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

**Air Date: 16/ 05/ 2022**

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

**Our stories for the week:**

1. **Pope at Canonization: Like new saints, let’s live God’s dream joyfully**
2. **CCHS launches 10-year strategic Health Plan**
3. **Late Archbishop Emeritus Michael Meier laid to rest in Rebiamul**
4. **CISP facilitates first Land Management Program**
5. **Annual Catholic Youth Coordinators Conference**
6. **Confidence building is key to achieving goals**

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1. **News Item 1 – Pope at Canonization: Like new saints, let’s live God’s dream joyfully**

In his homily during the canonization mass of ten new saints in Saint Peter’s Square, Pope Francis reminded the fifty thousand faithful gathered to recognize how God loves us unconditionally and how the path of holiness is ‘so simple’ and requires seeing Jesus in others.

The Holy Father recalled how the Sunday’s Gospel highlighted Jesus giving the new commandment of love by telling his disciples to love one another just as he loved them and encouraged us to do the same as well to others.

The Pope reminded us that Jesus loved us so much that he gave the total gift of himself and the love we receive from the Lord is the force that transforms our lives and opens our hearts and enables us to love.

He concluded by encouraging us to serve others and offer our lives without expecting anything in return.

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1. **News item 2 – CCHS launches 10-year strategic Health Plan**

The Catholic Church Health Services officially launched its Strategic Health Plan for the next ten years (2021-2030) on Friday May 13th. The plan is aligned with the new National Health Plan 2021-2030 and other relevant national documents such as Vision 2050.

The CCHS Strategic Plan was developed to reflect the commitment of the Church to the new National Health Plan for 2021-2030 and uses similar Key Result Areas, intentions and commitments to improve health for all the people of PNG.

National CCHS Board Chairman Bishop Francis Meli commended the CCHS Secretariat and staff for the high ideals captured in the Strategic Plan and assured the team and those they serve.

The Strategic Plan will provide the reference framework for operational planning and implementation for the Catholic Church Health Service National Office, Provincial Dioceses, Provincial Health Authorities, National Department of Health and other stakeholders.

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**News item 3 – Late Archbishop Emeritus Michael Meier laid to rest in Rebiamul**

Late Archbishop Emeritus Michael Meier passed away in his home country in Germany on April 4th at the St Wendel Nursing Home for the Society of the Divine Word at the age of 94.

His casket arrived in Mt Hagen’s Kagamuga Airport and was welcomed by priests, religious, diocesan staff, Catholic Health staff, the teaching staff of the Holy Trinity Teachers College and many Catholic faithfuls on Tuesday May 3rd.

The local church hierarchy had been in negotiation with the immediate family, the SVD congregation and relevant authorities for the body to be repatriated to PNG.

The body of late Archbishop Emeritus Michael Meier was laid to rest in Rebiamul, Western Highlands Province on Friday May 6th 2022 where he spent most of his active mission.

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1. **News Item 4 – CISP facilitates first Land Management Program**

The Church Institutional Strengthening Program (CISP) Development Commission of the Catholic Bishops Conference of PNGSI recently held its first Land Management Program for representatives from all diocese in the country.

The program was held from 9th-13th May 2022 at the CBC conference centre with facilitators from the Church and the Department of Lands and Physical Planning.

Sessions on different land matters were presented, including forest management, land allocation, the PNG Land Dispute Settlement Act 1975, customary land lease, survey boundaries, land and property valuation and zoning. A session on Laudato Si was also presented by Fr. Ambrose Pereira sdb, Secretary for Social Communications.

Amongst those present were Bishop Otto Separy, bishop of Bereina and Bp. Rolando Santos of the Alotau-Sideia diocese. Participants included priests and laity.

The one-week long program concluded with a thanksgiving Mass celebrated by Fr. Ambrose Pereira.

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**News item 5 – Annual Catholic Youth Coordinators Conference**

The Annual Catholic Youth Coordinators Conference of the Catholic Bishops Conference is set to be held from 16th to 20th May at the Emmaus Conference Centre.

The conference has as its theme 'Young People: Salt and light of the world'.

The aim is to identify the real issues of the Catholic Youth Ministry and the youths of PNG and Solomon Islands so that the Church can have a clear and realistic approach toward what needs to be done in the ministry and for the youths.

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**News item 6 – Confidence building is key to achieving goals**

Self-confidence is vital for advocacy and good decision-making.

This was the powerful message from four lively students from Don Bosco Technological Institute during their appearance on the Chatroom talkback show on Wednesday May 11th as they spoke passionately on the topic ‘Confidence Building essential for students.’

Young people were urged to have self-confidence in themselves in order to be assertive and be vocal on issues affecting them and not to rely on the older generations to speak on their behalf about issues affecting them because they will not be adequately represented.

In their discussion, the students explained what confidence building is and why it is important, the need for young people to develop self-confidence at an early age and how confidence builds up a young person’s character.

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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.**