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

**Air Date: 21/ 10/ 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: Good citizens have moral duty to Society**
2. **Human Integrity Highlighted in Chaplain Workshop**
3. **SVD’s Celebrate 125 Years of Presence in PNG**
4. **Marriage Builds Stronger Bonds**
5. **World Youth Day unveils New Logo**
6. **Symposium on Fratelli Tutti**
7. **Youth Retreat held for Graduating Students of DBTI**
8. **Catechist Retires After 34-Years of Service**

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# News Item 1 – Pope at Angelus: Good citizens have moral duty to Society

“Christians have the duty and the responsibility to be a living presence in society, inspiring it with the Gospel,” said Pope Francis in his address to pilgrims gathered in St. Peter’s Square for the Sunday Angelus of 18th October.

The Holy Father called on Christians to dedicate themselves generously to the promotion and defence of human dignity in today’s world, bearing witness to God and the meaning of life.

He reflected on the Gospel reading of the day from (Mt 22: 15-21), and explained how it was the mission of the Church and of Christians to speak of God and bear witness to Him to the men and women of our time. By virtue of Baptism, he said, we were all called to be the living presence in society, inspiring it with the Gospel and with the lifeblood of the Holy Spirit.

He ended urging believers to commit themselves with humility and with courage, and to make a contribution to building the civilisation of love, where justice and fraternity reign.

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**News item 2 – Human Integrity Highlighted in Chaplain Workshop**

Virtues, values and integrity were some of the principles and human qualities stressed during a constructive National LevelChaplain Workshop focused at improving the service delivery of Chaplaincies nationwide.

The workshop held from 12th to 17th October, at the Catholic Bishops Conference, was facilitated by Bishop of Lae, Rozario Menezes SMM, with the help of Sr. Mary McCarthy PBVM, Chaplain of Port Moresby General Hospital. It had the participation of fifteen Chaplains both local and expatriates from Poland, Nigeria, Kenya, Australia and India, serving in the dioceses of Lae, Port Moresby, Vanimo, Aitape, Goroka, Mt Hagen, Mendi and Kundiawa.

Bp Rozario told of how Chaplains played a fundamental role in the formation of society and said that there was a burning need now more than ever for rehabilitation and counselling.

He said the Chaplains had a duty to care for the sick, vulnerable and oppressed but admitted that the limited number of Priests serving in dioceses was also a factor that hindered service distribution of Chaplains.

However, Bp Rozario assured that Chaplaincy services would soon take a big step for the better, as it looked forward to developing a curriculum program so that Priests and Laity will be academically qualified for the role.

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**News item 3 – SVD’s Celebrate 125 Years of Presence in PNG**

Divine Word Missionaries and lay faithful have commenced their celebration of 125 years of the Society of Divine Word presence in Papua New Guinea. The celebrations commenced on August 13th2020 and will conclude in August 2021. “Committed to His Word and His mission in PNG” is the theme for the celebrations.

In commemoration of 125 years of existence in Papua New Guinea, the society launched the celebrations at Alexishafen on 13th August 2020. A thanksgiving Mass was held at the Holy Spirit Cathedral in Madang province on 16th August 2020.

The planned activities are:

       9th - 11th August 2021 SVD Provincial Assembly

       12th August 2021 Symposium at Divine Word University

       13th August Thanksgiving celebration at Alexishafen

       14th August pilgrimage to Maria Helpim Hill

       15th August Celebration at Holy Spirit Cathedral

There will also be parish level Renewal Programs for the Arnolds Family.

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**News item 4 – Marriage Builds Stronger Bonds**

Reassessing one’s marriage by identifying its weaknesses and strengths can help to make the marriage’s foundations stronger.

This was the take-home message of a workshop held from October 6th to 8th in Alotau Milne Bay, that dwelled on Marriage Encounter and Right Relationships in Ministry. Present to deliver sessions were Sr Lucy D’Souza, Family Life Secretary; Sr Ancy John, Secretary for Right Relationships; Fr Peter Piotr; and Mr. James Tomiyavau, Alotau Diocesan Family Life Coordinator animated the sessions.

A Eucharistic Mass was celebrated on the last day of the workshop, by Bishop of Alotau, Rolando Santos. In his homily he urged the faithful to be devoted to God by practicing their faith daily. He highlighted the importance of family when practicing the gospel, and said the key to a happy society lies in improving marriage and family relationships.

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**News Item 5 – World Youth Day unveils New Logo**

The new logo of World Youth Day Lisbon reflecting the change in date to 2023, due to the pandemic, was unveiled on 16th October.

The logo inspired by the theme “Mary arose and went with haste”, has the Cross as the main element. It is an invitation for the young people to become active and be the main characters in building a fairer and more fraternal world.

The colours (green, red, and yellow) evoke the Portuguese flag. The organizers of WYD in Lisbon, the capital of Portugal, chose to reveal the logo on October 16, the anniversary of the election of Pope John Paul II, the creator of World Youth Days. The Christian Cross, a sign of the infinite love of God for Humankind, is the main element, where everything is born.

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**News item 6 – Symposium on Fratelli Tutti**

The Catholic Bishops Conference of PNGSI and the Catholic Theological Institute are promoting a Symposium on Pope Francis’ new encyclical: ‘FRATELLI TUTTI’ on Saturday 28th November 2020, at the CTI in Bomana.

All Catholic faithful and Christians are welcome to join. Further details of the program will be provided.

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**News item 7 - Youth Retreat held for Graduating Students of DBTI**

49 final year students of Don Bosco Technological Institute, Boroko were given the opportunity to spend time in silence, prayer and reflection during the Spiritual Retreat for the graduating students.

The retreat held from 16th to 17th October, at the Emmaus Conference Centre in Boroko, had as its theme, ‘Protect Creation, Respect Life’. It had the participation of students studying various trades in Instrumentation Technology, Machine Fitting and Machinists, Machine Fabrication and Welding and Automotive Technology.

The interactive sessions had students engaged in lively discussions, sharing of personal reflections and testimonies. The Sacrament of Reconciliation and the celebration of the Eucharistic were high points in the program. “The highlight of the retreat that has had a deep impact on my life has been the joy of renewing my commitment to purity before God”, said Regina Wayi.

The retreat was facilitated by Fr Ambrose Pereira, Fr Alexander Garces, and Mr. Jojo Siriban.

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**News item 8 – Catechist Retires After 34-Years of Service**

Joseph Paru Mika, a committed and hardworking Catechist has finally retired after dedicating 34-years of service to the Yule Island Parish Catholic Church.

A celebration was held in his honour on Saturday 10th October, that had the Pinupaka community of the Diocese of Bereina thank God for his life’s work.

Over than 500 people came to witness the occasion that included, Ms Eva Wangihama, Laity Commission Secretary of the Catholic Bishops Conference of PNGSI; Lay people from Our lady of the Sacred Heart Sisters (OLSH); Priests and Religious; Catechists from different parishes and communities along the mainland; and communities & clan leaders.

Mr Mika has served the Catholic Church through the ministry of Catechist for 34-years, since 1986 till this year 2020. Expressing their support for his Ministry, his wife and seven children described him as being the right hand of priests that passed through the island parish during the past 34-years.

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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.**