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

**Air Date: 11/ 08/ 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: Gospel calls us to trust abandonment in God**
2. **First International Day against Sorcery Accusation Violence**
3. **Goilala reconciles with Catholic Church**
4. **August Bible month of PNGSI**
5. **Lockdown a time of Connectivity**
6. **Segregate waste for a better tomorrow**

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# News Item 1 – Pope at Angelus: Gospel calls us to trust abandonment in God

“The Gospel account of Jesus walking on the water is a call to abandon ourselves trustingly to God in every moment of our life, especially in moments of trial and fear,” said Pope Francis in the Sunday Mass of 9th August, at St Peter’s Square.

Pope Francis made the reflection of Jesus walking on the water and calming the storm, and reminded all that Jesus never abandoned us. He recalled how the disciple Peter took a few steps on water but then began to sink, and Jesus said to him, “O man of little faith, why did you doubt”.

He urged that when in times of need where we have strong feelings of doubt and fear and feel to be sinking, we must not be ashamed to cry out, like Peter, for the Lord to save us.

The Pope said that in times of trial, even before we begin to seek Him, “He is present beside us leading us back to safety, and it is precisely in these moments that the witness of faith, the witness of love, the witness of hope shines the most.”

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**News item 2 – First International Day against Sorcery Accusation Violence**

Monday 10th August was a significant occasion as hundreds in the Diocese of Mendi came together to march in raising awareness of the first International Day against Sorcery Accusation Violence.

The Eucharist was celebrated by Fr Pius Hal, Vicar General, at 9am in the Kumin Cathedral of the Diocese. The people then marched into Mendi’s township. The international day is an initiative of MISSIO and the Catholic Bishop Conference of PNGSI.

Prior to 10th August, a discussion panel was also held on Wednesday 5th August, over Triniti FM in Mt Hagen, that focused on Sorcery Accusation Related Violence. Organized by Fr. Victor Roche svd, New Evangelization Secretary of CBC, the discussion was to inform people that accusing and causing harm to others was bad, inhuman, and should completely stop in Papua New Guinea.

Fr. Giorgio Licini PIME, General Secretary of CBC, described Sorcery accusation violence as a primitive form of retribution and a proof of laziness and dishonesty on the part of perpetrators.

A film by Fr Philip Gibbs svd, Vice President of Divine Word University, entitled: Everybody's business; gives an insight into the reality of the situation. The film creates awareness of the issue and invites viewers committment to initiate a change.

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**News item 3 – Goilala reconciles with Catholic Church**

In a historic ceremony, the people of Goilala in Central Province have reconciled with the Catholic Church for the murder of French Catholic priest, Father Jules Dubuy 68 years ago, at the Ononge Parish in the Woitape District in 1952.

The reconciliation held on 6th August, was the date the priest was murdered. The ceremony was achieved after two years of planning by the locals with support from their local Member.

Present for the ceremony were French Ambassador, Philipe Kamiyama; Bishop of the Diocese of Bereina, Otto Separy; and Local Member, William Samb. The families of late Fr. Dubuy were unable to attend the reconciliation ceremony due to COVID-19, but instead sent a letter.

According to Mr Samb, the people of Goilala believed that the death of the priest had cast a generational curse on them which had seen a lack of government services in the District.

Ambassador Janvier-Kamiyama said the gestures of the Goilala community to reconcile would further strengthen co-operation between France and Goilala. Bp Otto Separy, accepted the apology made by the locals on behalf of the Church.

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**News item 4 – August Bible month of PNGSI**

The second Sunday of August is Bible Sunday while the whole month of August is celebrated as the Bible month in Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands.

This was a reminder from Bishop Rolando Santos CM, Bishop of Alotau-Sideia, and Bishop Deputy on Doctrine, Marriage and Law, outlined in a letter released on 30th July, highlighting biblical formation.

Bp Rolando clarified that after celebrating the Catechetical Month in July, the celebration of Bible Month followed after in August. He said that it was right and proper in celebrating Bible Month since the Bible is the first book of catechesis and the very source of evangelization.

Quoting Pope Francis, he said, “All evangelization is based on the word of God, listened to, meditated upon, lived, celebrated and witnessed. We need to be constantly trained to hear the word to enrich our catechesis and pass on the faith.”

“Evangelization demands familiarity with God’s word, which calls for dioceses, parishes and Catholic associations to provide for a serious ongoing study of the Bible, while encouraging its prayerful individual and communal reading”.

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**News Item 5 – Lockdown a time of Connectivity**

The current COVID-19 Pandemic lockdown has been described as an opportunity to utilize technology to stay connected with each other. The emphasis was made by Fr Ambrose Pereira sdb, Social Communications Secretary of the Catholic Bishops Conference, on Thursday 6th August.

Fr Ambrose stressed that during this time of lockdown where societal and family gatherings were impossible, technology should be taken full advantage of to stay connected. He urged Christians not to dwell too much on matters and news of depression, but rather with insightful and positive stories filled with courage that infused hope in this time of stress and despair.

He reflected on the period of lockdown and said it was a time to stay safe and follow the guidelines, and most importantly to keep united with God in prayer. Despite the lockdown, he maintained that it was crucial to follow a daily routine, getting enough exercise and enough sleep.

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**News item 6 – Segregate waste for a better tomorrow**

Since the second COVID-19 lock down, the students of Don Bosco Technological Institute Boroko, have put into practice a process of waste management and recycling by segregating waste materials. This was the recent sharing of Dickson Clyde, a student of DBTI studying Maintenance and Machine Fitting.

According to Dickson, the past nine days of separating waste materials into different categories namely: soft plastics, hard plastics, metal scraps, aluminium tins and papers; during the lock-down period has shown pleasing results, with the campus much cleaner than before.

He said although the lockdown had caused a social disconnection from families, classmates and a heightened sense of stress, he maintained that a positive and practical input of caring for the environment was his method of dealing with the stress.

He stated that finding a balance and staying focused were part of the therapeutic sessions provided for by DBTI to help students cope with stress caused by the lockdown. Where garbage dumps and useless waste once used to be, he said should be used as creative spaces aimed at inspiring a change in attitudes.

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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 week for more.**

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