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

**Air Date: 22/ 09/ 2020**

**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 at Angelus: God calls everyone, and calls always**
2. **Kumgi DBSTC honours 25th Jubilee**
3. **New church for upper Mendi Parish**
4. **CBC celebrates 45th Independence in Unity and Diversity**
5. **New President for DWU**
6. **Call to honour the Constitution**
7. **ISFF20 coming soon to Paradise Cinema**

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**News Item 1 – Pope at Angelus: God calls everyone, and calls always**

“Jesus tells of a landowner who goes out and calls people to work in his vineyard. That owner, represents God, who calls everyone and calls always,” said Pope Francis at the Sunday Angelus of 20th September.

In his reflection of the Sunday Gospel, Pope Francis highlighted two attitudes of the landowner in Jesus’s parable about the workers in the vineyard: the “call” and the “recompense.” He said this meant providing hope to those neglected and those on the fringes of society.

The attitude of ‘recompense’, he said, mirrors the action of God where he pays the workers their wages, pays them his lavish generosity and a special place in his Kingdom of Heaven. He explained that this is how God acted even today, requiring only that we too will imitate this attitude by going out to seek people wherever they may be.

He said God did not look at the time and the result, rather, the availability and the generosity with which we put ourselves at His service. He concluded his Angelus address with the prayer that “Mary Most Holy might help Christians feel every day the joy and wonder of being called by God to work for Him.”

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**News item 2 – Kumgi DBSTC honours 25th Jubilee**

A vibrant weeklong celebration was orchestrated by staff and students of Don Bosco Simbu Technical College Kumgi, Kudiawa, to celebrate the school’s 25th Jubilee.

Celebrations were held from Monday 8th September to Sunday 12th September, to honour pioneer Salesian missionaries who set foot in the diocese upon the invitation of Bishop William Kurtz SVD, respectively: Br. Ramon de la Cruz and Fr. David Buenaventura both from Philippines, and Fr. Joseph Savina of Italy.

The silver jubilee had as its theme: "DB KUMGI: High 5 @ 25”, with the prime focus of showing gratitude for the past, celebrating the present, and envisioning the future.

A Thanksgiving Mass was held that was presided by newly appointed Bishop of Bougainville, Bishop Dariusz Kaluza MSF, and Archbishop Anton Bal, Archbishop of Madang and President of the Catholic Bishops Conference of PNGSI.

The celebration also showcased a Road Show at Kundiawa town, a Talent and Cultural Show, and a Battle of the Bands competition. Community leaders from the tribes nearby also embraced the celebrations as they presented gifts of flowers, fruits, vegetables, and chickens, to the Salesian Community.

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**News item 3 – New church for upper Mendi Parish**

More than a hundred catholic faithful within the Upper Mendi parish can now celebrate the Eucharist inside the newly opened St Joseph Ekari church building, Upper Mendi, Southern Highlands province.

The church was blessed by Bishop Donald Lippert, Bishop of Mendi, on September 10th 2020. During the occasion, nine parishioners also received the Sacrament of Confirmation from Bp Donald. More than a hundred people from the local community gathered to witness the opening ceremony of the church five days before the nation's Independence Day.

The parish is located 45km from Mendi town. It took almost 7 months of tireless work from the catholic faithful, the locals, and other religious brothers and sisters to complete the building.

Clerk of the church committee Mr. Paul Kombur applauded the efforts and cooperation of the remote community together with parish priest Fr Alberto Dawas who shepherded the project. The idea to erect a proper church building for everyone to worship, was initiated by the diocesan priest from Africa, Fr Alberto Dawas.

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**News item 4 – CBC celebrates 45th Independence in Unity and Diversity**

In commemoration of Papua New Guinea’s 45th Independence Anniversary, a memorable independence celebration was held by staff of the Catholic Bishops Conference of PNGSI.

The event held on Tuesday 15th September, at its headquarters in Gordons, had the full involvement of both its local and expatriate staff that included Priests, Religious, and laity. Also present was His Excellency Bishop Otto Separy, Bishop of Bereina; members from Wantok Nuispepa, Caritas Australia, Radio Maria, family and friends. More than sixty people joined the celebrations.

The fun filled day began with an opening prayer from Fr Ambrose Pereira SDB, Secretary of Social Communications, a flag raising ceremony accompanied by melodious singing of the country’s National Anthem and the recitation of the Pledge by the staff of CBC.

The celebration had participants divided into the four regions of Papua New Guinea namely Highlands, Momase, New Guinea Islands, and the Southern region. An exhibition of traditional items, food and beverages, from the four regions were showcased as judges and audience had the privilege to move between booths to observe. A quiz comprising of ten questions was given at the end to test participants on their knowledge of the country’s history before and after gaining independence.

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**News Item 5 – New President for DWU**

Professor Fr Philip Gibbs SVD, will be the new President of Divine Word University. Professor Gibbs, who is currently the Deputy President of DWU, will take office as Chairperson of the University Council as of 1st January 2021.

Archbishop Dr Douglas Young SVD, Archbishop of Mt Hagen, delivered the announcement to the DWU Community in a letter dated 16th September 2020, on the occasion of the 45th Independence Anniversary of Papua New Guinea.

Professor Gibbs will take over from Professor Cecilia Nembou PhD, the first layperson and woman academic to have held the position since the establishment of DWU and its predecessor Divine Word Institute.

Originally from New Zealand, Fr Gibbs first came to PNG in 1973, and is a Catholic missionary and a social researcher and academic. He holds a Doctorate in Theology from the Gregorian University in Rome and a Master of Business Administration from DWU among several other postgraduate and undergraduate qualifications.

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**News item 6 – Call to honour the Constitution**

Mr Paul Harricknen, President of the Catholic Professionals Society of PNG has called on the people and leaders of Papua New Guinea to recognise and honour the country’s national Constitution. Mr Harricknen made the statement during his speech at the St Joseph’s Boroko parish Eucharist celebration on 16th September 2020 in honour of the country’s 45th Independence anniversary.

He said the ‘day’ was a time of remembrance as thoughts and reflections went to the founding fathers and mothers of the nation, and reminded all present to also recognise and pay respect to the national Constitution.

The Constitution, he said, was the key political and legal document the country’s founding leaders and people worked tirelessly toward achieving, and compared it as being next to the Sacred Scriptures and the word of God.

Emphasizing the importance of the Constitution Mr. Harricknen went on to propose for declaration of a “Constitution Day” which could be on the day of its adoption by the Constituent Assembly on 15th August for the people and nation to reflect on the importance of the Constitution and the wisdom of the founding fathers and mothers.

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**News item 7 – ISFF20 coming soon to Paradise Cinema**

The 4th International Short Film Festival (ISFF20) will be held at the Paradise Cinema, Vision City Mall, Waigani in the month of October.

Facilitating the event is Fr Ambrose Pereira SDB, together with the SOCOM team, the different schools and others from the media.

ISFF20 is the celebration of short films on the theme: “Keep It Clean, Go Green”. The festival will showcase films made by young school and university students during their attendance of the Media Education Seminars held earlier this year. It will be an occasion to celebrate the Season of Creation that began on 1st September and will conclude on 4th October. There will also be films on the COVID-19 protocols.

The day’s program will have:

1. Moments of Prayer and Action Songs;
2. Previewing of inspirational films on Climate Change and Laudato Si;
3. Videos on Climate Change and COVID-19;
4. Highlights of the 2020 Media Education Seminars; and
5. Presentation of certificates, prizes and gifts.

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