**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 community reconciled and ready for mission**
2. **Bishop Issues Circulars Amidst SOE**
3. **Salesian Family celebrate Feast of Mary Help of Christians**
4. **Commission Heads Encouraged to Practice Laudato Si**
5. **SOCOM Announces Multimedia Competition**
6. **Limana Celebrates OLSH Feast Day**

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**News Item 1 – Pope: Church is reconciled community ready for mission**

“By forgiving and gathering His disciples around Him, Jesus makes them His Church: a community reconciled and ready for mission,” said Pope Francis at the Regina Coeli in St Peter’s Square on Pentecost Sunday 31st May.

In his reflection of the missionary character of the Church, the Holy Father said that the Solemnity of Pentecost commemorated the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. He stated that the Lord’s greeting, “Peace be with you”, was an expression of reconciliation and forgiveness for the disciples who abandoned Him in His Passion.

He told of the forty days Jesus remained with His Disciples, and said the entire time was dedicated to strengthening the disciples’ faith with a view to mission. He reminded Christians that they too shared the same faith and responsibility to carry out the mission.

Due to health measures taken to contain the COVID-19 pandemic, the Holy Father in recent weeks has conducted Masses, Sunday Marian prayers, and his weekly General Audiences, from the Library of the Apostolic Palace, overlooking Saint Peter’s Square.

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**News item 2 – Bishop Issues Circulars Amidst SOE**

Bishop of Lae, Rozario Menezes SMM, has issued three instructive circular letters under the heading 'Care for one another during the Coronavirus pandemic'. The circulars were released between 16th and 24th March, in response to the lockdown that affected all public liturgical services.

The Priest’s Seminar, Recollection, Day of prayer, Chrism Mass and the annual Traditional Way of the Cross were cancelled or deferred. Every form of gathering, market and including schools were put on hold.

In the first letter Bp Rozario encouraged the faithful to take precautions to stay safely away from contracting the Coronavirus. In the second, he made a call for programs at the level of the diocese to be re-organized with protocols of the ‘New-Normal’. The third letter highlighted the importance of homes as miniature Churches and the role of parents as catechists for their children.

In an effort to sustain faithful, Catholic FM 103.7 Radio in Lae began broadcasting online Masses through social media platforms. Since its broadcast, the Liturgical cerebrations of the Bishop of Lae has shown significant growth in number of its online followers.

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**News item 3 – Salesian Family celebrate Feast of Mary Help of Christians**

The Salesians and religious of the Salesian Family gathered to celebrate the Feast of Mary Help of Christians, a day after Ascension Sunday. The celebration was held on 25th May 2020, at the Emmaus Conference Center, DBTI campus Boroko.

Archbishop Kurian Mathew Vayalunkal, Apostolic Nuncio for Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands and Bishop Francis Meli, Bishop of Vanimo were present for the celebrations.

In his speech the Apostolic Nuncio reminded everyone gathered that the Blessed Virgin Mary always reached out to help those in need, and challenged the Salesian family to be like Mary. He congratulated the Salesians for their 40-years of presence in Papua New Guinea and their contribution of technical education to the country.

Meanwhile Don Bosco Technological Institute, Port Moresby, also celebrated the feast on 25th May. This was the first school Mass at the Institute after the Corona virus restrictions were eased. Two Masses were held simultaneously in the campus in an effort to maintain social distancing.

Rector of DBTI, Fr Alexander Garces sdb, reminded students that the day was about family, unity, camaraderie and love, with devotion to our Blessed Mother.

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**News item 4 – Commission Heads Encouraged to Practice Laudato Si**

Secretaries of the different Commissions of CBCPNGSI have been encouraged to study and put into practice Pope Francis’ document *‘Laudato Si’*. The encouragement to care for the environment was made by Fr Ambrose Pereira sdb, Secretary of Social Communications on Thursday 25th May.

According to Fr Ambrose, commissions already had in place an existing environment conservation program and urged each secretary to monitor its progress through contact with Diocesan coordinators.

Despite the lockdown hindering progress, he noted that the period also made humanity realize its vital role as catalysts in the renewal of Planet Earth. He said the announcement of the *Laudato Si* Anniversary Year from 24th May 2020 to 24th May 2021, meant efforts needed to improve to ensure both the awareness and action were implemented.

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**News item 5 –** **SOCOM Announces Multimedia Competition**

With the announcement of the *Laudato Si* Anniversary Year, the Social Communications Commission of CBCPNGSI has announced its Multimedia Competition for the year.

The competition invites photographs and video films and is based on the theme: ‘Keep it clean, Go Green!’

Individual can participate in the photographs, while institutions, parishes and schools are welcome to send in video films. All products must have creativity, composition and content of the *Laudato Si* document and must inspire people to concrete action.

An official poster outlining the competitions details has already been made public. Principals, Media Coordinators and animators are encouraged to print out the attachment and place it on the noticeboard so that students and young people can participate.

All material to reach the CBC SOCOM office by the 30th July 2020. Films will be screened at the International Short Film Festival in September 2020. For more information contact Ms Abigail Seta through email: socom@catholic.org.pg

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**News item 6 -** **Limana Celebrates OLSH Feast Day**

Limana Vocational Centre in Gordons, hosted a heart-warming and spiritual celebration in honour of the Feast Day of ‘Our Lady of the Sacred Heart’ (OLSH).

The occasion held on Friday 29th May, at the centre’s campus was organised by Sr Maria Gorreti OLSH, Principal of LVC, and Ms Ivy Labradores, Media Animator of LVC. The feast day had as its theme: ‘My soul proclaims the Lord’, and had its students and teachers engaged in prayer of the Rosary, Novena and for Mother Mary’s protection during the Coronavirus pandemic.

According to Sr Maria, the feast day of OLSH was an important tradition of the school celebrated annually. It highlighted the journey of Mary and the ministry of Jesus. However, she stated celebrations were limited and short in order to comply with the safety regulations of the State of Emergency period.

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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.**