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

**Air Date: 29/ 04/ 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: With Jesus we can face all challenges**
2. **Resumption of Weekly and Sunday Mass**
3. **CISP Strongly Progresses into 13th Year**
4. **Youth Encounter Inspires Boarding Students**
5. **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**
6. **2020 Prepares for World Communication Day**

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# News Item 1 – Pope: With Jesus we can face all challenges

After praying the *Regina Coeli* on the 26th April, the Third Sunday of Easter, Pope Francis reminded faithful of the eternal presence of Jesus to those sad and troubled. This was at the Casa Santa Marta chapel in the Vatican.

In his homily the Holy Father reflected on the Gospel account of the two disciples on the road to Emmaus, and how although they were saddened at the loss of Jesus, they could still feel Him near them making them joyful.

He said that these “two different paths” show us “that in life, we have two opposite directions in front of us”. One is the path of those who “let themselves be paralysed by life’s disappointments”, and the other is that of those who put Jesus, and their brothers and sisters, in first place.

The Pope assured faithful of his dedication in praying for them and urged for them to seek refuge and consolidation in Christ. He concluded in his prayer that “Jesus might grant to each one of us the grace of meeting Him every day, to knowing and to specifically recognize that He walks with us in every moment.”

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**News item 2 – Archdiocese of POM Resumes Mass**

Catholic churches and its faithful around the Archdiocese of Port Moresby were allowed to celebrate Sunday and week day Masses. This was announced in a statement released by His Eminence Sir John Cardinal Ribat MSC, Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Port Moresby, on 25th April, after clearance was given from the NCD/Central Divisional Command Controller.

Parish Priests, Chaplaincies, Religious Houses and Catholic faithful need to bear in mind that the resumption of Masses is subject to protocols and guidelines safeguarding the measures against the spread of COVID19, including supplying hand sanitizers, sanitization of seats and social distancing of one-metre.

National and provincial religious gathering or outreach programs, including conventions and crusades are not permitted.

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**News item 3 – CISP Strongly Progresses into 13th Year**

This year 2020 marks the 13th successive year in the functioning of the Churches Institutional Strengthening Program (CISP). This was highlighted by CISP Secretary, Ms Marie Mondu, on Monday 27th April.

CISP is a Commission under the Catholic Bishops Conference of PNGSI, responsible for the formation of Catholic Church Administrative functions to improve good governance. According to Ms Mondu the commission first started off as a project office in 2007, and by 2017 after an evaluation, the Annual General Meeting passed the resolution that it become a Commission supported by a Board.

The current Board Executive Members are:

1. Bishop Rolando Santos – Chair;

2. Bishop Otto Separy - Deputy Chair;

3. Ms Mondu Marie - Secretary and

4. Mr Jimmy Son – Treasurer.

It is CISP's hope that by improving professionalism in its Board of Management Affairs, the same practice can be adapted and mainstreamed to other Commission Board and Diocesan HQ Board practices. These levels of leadership are crucial to assist in the smooth flow of services that the Catholic Church delivers.

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**News item 4 – Youth Encounter Inspires Boarding Students**

“They came unsure of what to expect in the encounter and ended up asking for more,” was the statement from Sr. Alice Fulgencio of the Salesian Sisters of Don Bosco, after a three-day Youth Encounter formation program from April 22nd to 24th, with thirty-female students from the Don Bosco Technical Institute, at East Boroko.

The program’s sessions facilitated by Sr. Alice, Sr. Alem Coching and Sr. Carmencita Rodrigues involved the students’ expectation of the program, creating a deeper relationship with Jesus through prayer and reflection, evaluation of self and those around them and to share their experience with others.

In their evaluations, they wrote that all of their expectations had been fulfilled in ways beyond what they hoped for. The boarding students were the first batch to attend the Youth Encounter program offered by the Sisters.

Sr Alice described the three-day spiritual occasion as ‘alive’ and an experience that the lucky boarders would never forget. She reaffirmed that the students were more than ready to face new challenges and become true and zealous evangelizers among their peers.

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**News Item 5 – Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**

The 2020 Ecumenical week is set to run from 24th to 31st May, and has as its theme: *‘They showed us unusual kindness’ (Acts 28:2).*

Thisyear the Week of Prayer has been prepared by Christians on the islands of Malta and Gozo in the Mediterranean Sea. The reading for the 2020 Week of Prayer is Acts 27:18 – 28:10, about the shipwreck of St. Paul on Malta, which was the beginning of Christianity in that region. Today many migrants take dangerous journeys by land and sea to escape warfare and poverty. The reading from Acts challenges us not to be indifferent to foreigners who are in need and to trust God in times of danger.

In John 17:22, Jesus prays that the believers may be united, in the same way that the Son and Father are united, so that the world may believe in Jesus. The disagreements among Jesus’s followers are an obstacle to the spread of the Gospel. During the week of prayer for Christian unity, we are challenged to read and discuss scriptures and pray with our Protestant brothers.

The challenge for us is to make an agreement with our Protestant co-workers or neighbours to meet together to pray for Christianity unity during 24th to 31st May and discuss how God is speaking to us through the Scripture.

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**News item 6 – 2020 Prepares for World Communication Day**

The 2020 anniversary of World Communication Day will be celebrated on 24th May. The celebration is to commemorate the day’s 54th Anniversary, since its first observation on May 7th, 1967.

*“That you may tell your children and grandchildren, Life becomes history”* is the theme of this year’s 2020, World Communication Day. The passage, drawn from the Book of Exodus, highlights the importance of sharing "knowledge of the Lord" and meaningful memories, stories and experiences, so that they may transform people's lives.

WCD was officially recognized under the pontificate of Blessed Pope Paul VI, who wished to draw attention to the communications media and the enormous power they have for cultural transformation.

According to Pope Francis, constructive stories strengthened social ties and the cultural fabric, to even withstand the test of time because it nourished and renewed life. He said this was the meaning behind the 2020 WCD message and called for everyone to build stories of peace and prosperity.

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**Recapping our headlines for this week:**

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