



Pope at Angelus: There is always the hope of redemption for a sinner

- Linda Bordoni

Pope Francis reflects on how Christians are called to take responsibility for their behaviour and be sincere with God and themselves about their difficulties.

Pope Francis on Sunday invited Christians to be sincere before God about their difficulties, failings and weaknesses and shun hypocritical facades behind which to take cover from the qualms of their consciences.

Speaking during the Angelus in St. Peter's Square, the Pope took his cue from the reading of the day from the Gospel of Matthew (Mt 21: 28-32) in which a father asks his two sons to go and work in the vineyard.

The one son refuses at first, but then thinks twice, and goes; the other instead responds 'yes', right away, but then does not go, the Pope recalled, before reflecting on the behaviour of the two.

Acknowledging that going to work in the vineyard requires sacrifice and sacrifice costs, the Pope said "The problem is not so much connected with their resistance of going to work in the vineyard as much as their *sincerity*, or lack thereof, with their father and with themselves."

Pointing out that one son lies, while the other makes a mistake but remains sincere, the Holy Father noted that the one son not only does not want to do the father's will, nor does he want to get into a discussion or talk about it.

Better a sinner than one who is corrupt: "Thus, he hides behind a 'yes', behind a false willingness that hides his laziness and saves face for the time being," he said noting that "He gets by without conflict, but he cheats and deceives his father, disrespecting him in a way that is worse than had he responded with a blunt 'no'".

The problem with someone who behaves like this, the Pope continued, "is that he or she is not a *sinner*, but is *corrupt* because they lie with no difficulty to cover up and disguise their disobedience without welcoming any honest dialogue or feedback."

Taking responsibility for one's behaviour:The one son, Pope Francis continued, said a sincere 'no' but then had a rethink and went to work in the vineyard: "He is not perfect, but sincere."

"He is a *sinner*, we could say, but he is not *corrupt*. And there is always the hope of redemption for a sinner," he said.



But for the corrupt, it is much more difficult, he explained noting that his "false 'yesses', his elegant but hypocritical façades and his false pretences (...) are like a thick 'rubber wall', behind which he takes cover from the qualms of his conscience."

Am I willing to say 'yes' each day to the Father?:The Pope then invited the faithful to ask themselves faced with the difficulty to live an honest and generous life, do they dedicate themselves to the will of the Father?

"Am I willing to say 'yes' each day, even if it costs? And when I fail, am I sincere before God about my difficulties, my failings, my weaknesses?" he said. "Am I willing to repent and retrace my steps when I make a mistake? the Pope continued, "Or do I pretend everything is okay and go through life wearing a mask, concerning myself only about appearing good and righteous?" Let us ask ourselves he concluded: "Am I sinner," or "is there something corrupt in me?"

May Mary, mirror of holiness, the Pope prayed, help us be sincere Christians.

Meet your Bishop: Bp Walenty Gryk SVD (Bishop of Goroka Diocese)

- Jessica Oata



"Goroka is the best place, we have the best vegetables, the best climate, the best people, the best diocese and the best everything!"

These were the remarks made by the proud citizen of 'Apo Land', Bishop Walenty Gryk SVD during our

interview for his feature in this month's Catholic Reporter.

"I am from Poland. I was made in Poland almost 67 years ago and I arrived in Papua New Guinea as a young and energetic priest ready to serve in this wonderful country in 1985 and almost 38 years on, I am still here, still energetic despite my age ", he proudly said.

Bishop Gryk was ordained Bishop last year and is the successor of Bishop Dariusz Kaluza MSF, the current shepherd of the Diocese of Bougainville and is the seventh Bishop of the Diocese of Goroka.

When asked about his childhood, Bishop Gryk recalled that he never grew up with a fatherly figure in the family as God called his father to rest when he was just 6 months old.

"I'm the youngest in a family of four. I have two older brothers and an older sister and after our father died, my older siblings helped my mum raise me and they also have had an influence in my upbringing.", he said.

His inspiration in choosing his life vocation as a priest goes back in his little hometown in Poland and is attributed to the Benedictine Missionary Sisters and their Chaplain who belonged to the congregation of the Society of the Divine Word Missionaries who happened to have a gift of working with young people.

"So many young people were inspired by him and the way he lived and they were always around him. I was one of those young people who was inspired, therefore, I became an altar server at a very young age of 6".

Bishop Gryk recalled with pride and joy that out of the many young people their chaplain inspired, four of them joined the SVD Congregation and became SVD priests while others went on to join other congregations with a good number of girls becoming religious nuns as well.

When asked if he missed his family when he left for the seminary, he said: "the SVD seminary was 180km away from my little town and every year, we

went to witness ordination of priests being sent to Papua New Guinea and other parts of the world so it was just like going home".

When asked what his plans for his diocese are, this was his response: "of course every Bishop has plans for his diocese to flourish. As we are aware, the Catholic Diocese in Goroka is very small in population. There are a lot of places that we should go and evangelize and be salt and light and we are privileged to have Radio Maria with its spiritually enriching programs to help people to reflect on their faith."

"There have been many highlights of my vocation but I have always enjoyed working in the bush with the disadvantaged but somehow I am always put in administrative positions and it pains me", he joked.

Bp Gryk enjoys preaching, teaching and helping people to understand the good news and with his SVD spirituality, he likes helping the people look at the gospel in different angles, with joy and really putting themselves into the biblical drama.

"We have a lot of programs going on in the diocese and it bring me so much joy to see young people taking part in the Neo Catechumenal and New Evangelization programs to be the evangelizers of this digital age".

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Embassy in Jerusalem, insensitive and unfair

- Fr. Giorgio Licini, PIME, CBC General Secretary



The State of Israel had a complex birth in 1948 following the end of the British Mandate, a resolution by the United Nations to partition Palestine, and an Arab-Israeli war which left the Western part of the Holy City of Jerusalem under Jewish control while the Eastern part remained under the State of Jordan with capital Amman. In East Jerusalem are located the historical places sacred to Jews, Christians, and Muslims. The Holy See (or Vatican State) in Rome, basically representing the Catholic and Christian position, always favored international administration and control over the whole of Jerusalem considering the historical significance of the city and its relevance for the three monotheistic faiths.

of the State of Israel. The international community did not recognize it. East Jerusalem and other parts of the West Bank remain occupied territories still meant to become part of a Palestinian state; something Israel vehemently opposes.

In this undefined and complex situation, foreign governments established and still maintain embassies and diplomatic offices in the coastal city of Tel Aviv, which functioned at independence in 1948 as the temporary government centre of the State of Israel. On 6 December 2017, however, the flamboyant president of the United States of America, Donald Trump, recognized Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and moved the American embassy there the following year. Three small countries, Honduras, Guatemala and Kosovo soon decided to follow suit; with Papua New Guinea becoming the fourth marginal international actor to go down the same path in September 2023.

There is nothing wrong in having diplomatic ties and good relationships with the State of Israel as in the case of PNG for the past fifteen or twenty years. It is, however, disrespectful and provocative towards

the Muslim and Christian Arab population of Palestine to ignore their legitimate aspirations in a land they have inhabited for millennia and where they are now marginalized and ejected. At this point in time, it is also an affront to the international community to recognize Jerusalem as the capital of the modern State of Israel before the issues are settled and a peace agreement is reached.

It is true that Jerusalem was the capital established by King David for the Israelites for more than one thousand years from approximately 1003 BC till the destruction of the Temple by the Romans in 70 AD. But the gap between 70 AD and 1967 AD is again of about one thousand years with Jerusalem seeing different peoples and different historical developments, basically revolving around the rising of Christianity and Islam.

Foreign countries and governments should abstain from unilateral decisions until a common understanding is achieved by the local players who should be supported towards peace efforts rather than further polarization, aggressiveness, and arrogance by the strongest on the ground.

The Gospels: The Gospel of Mark

- Fr. Tomás Ravaioli IVE
Liturgical Catechetical Institute Director



We already wrote about its authorship in March, and about its date and place of composition in April. Let's see some of its characteristics.

1) Mark's intention is to give a picture of Jesus as he was. He writes about the facts of Jesus' life in the simplest and most dramatic

way. It is the nearest thing we will ever get to a report of Jesus' life.

2) Mark never forgets the divine side of Jesus. He begins his gospel with the declaration of faith, "The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God." (1:1) He leaves us in no doubt what he believed Jesus to be. To Mark, Jesus is not simply a

man among men; He is God among men, ever moving them to a wondering amazement with his words and deeds.

3) Mark never forgets the human side of Jesus. He calls Jesus "the carpenter" (6:3) and writes about the human feelings and emotions of Jesus: He was moved "with anger" (Mk 3:5). "He marvelled at their unbelief" (Mk 6:6). He was "moved with compassion" (Mk 6:34). Jesus "sighed deeply in his spirit" (Mk 7:34 and Mk 8:12). Only Mark tells us that when Jesus looked at the rich young ruler "he loved him" (Mk 10:21). Jesus "was hungry" (Mk 11:12), and was tired and wanted to rest (Mk.6:31).

4) Mark is a great storyteller. His style is not carefully wrought and polished. He tells the story as a child might tell it. He adds statement to statement

connecting them simply with the word "and." In the third chapter of the gospel, in the Greek, there are 34 sentences one after another introduced by "and" after one principal verb. It is the way in which an eager child would tell the story.

5) Mark quotes the very Aramaic words that Jesus used. To Jairus' daughter, Jesus said, "Talitha koumi" (Mk 5:41) To the deaf man with the impediment in his speech he said, "Ephphatha." (Mk 7:34) The dedicated gift is "Korban." (Mk 7:11) In the Garden he says, "Abba, Father." (Mk 14:36) On the Cross he cries, "Eloi, Eloi, lamma sabacthani." (Mk 15:34)

We need a renewal in the Catholic Church

- Fr. Victor Roche SVD
Secretary of the Pontifical Mission Societies



We need a "Well -structured Youth Program" for the Catholic Church in PNG/SI.

Every Parish/Diocese can do a self-check on the Youth Ministry reflecting on the following questions:

1. Do young people attend Sunday Mass regularly in my Parish/Diocese?
2. Do young people take active part in the liturgy and the main life of the church in my Parish/Diocese?
3. Is there a regular teaching or formation or Religious Education in Primary Schools, High Schools, Tertiary Institutions and for School Leavers in my Parish/Diocese?
4. Is there "Well-structured Catholic Youth Ministry" with a well-trained coordinator for my Parish/Diocese?

I am afraid, our answers would be "Yes" to the above 4 questions in some/most of our Parishes and Dioceses. We need to have a Soul-searching about the Pastoral Care of our youth in PNGSI. If we do not have a "Well -structured Youth Program" in

the Parish/Diocese/Conference level, we will face a "Youth-less Catholic Church" in 20 years!?. It is good to reflect on its consequences.

According to the United Nations, a 'child' is up to the age of 18. In the Catholic Church, normally our Children's Ministry is for the boys and girls up to the age of 12- (Grade 8); Youth Ministry is for the young people between the ages of 13-24: Teens-13-18 (Till Grade 12); Young Adults-19-24 (Tertiary Education).

This year (2023) is the "Year of the Children" and we focus on the Holistic Formation of the children (up to the age of 12). While we continue the formation of the children, we should find ways to have a "Well -structured Youth Program" in our Parishes and Dioceses. Some Dioceses have a "Well-Structured Youth Program" in PNGSI, whereas most of the Dioceses do not have a workable youth program.

Some Parish Priests and Bishops are wondering why are we not able to have a "Well -structured Youth Program" in my Parish/Diocese? The Parish Pastoral Team (PPT) and the Diocesan Team for Pastoral Animation (DTPA) have to come up with a "Well-structured Catholic Youth Program".

Archbishop Mark Coleridge says, "If the young are given the right to experience, then the Catholic

Church is still the greatest show on earth and Jesus as irresistibly attractive now as he ever was".

Australian Catholic Bishops have this vision for the Catholic Youth of Australia:

- To foster the personal and spiritual growth of the each young person
- To draw young people into responsible participation in the life, mission, and work of the Catholic Faith Community
- To empower young people to live as disciples of Jesus Christ in our world today.

We do have a Conference Pastoral Plan 2 (CPP2-2022-2027) in place. In it we have:

- 4.2.3 Strategies**
- Engage parents in forming and training children in their Catholic faith.
 - Develop creative ways of engaging children in the parishes and schools.
 - Form and train students in the Catholic faith in schools and parishes.
 - Create suitable programs to involve the youth in the parish.

Each Parish and Diocese have to work out a "Well -structured Youth Program" based on the Conference Pastoral Plan 2 (CPP2). **LET US DO IT!**

- Donovan Pintol

Catholic School wins debate competition

Port Moresby: Marianville Catholic Secondary School has once again proven to be one of the top performing schools within NCD and the country too, as it claimed title to an inter-school debate competition sponsored by Vodafone and Newcrest Mining Limited that was hosted at the University of Papua New Guinea on September 11, 2023.

Debating on the 2nd Climate Change Summit to be hosted, with the topic 'PNG Needs to Promote Climate Justice and Inclusion When We Are Addressing Our Climate Change Topics', Marianville Debaters did not only portray the quality to win but

also the power, the drive, and the confidence to speak up for what they believe in as well.

These strong ladies took a stand against not only one, but a few other best schools within the nation's capital and the country too.

The grand finale was seen being verbally battled out between Sogeri National High School and the champs after an unfortunate elimination of Port Moresby National High School.

Marianville Secondary School claimed a sum of K700 and the 1st Placing Award with their debaters walking away with a brand-new laptop as a token

from New Crest Mining Limited and several other gifts for their school as well.



Marianville Secondary School representatives with their animator Mrs. Hasola

Pope Francis announces 58th World Communications Day theme

- Sr Daisy Anne Lisania Augustine MSC
Secretary for Social Communication



VATICAN CITY – Pope Francis' message for World Communications Day 2024 was announced on 29 September. The Holy Father reflects on ways to ensure artificial intelligence is a tool that helps people communicate better and not a technology that drives people further from each other and from

what is true.

"Artificial intelligence and wisdom of the heart: for a fully human communication" is the theme Pope Francis has chosen for the 2024 commemoration. The Vatican Dicastery for Communication announced on its website the same day.

Traditionally the pope's message for the day is released January 24, the feast of St. Francis de Sales, patron saint of journalists. Most dioceses will celebrate the world day on May 12, the Sunday before Pentecost.

Announcing the theme chosen by the pope, the dicastery said that "the evolution of artificial

intelligence systems makes it ever more natural to communicate through and with machines, so that it has become increasingly difficult to distinguish computation from thought and the language produced by a machine from that generated by human beings."

And while the technological developments bring many benefits, they also pose "new challenges to ensure that machines do not contribute to a large-scale system of disinformation and do not also increase the loneliness of those who are already alone, depriving us of the warmth that only communication between people can provide."

Echoing Pope Francis' repeated endorsement for the development of "algo-ethics" to protect individuals and promote the common good, the dicastery said, "It is important to guide artificial intelligence and algorithms, so that there is in each individual a responsible awareness of the use and development of these different forms of communication that go hand in hand with social media and the internet."

Pope John Paul II (1990) in his encyclical *Redemptoris missio* 37 said: "The world of

communications is the first Areopagus of the modern age, unifying humanity and turning it into what is known as a 'global village'. The communications media have acquired such importance as to be for many the chief means of information and education, of guidance and inspiration for many people in their personal, family and social behaviour. In particular, the younger generation is growing up in a world conditioned by the mass media."

Increasingly aware of the world as a global village and the power of the media as a free market place for philosophies and values, the Church has sought to be in there with its message and to use the media to proclaim the values it sees are beneficial for human development and for the eternal welfare of people.

Established by Pope Paul VI in 1967 World Communications Day is an annual celebration that encourages us to reflect on the opportunities and challenges that the modern means of social communication (the press, motion pictures, radio, television and the internet) afford the Church to communicate the gospel message.

Social Communication Summit for Priestly Ministry and Mission ends on high note

- Ahisha Mangot and Jessica Oata

Port Moresby: The Social Communications Commission of the Catholic Bishops Conference of PNGSI concluded the Social Communication Summit on Priestly Ministry and Mission on a high note.

The Summit was accompanied by the theme: To Inform, To Form and To Inspire and was held from September 24th – 30th in Port Moresby at the Catholic Bishops Conference with 36 participants comprising of priests, a deacon and a seminarian. The summit was focused on the formation of the priests to be effective communicators of the gospel.

An opening mass was held on Monday September 25th with His Eminence John Cardinal Ribat MSC as the main celebrant with parishioners from St Charles Lwanga taking lead in the choir.

In his homily, Cardinal Ribat addressed the Summit participants and those who joined to be like Salt and Light to others by being good communicators of hope in their daily lives.

"As priests, we have to be effective communicators of the Gospel. Our lives must radiate the love of God to our parishioners and those around us", he said.

Following the closing mass, Bishop Deputy for Social Communications Bishop Jozef Roszynski SVD welcomed the participants and encouraged them to have an open mind and heart to learn and upskill themselves. He also challenged the participants to put into practice what they have learned in the summit when they return to their dioceses.

The highlight of the Summit was the development of a Social Communications module developed in the context of Papua New Guinea and the Solomon

Islands that will be taught in seminaries in the two countries.

The intense week-long Summit had the participants listen to talks by the different facilitators, take part in discussions and presentations, go out to field trips for practical activities and also have a moment of prayer and reflection in the daily masses and evening prayer times.



Participants take a group picture with SOCOM Secretary, Bishop Deputy for SOCOM (seated centre in front row) with facilitators Fr. John Mi Shen (standing left on the second row) and Fr. Samuel Agcaracar SVD (standing right on the second row.)

To name a few, Professor Fr Mi Shen covered Basic Understanding of Communication, Communication Theology and Communication Spirituality, Church Documents on Communication and Communication Formation of Priests and Religious. While Dr Baybado covered Communication Theology based on Synodality and Enriching Priestly Ministry Formation-Theological background.

In addition, Fr Angelo Sanchez, Scott Waide, Fr Giorgio Licini, Helen Oa, Sr Daisy and the SOCOM

team also facilitated other topics such as Formation, Role of Media, the Conference Pastoral Plan 2, the challenges of internet, email and cyberspace in PNGSI, Video Basics and Newsletters

The Summit concluded on Friday September 29th with presentations and had the Apostolic Nuncio to PNGSI His Excellency Archbishop Emilio Sosa Rodriguez as the guest speaker with special messages from the Social Communications Dicastery of the Vatican by the Prefect Paolo Rufini and his Secretary Mons. Lucio Adrian Ruiz. Also present was CBC PNGSI General Secretary Fr. Giorgio and CBC Human Resources Manager Miss Helen Oa.

SOCOM Secretary Sr. Daisy Anne Lisania Augustine MSC in her closing remarks thanked everyone who made the Summit a success, especially the Bishops who invested in their priests, the donors, facilitators and the hospitality team of CBC.

Tokens of appreciation were also given to guest facilitators and the CBC Hospitality team as a token of appreciation for their contribution in the overall success of the Summit.

Facilitators of the workshop included three Professors from the University of Santo Tomas in the Philippines: Fr. John Mi Shen, Fr. Samuel Agcaracar SVD, Dr. Pablito Baybado, CBCPNGSI General Secretary Fr. Giorgio Licini PIME, CBCPNGSI Human Resources Manager Miss Helen Oa Journalist and Founder of the LekMak Group Scott Waide, Lecturer from the Catholic Theological Institute Fr. Angel Sanchez SDB and CBCPNGSI SOCOM Secretary Sr. Daisy Anne Lisania Augustine MSC with her SOCOM officers.

Bishop Rolando Pastoral Letter: Blessed are they who mourn

-Donovan Pintol



Alotau: With October being the month of the Synod of Synodality to be held in Rome from October 4th to the 9th. The Bishop of Alotau, Bp. Rolando C. Santos, CM is now appealing to

his people to help pray for the success of this event so everyone can grow through the spirit of Synodality, and be a veritable of Light and Salt.

Bishop Rolando has said that in order to do so, everyone must now learn to 'Mourn'. Which he has stated the importance of doing so upon the following

scriptures: "blessed are they who mourn" (Mt 5:5); the story on "priest or Levite in the Gospel who was moved with pity but did nothing to help the wounded man by the side of the road" (Lk 10:31-32). For he further explained that "Those who mourn will not only be comforted but, will also learn how to comfort others as-well"

He also went on into giving more examples of saints and other apostolates of Jesus Christ who have mourned to the father for help. With which he has used St. Vincent De Paul (d. 1660), whose feast was recently celebrated on the 27th of September as a Saint who also knows how to mourn. And adding on to his examples was the example of Mother Mary. When is son Jesus Christ was killed, at the foot of the hill was Mother Mary who stood and wept and cried for the sins of the world.

With that, it can now be seen that Satan is making a havoc around the world and spreading false ideologies of materialism, liberalism, and

relativism. Bishop Ronaldo said that the people are now doing so many immoral and unreligious deeds. Like drugs, alcohol and sex abuse continue to rise, and rascals and sea pirates continue looting and spreading fear among the innocent. The bishop gave in figures that, five years ago, they had a total of 1,870 people baptized in the diocese, while last year it had gone down to only had 657. 233 marriages were blessed, while last year only had 102, and only 78 in 2020. As per the Bishop, the Catholic Church has now become a Church that has lost its missionary vitality and not reaching out to the masses. We indulge in spiritual sloth and self-preservation with no substantial and sustainable pastoral plan for our people. We need to learn how to mourn, to acknowledge humbly our faults and rise from our sins. Without a humble and contrite heart, we cannot please the Lord.

CBC PNGSI Migrants and Refugees Desk Commemorates World Migrants and Refugees Day

- Ahisha Mangot

Port Moresby: The Migrants and Refugees desk of the Catholic Bishops Conference of Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands came up with an initiative to circulate the pope's message for the World Day for Migrants and Refugees as a way of commemorating the World Migrants and Refugees Day.

The Migrants and Refugees Desk has requested their Bishop Deputies, Bishop Joseph Durero SVD, and Bishop Francis Meli to share the Pope's message with their brother bishops to be widely shared to priests so that they can reflect on it during their homilies on Sunday 24th of September as a way to commemorate this significant day.

The Director for the Migrants and Refugees Desk Mr Jason Siwat, expressed that in His Holiness' message for the 109th World Migrants Day, Pope Francis has also reflected on this scripture message, but he went further to beautifully sum it in a very reflective manner... that when we help others, we not only see them as "a brother or sister in difficulty, but Christ himself, who knocks at our door." And I think this is what will stick with the mission of the Migrants and Refugees Desk for CBCPNGSI, and those of us who work in this ministry, that we always see Christ in the person we serve.

Mr Jason Siwat also shared "refugees have varying and number of pressing needs, they most of

the time would come to us to help them attend to those needs, including medical emergencies, school fees, water and power supply concerns."

He also added that the government should do more than what we see today. In fact, it has done so little to effectively and proportionately meet the needs of the refugees in PNG.

"One of the biggest areas the government should invest in is to put in place a comprehensive asylum process and systems such that asylum seekers can be supported from the moment they declare themselves as asylum seekers, their applications to be processed professionally, and if found refugees, proper regularization to take place so as to give them all legal documentations they need, while supporting them to access durable solutions through employment etc. Basically, the government must put in place a support system for asylum seekers and refugees" said Mr Siwat.

"To commemorate the day, we are encouraging all citizens, particularly citizens of good will to appreciate that refugees and migrants can become equal and meaningful contributors to building our church, our society, economy and ultimately God's family. Becoming refugees is not a choice, rather a situation that many people are forced into" Siwat added.

He also said that one of the big goals for the CBC migrants and refugees' desk for this year is to obtain land for the West Papuans, where they can have secured land titles to build their lives without the fear of being evicted. If they can achieve this by the end of the year it would be a milestone achievement not for their desk only but for the refugees especially.



West Papua boys in their traditional attire during the recent World Refugee Day held at Limana Vocational Training Centre earlier this year.

Synod on Synodality

- Grace Wrakia

Greetings from Rome!

I am Grace Wrakia, a lay, non-Bishop member of the 16th Synod of Bishops. I am here in Rome with Bishop Dariusz Kaluza of the Bougainville Diocese.

On Saturday 30th September, all 420 Members, plus special invited guests, experts of the synodal process, leaders of Religious groups and Christians Church gathered at St. Peter's Square at the Vatican for an Ecumenical Prayer Vigil with Holy Father, Pope Francis.

The Ecumenical Prayer Vigil was created and structured so beautifully to dedicate and entrust this first session of the Synod to the Holy Spirit. That the Holy Spirit be the protagonist to lead and guide every conversation and Discernment in this Synod from October 4-29.

Brothers and sisters from all walks of life and from all around the world gathered TOGETHER as members of Synod, with youths and leaders of different Churches and Religions. The vigil expressed gratitude for our universal gift of;

1. Unity and Synodal journey
2. Others
3. Peace
4. Creation

Together we renewed our desire and commitment to journey together in unity, hearts filled with gratitude for the gifts God has given us.

Bishop Dariusz and I reflect of the thousands of gift God has blessed our beautiful home Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands and our local Catholic Church and we are grateful.

We invite you all to walk with us on this Synod journey. We will keep you all posted on our experience and events from Rome.

In the next 2 days we will be attending a Retreat with all members of the Synod in Fraterna Domus at Sacrofane outside of Rome.

Pray for us and we pray for all of you at home.



Grace Wrakia (left) with Bishop Dariusz Kaluza MSF and other participants of the Synod for Synodality.

Right Relationships concludes Child Protection Workshop

- Ahisha Mangot

Gordons, Port Moresby: The Right Relationships Commission of CBCPNGSI successfully completed 4-day workshop based on the Lukautim Pinikini Act and Child Protection Issues in the country for the archdioceses/dioceses Child Protection Officers.

The program started from September 18th and concluded on the 23rd and was held in partnership with National office for Child and Family Services.

According to a Child Protection Officer from the Archdiocese of Port Moresby Mr Clement Waiker, he said the first two days of the workshop they covered the Lukautim Pinikini Act. This was facilitated by Mr Otto Tur Deputy Director for Child Protection Programs and Compliance from the National Office for Child and Family services, where they focused on the act and its guiding principles.

He further added that on the remaining two days participants from the dioceses and archdioceses of Papua New Guinea presented their findings regarding Child Protection issues they face in their respective dioceses and the experiences they go through around the country.

Mr Waiker gave a brief on his presentation which highlights the changing laws of the country in terms of sexual violence against children. He added that there are certain parts in the criminal law code act that were changed since 2018 to give weight to prosecution when it comes to child sexual abuse in the country.

The workshop saw presentations from Sr Ancy John, Sr Lucy D'Souza, Mr Noel Apul including Mr Otto Tur and Mr Clement Waiker where they all presented on topics relating to Child Protection Policies, Family and Children, types of Abuses, Lukautim Pinikini Act and etc.

For the first two days, the program on Lukautim Pinikini concluded with certificate presentation to the Child Protection officers from the National Office for Child and Family services. The program

had the Director and Chief Executive officer of the office for Child and Family services as the keynote address, Bishop Deputy for Right Relationships Bishop Rozario Menezes and Fr Giorgio presenting the Child protection officers their certificates during the close up.

The program then continued with other presentations from Sr Ancy John, Sr Lucy D'Souza, Mr Noel Apul and Mr Clement Waiker to name a few which concluded on the 21st of September.

Mr Waiker expressed his appreciation to Sr Ancy John for her continuous support and encouragement to carry out enriching workshops like this for the Child protection officers of the church to do their work and portray the love of God.

Right Relationship in Ministry Directress Sr. Ancy John thanked the participants for their presence and encouraged them to continue the good work they do back in their dioceses.



Participants of the workshop pose for a group picture with their certificates.

The Catholic Reporter Team

You are invited to send in your articles, photograph and reflections on events and happenings in your parish, community, institution and diocese. Please send in your material to: socom@catholic.org.pg on or before 20th of the Month, 2023.

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