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: “No to false, destructive stories, tell of the good that unites”**
2. **Teachers Challenged to Teach like Christ**
3. **Bereina Teachers Recognized in Commissioning Ceremony**
4. **Parish Attempts K2M Fundraising to Construct New Church**
5. **Safe Habits Vital When Using Social Media** ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**News Item 1 –** **Pope: “No to false, destructive stories, tell the good that unites”**

With [fake news](https://catholiccourier.com/articles/pope-urges-media-to-fight-fake-news-with-objective-accurate-reporting) becoming ever more sophisticated, people need the wisdom, courage and patience to discern and embrace constructive stories, Pope Francis said in his message for World Communications Day 2020. The papal message was released at the Vatican on 24th January, the feast of St. Francis de Sales, patron saint of journalists.

The message for 2020 was based on the theme, "That you may tell your children and grandchildren: Life becomes history." The passage, drawn from the [Book of Exodus](https://catholiccourier.com/articles/book-of-exodus), highlights the importance of sharing "knowledge of the Lord" and meaningful memories, stories and experiences, so that they may transform people's lives.

He said we needed stories that revealed who we truly were, also in the untold heroism of everyday life. "Stories influence our lives, whether in the form of fairy tales, novels, films, songs, news, even if we do not always realize it, and people often decide what is right or wrong based on characters and stories we have made our own."

[World Communications Day](http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/communications.index.html) will be celebrated on May 24th at the Vatican and in many dioceses around the world.

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**News item 2 – Teachers Challenged to Teach like Christ**

Fulfil your commitment in life in service to your students and your community as Jesus Christ did.

These were the words of His Eminence Sir John Cardinal Ribat msc, Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Port Moresby, during the Teachers’ Commissioning Ceremony at St Joseph’s International College. The special celebration on Friday 31st February, had over 700 teachers in attendance all from Catholic Mission Schools, Institutes and Centres throughout the Archdiocese of Port Moresby.

The ceremony had as its theme ‘*Go forth in faith and freedom in Jesus Christ*’ and was divided in two parts; the Commissioning Mass in the college’s cathedral celebrated by Cardinal Ribat, followed by Speeches in the outdoor hall from distinguished guest’s Fr Ben Fleming msc, Vicar General, Mrs Paula Bomai, Catholic Education Secretary of the Archdiocese of Port Moresby, Dr Catherine Nongkas, Principal of Don Bosco Technical Institute, and Sr Martina Penuela olsh.

The Rights of Commission was signified by the lighting of candles from Heads of the Catholic Schools. The lighting of candles symbolizes teachers as the beacon and the bringer of light for others to see and learn from.

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**News item 3 – Bereina Teachers Recognized in Commissioning Ceremony**

Catholic teachers from the Diocese of Bereina were officially commissioned, on Friday 31st January 2020, at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Bereina. The teachers came from the diocese’s villages of Kuni, Mekeo and Roro.

Most Rev. Bp Otto Separy, Bishop of Bereina led the Commissioning Mass. The occasion was attended by Mr Simon Efi, District Education Superintendent, Mr Joseph John, Administration Officer, Fr Brian Cahill, DEB Chairman, Mr Tom A’afa, Catholic Education Secretary, Catholic Bishops Conference Commission Heads, teachers, families and friends.

In his homily, Bp Otto reminded the teachers of their noble profession and how they all were sent on the mission to evangelize; providing quality education to children guided by the prophetic teaching of Jesus Christ, the Spirit of formation and teaching in the remotest areas of the diocese.

There were three parts to the ceremony namely; the Commissioning Mass, Speeches and presentations by the various distinguished guests and the planting of 10 trees around the Cathedral campus.

The occasion witnessed by many had as its theme: “*Faith in Action through Our Profession*” and marked the third consecutive Teachers’ Commissioning Ceremony for the Diocese. Commission Heads later gave various presentations on the Catholic Education Curriculum, Child Protection, and Pope Francis’ Encyclical entitled *‘Laudato Si’.*

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**News item 4 – Parish Attempts K2M Fundraising Drive to Construct New Church**

The Sinsipai Sacred Heart Catholic Parish (SSHCP) in the Archdiocese of Mt Hagen is currently coordinating various ways of fundraising in an effort to raise K2Million to construct its first new Church building.

The fundraising was launched on 20th December 2019, by Mt Hagen’s Archbishop, Abp Douglas Young SVD. In his speech he assured Catholic believers in Sinsipai that this was a huge project in a rural village but was not impossible, and could be achieved with the help of God.

He supported the idea of a new church building as most churches in the archdiocese were old and were previously built by early missionaries. He called on the local people to take full ownership in maintaining and repairing church buildings.

Those wishing to help in cash or kind towards the construction can contact Allan Sumb on Ph: 79453167 or email: [asumb@dwu.ac.pg/allansumb7@gmail.com](mailto:asumb@dwu.ac.pg/allansumb7@gmail.com) or [Sinsibaiparish@gmail.com/](mailto:Sinsibaiparish@gmail.com/); or Archbishop Douglas Young on Ph: 5421285/72799063

The Project account details are as follows:

* Account name: Sinsibai Project Account
* Account Number: 7015871465 Bank South Pacific

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**News Item 5 – Safe Habits Vital When Using Social Media**

Nearly 300-students from Don Bosco Technological Institute were given a thought-provoking session on the responsible and safe use of social media. The session facilitated by their Spiritual Moderator, Fr Ambrose Pereira sdb, was held on Tuesday 4th February, in the institute’s main hall during its Orientation Week of the students.

It focused on the purpose of phones, definition and purpose of social media, humanity’s position in today’s world of technology, a biblical reference comparing technology in the past and its exponential growth today, and its connection to digital natives.

Fr Ambrose explained of how people were slowly losing themselves in the world of social media through the use of smartphones, and advised the students not to allow these products to dominate their lives.

He described phones as having “no soul” and said these forms of artificial intelligence should not program our lives, in the way we think and do things. He told the students to carefully evaluate themselves on their use of phones, and reminded them that they were human beings with a mind, will and soul.

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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 Catholic Communications we wish you all an enjoyable week.