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

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**Welcome to another week of Catholic Church News on Radio Maria. I am Nigel Akuani, and I am Isabella Saleu with the news.**

**Our stories for the week:**

1. **Pope: Open your eyes to God’s humble presence**
2. **Bishops address issues of National Security**
3. **One Family in Christ**
4. **God to always be Centre of Church**
5. **Ordeal among Manus Migrants & Refugees Revealed**
6. **Journalists unite for ‘Women in Journalism’**

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**News Item 1 – Pope: Open your eyes to God’s humble presence**

Pope Francis during his homily at the Sunday Angelus of 4th July, in St Peter’s Square, advised us to keep our eyes and hearts free of prejudice and closed mindedness that comes from habit.

The Holy Father reflected on the Gospel reading which recounts when Jesus began to teach in the synagogue of his hometown of Nazareth and the reaction of those present who questioned how he could have such wisdom coming from a humble family.

In conclusion, Pope Francis called on us to pray that we, like Mary, may welcome the mystery of God in our daily life and have “eyes and hearts free of prejudices and open to being amazed at God’s surprises, at His humble and hidden presence in our daily lives.”

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**News item 2 – Bishops address issues of National Security**

In conclusion of the 62nd Catholic Bishops’ Annual General Meeting (AGM), a press conference was held to present important matters of national security discussed in the meeting.

The press conference was held on Wednesday 30th June, at the Catholic Bishops Conference PNGSI. It had as its panel of distinguished speakers, His Eminence Sir John Cardinal Ribat, Archbishop of Port Moresby; His Excellency Archbishop Anton Bal of Madang and President of CBCPNGSI; His Grace Archbishop Rochus Tatamai of Rabaul; and His Lordship Bishop Otto Separy of Bereina.

Seven key matters were deliberated and presented that included: PNG as a Christian country, Partnership, Election 2022, Corruption, Casino, Covid-19 Scenario in the country and the theme 2022: Salt and Light (Church In Society).

The AGM formally came to a close with a Eucharistic Celebration on Wednesday evening at 5pm, that had as its main celebrant Abp Bal. Concelebrating the occasion were Cardinal Ribat and Bp Separy.

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**News item 3 – One Family in Christ**

The people of Simbu Province gathered as one family to celebrate and witness the ordination of Bp Paul Sundu, Bishop of Kundiawa, at the Mary Help of Christians Cathedral, Kundiawa, on Saturday 3rd July.

Bishop Paul Sundu chose his theme as: ‘‘Yumi wan famili, stap laip long Bodi bilong Kraist’. Leading the ordination as the main celebrant, Archbishop of Mt Hagen, Douglas Young, stressed in his homily the need for self-reliance, family life and unity. He spoke about the hardships of a Bishop and invited Bp Paul Sundu to be a man of God and carry out his responsibilities and lead his flock as a Good Shepherd.

Present for the celebration were Sir John Cardinal Ribat, Archbishop of Port Moresby; 11 bishops; Fr. Jacek Pinocy, Charge de affairs; priests, religious, lay faithful, government members/officials, people from the highlands region and other parts of the country.

At least three thousand people filled the grounds surrounding the Cathedral of Mary Help of Christians, Kundiawa town.

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**News item 4 – God to always be Centre of Church**

**“**If we are to really build the church, we have to build it with God at its centre because there is nothing impossible when God is beside us,” said Bishop of the Diocese of Lae, Rozario Menezes SMM.

His response came after a brief interview on Tuesday 29th June, regarding challenges currently facing evangelization in the Diocese. According to Bp Rozario, his primary responsibility was to support his people and this meant building the Church with God as its epicentre. He stated very clearly that although many different types of efforts could be attempted and made, without the grace of God little could be accomplished.

Emphasizing on the vital role youths played in the Church, Bp Rozario challenged young people to discipline themselves by living according to the standards of God in order for them to truly experience a change in attitude and mindset.

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**News Item 5 – Ordeal among Manus Migrants & Refugees Revealed**

A detailed insight into the sad and oppressive reality faced by Asylum Seekers and Refugees brought to Manus by the government of Australia in 2013, was presented during a special talk session from representatives of the Catholic Bishops Conference of PNGSI.

The talk held on Friday 2nd July, at the Catholic Theological Institute (CTI) in Bomana, had as its keynote speakers Rev. Fr Giorgio Licini PIME, General Secretary of CBCPNGSI, and Director of Migrants and Refugees Desk, Mr Jason Siwat.

In his recollection of his visit to the Manus Detention Centre in January 2019, Fr Giorgio described how the detention posed a serious threat to their lives both physically and mentally. He admitted to being appalled by the circumstances endured by the detainees, but maintained that his visit served as an appeal to his conscience to help the migrants and refugees out from their ill treatment.

Emphasizing the role of the Papua New Guinea Government in aiding migrants and refugees, Mr Siwat said the country being a signatory of the 1951 ‘International Convention on the Status of Refugees’ had an obligation to fulfill its duties.

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**News item 6 – Journalists unite for ‘Women in Journalism’**

On behalf of all female folk around the country engaged in the challenging field of Journalism, brave female journalists came together to show their solidarity for the cause as they pushed for recognition of the crucial role they play in society.

The four Journalists went for the Chat Room’s 5th session on Wednesday 30th June, to discuss the topic of ‘Women in Journalism’. Their conversation highlighted essential issues that focused on gender equality, pros and cons of being a female journalist in Papua New Guinea, impact of women in journalism and across many other fields, importance of Code of Ethics, the need for an Association of Women Journalists, and a call of encouragement to young aspiring individuals hoping to make a difference in society.

Chat Room’s sixth session on 7th July, will have students from Don Bosco Technical Secondary School talk through the issue, ‘Graduating but Not Being Able to Work’.

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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.**