality Vocations’**

Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Rabaul, Francesco Panfilo SDB, has called for more quality vocations from the faithful. He made the encouragement during Vocation Sunday Mass on 3rd May, at the Sacred Heart Cathedral in Vunapope.

Speaking on vocations in his homily, he urged everyone to pray for more young men and women to the priesthood and religious life and to continue to pray for those who are already on the path to this life.

He explained that in today’s world people were strongly drawn to material wants, the quest for power, fame and wealth, and said that all these blinded them from the harmful impacts caused to their spirituality. He cautioned faithful not to fall into these behaviours that induced a fake sense of happiness.

Archbishop Panfilo called on faithful to let Christ be the Shepherd and Guardian of their lives. He said with the Lord as the Guardian, faithful could experience a full and enriching life filled with the wonders of God.

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# News item 4 – ENB Catholic Schools Resume Classes with Caution

Catholic Agency Schools in East New Britain Province resumed classes on Monday 4th May, with caution amid the COVID-19 State of Emergency.

Catholic Archdiocese of Rabaul’s Assistant Education Secretary, Mr Pais Tude, with the province’s Education personnel and the Catholic Education Secretary’s Office formed guidelines for the resumption of classes.

Upper grades in Secondary, National High, High schools and Primary are to resume full time classes while the rest of the grades are to undertake home based studies. The number of students at a school campus at any one time needs to be reduced to a manageable number.

Mr Tude visited Catholic Agency schools in the Kokopo and Rabaul Deaneries to ensure the implementation of these guidelines and that social distancing and hygiene requirements were kept. He admitted that home-schooling was going to be challenging for students and called on parents to set up work stations for them to work away from distractions.

Teachers and have been encouraged to adjust and perform their duties to the best of their abilities despite the circumstances.

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**News Item 5 – Migrants and Refugees ‘Hit- Hard’ in SOE**

Migrants and refugees living in the country have been ‘hit hard’ since the COVID-19 outbreak and the State of Emergency declared by the government.

According to a published report by Outreach Officer of Caritas PNG, Mr Jason Siwat, there was a heightened level of stress and anxiety, as their application processes became slower with strict restrictions made by the authorities. These restrictions prohibited their movements except to health and other basic services.

He said the situation was especially difficult for the sick and vulnerable but maintained that CPNG continued to reach them as best as they could whenever possible, both in person and via phone-calls. He stated that hand sanitizers and other Personal Protective Equipment were supplied to all those being accommodated in the city and to the Bomana prison, with information on the prevention of COVID19 being disseminated via WhatsApp.

In reference to the temporary uplifting of the movement restriction orders, Mr Siwat said to expect a slow return to normalcy with refugees breathing a sigh of relief.

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**News item 6 – Savio Haus Celebrates Long-Awaited Feast Day**

Despite the ongoing situation of COVID-19 in the nation’s capital, the Savio Haus community in Bomana celebrated the long-awaited feast day of their patron, St. Dominic Savio.

The celebration on 6th May was held in the Savio Haus at the Catholic Theological Institute. Joining the celebration were the Salesian communities of Don Bosco Technological Institute, Provincial house and Don Bosco Technical School. Due to the safety protocols in place against the COVID-19 pandemic, neighbouring religious communities were not able to participate in the feast day.

The day started with the Holy Eucharist and the presence of its main celebrant, Rector of Savio Haus Fr. Dominic Kachira. The feast day preparation had the community cook and decorate the house for the evening program of Solemn Vespers together and dinner.

As part of the celebration, the Nine-days of Novena to St. Dominic Savio with sermons given by aspirants. Sermons for each of the Nine-days helped the community reflect on the life of Dominic and how each one was challenged to follow the Saint’s life.

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**Recapping our headlines for this week:**

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**This ends the Catholic Church news for this week. Join us next week for more.**

**From all of us at here at Catholic Communications, we wish you all an enjoyable week.**