**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, with the news.**

**Our stories for the week:**

1. **Pope at Angelus: Christmas of help and joy**
2. **Catholic Bishops Conference celebrates Christmas Eucharist**
3. **Rosary Sisters celebrate 70th Anniversary**
4. **Lae Youth gather for Christmas**
5. **Catholic Professionals hosts Concluding Eucharist**
6. **MSI Congregation welcomes another Religious Sister**

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**News Item 1 – Pope at Angelus: Christmas of help and joy**

At the Sunday Angelus of Sunday 19th December 2021, on the Fourth Sunday of Advent, Pope Francis recalls how Mary "arose and went with haste" to visit and assist her relative Elizabeth. 

The Holy Father says we can also reach out in generosity towards others and bring the joy of Jesus, as Mary did with Elizabeth.

He also observed that challenges did not overcome her because she put her trust in God and went to reach out to her relative Elizbeth.

The Pope encouraged us look on ahead with confidence and step out of our own sphere of challenges, problems, negative thoughts and reach out to others and be of help.

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**News item 2 – Catholic Bishops Conference celebrates Christmas Eucharist**

As a momentous expression of gratitude toward the birth of Jesus Christ, a special Christmas Eucharist was hosted by the Catholic Bishops Conference PNGSI on Monday 20th December 2021, at its headquarters in Waigani.

The Christmas Mass had as its main celebrant Archbishop of Port Moresby, His Eminence Sir John Cardinal Ribat MSC, and was also presided by Fr Giorgio Licini PIME, General Secretary of CBCPNGSI. In attendance of the celebration were Religious, staff of CBCPNGSI and the Catholic Church Health Services PNG.

In his homily, Cardinal Ribat, made special emphasis on the significance of Christmas and said it was a time of tribute to our Lord Jesus Christ for his sacrifice into the world.

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**News item 3 – Rosary Sisters celebrate 70th Anniversary**

The Rosary Sisters of the Diocese of Wewak, recently celebrated the 70th Anniversary of their order’s exitance is Papua New Guinea since 1951.

His Eminence Sir John Cardinal Ribat MSC, was the main celebrant during the eucharist held at the diocese’s saunsel on Wednesday 8th December. Also present were Bishop of Wewak, Joseph Rozynski SVD; Secretary for Evangelization, Fr Victor Roche SVD; Religious, Priest, Lay men and women. About 2000 Catholic faithful from various dioceses in the country attended the celebration.

Fr Victor, a member of the Society of the Divine Word who worked with the Rosary Sisters for 10-years gave the homily.

Mother-General Sr Roberta Mosi, said she was happy that their small congregation had reached the milestone of 70-years.

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**News item 4 – Lae Youth gather for Christmas**

The youths of the Diocese of Lae gathered on Saturday 18th December 2021 at St. Mary’s Parish hall, Eriku to celebrate Christmas. The theme for the celebration was "Be the Light unto the World". Present to speak to the youths was Bishop of Lae, Rozario Menezes SMM.

In his Christmas message to the youths, Bp. Rozario spoke on Jesus being the Light of the world and encouraged the youths to strive to be the same. He said darkness was the absence of light and when we do things to hurt others, we make the illusion of darkness possible but when things are done to bring joy we bring light.

He continued that each of us were called to be joyful this Christmas. Being joyful does not depend on anything or any circumstances because joy is the gift of the Holy Spirit.

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**News Item 5 – Catholic Professionals hosts Concluding Eucharist**

On 11th December, the Port Moresby Catholic Professional Society (CPS) Chapter concluded the year with a thanksgiving Eucharistic celebration at St Joseph’s Parish Church.

The main celebrant of the mass was the CPS Spiritual Director, Fr Ambrose Pereira SDB, with Fr Urban Kalimet, MSC and Fr Giorgio Licini PIME as concelebrants. Present were the CPS members, Vuvu Alumini Pom Chapter and Peter ToRot foundation members who attended as affiliates.

The members were invited to reflect on their calling as Catholic Professionals amidst the fears and struggles, problems, and pains as we navigate our pandemic times. “You have immense talents and gifts. Use them to promote joy and happiness in your families and in the community,” said Fr Ambrose at the sermon.

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**News item 6 – MSI Congregation welcomes another Religious Sister**

The Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate (MSI) - PIME, gained another religious sister into their congregation on Sunday 19th December, in the Diocese of Alotau-Sideia.

Sr Euna Duigu made her final profession in her home village at Sawaedi, Budoya Parish which had Bp Rolando Santos as the main celebrant. Present to witness the occasion were 5 priests, a deacon, over 6 MSI sisters, family, friends and the community.

"Sr Euna is the first person who brought light to St Theresa Catholic Christian Community and I regard her as a role model for young people," said one youth. Following her final profession, Sr Euna's new assignment is in Italy.

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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.**