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

**Air Date: 04/ 08/ 2020**

**Welcome to another weekly Catholic Church News on Radio Maria. I am Nigel Akuani, with the news.**

**Our stories for the week:**

1. **Pope: Eucharist provides strength to care for others**
2. **CBC releases Notice for NCD Lockdown**
3. **CPNG hosts Diocesan Development Secretaries Forum**
4. **Empowering young people through Media Education**
5. **DBTI Staff experience a “KAIROS RETREAT”**
6. **CSMA Priest celebrates Silver Jubilee**

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# News Item 1 – Pope: Eucharist provides strength to care for others

“Jesus wants to use this situation to educate His friends, both then and now, about God’s logic: the logic of taking responsibility for others,” said Pope Francis during his catechesis of the Sunday Angelus on 2nd August.

Pope Francis reflected on Jesus’ miracle of the multiplication of the loaves in (Mt 14:13-21), where he took the bread, broke it, and gave it to the disciples for them to distribute. This gesture Jesus expressed, he said was done as a sign of charity, “God the Father’s generosity toward His weary and needy children.”

He spoke of the connection between the Eucharist and the daily bread, and stressed that both were vital for nourishment and for eternal life. He noted that Jesus’ compassion and tenderness for the crowd was the concrete manifestation of the love to care for people’s needs.

The Holy Father urged everyone to draw near to the table of the Eucharist by imitating Jesus’ attitude of compassion. He said that true compassion meant embracing the suffering and taking upon ourselves the pain of others.

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**News item 2 – CBC releases Notice for NCD Lockdown**

The Catholic Bishops Conference of PGNSI wishes to advice Bishops, Religious and faithful laity, that the CBC will remain closed as per the 14-Day lock down due to COVID 19.

The notice was made on by the CBC Management on Tuesday 28th July, taking effect the same day. Most of its staff; the Secretariat and Commissions will be working from home. Communication with staff via email and mobile phones is highly recommended. For CCDF matters, please contact Demoti Magini or Jimmy Son directly.

The Management apologizes for any inconvenience caused, and will advise when the office re-opens for normal duties once an official notice has been released from the Office of the Controller.

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**News item 3 – CPNG hosts Diocesan Development Secretaries Forum**

The team of Caritas PNG Officers were more than obliged as they pulled off an intense week-long forum for itsDiocesan Development Secretaries. The forum from 20th to 24th, had fourteen participants each representing the various Catholic dioceses around the country. This was shared by CPNG Outreach Officer Jason Siwat, on Friday 31st July.

The conference was facilitated by CPNG Officers namely Mr Siwat; Director of CPNG Ms Mavis Tito; and West Papuan Refugee Resettlement Officer, Donatus Nahak.

According to Mr Siwat, the Conference was an orientation and re-visitation of Caritas PNG, to discuss what it was and its function throughout the country.

He said among other matters discussed were the roles of the Diocesan Development Secretary otherwise known as Diocesan Caritas Coordinators, their reports on the activities they undertook in their diocese, the challenges they faced and what they plan to implement.

Through the course of the conference, discussions and amendments were made to certain manuals that guide the work of Caritas, and resolutions aimed at improving and fostering the activities of Caritas in PNG.

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**News item 4 – Empowering young people through Media Education**

There is a strong and growing need to harness the talent, zeal and energy of young people and to get them involved in the positive aspects of the media. This was the expression of Fr Ambrose Pereira sdb, Social Communications Secretary of CBCPNGSI and Vice Province of Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands.

The sentiment was made on Thursday 30th July, in the first part of a two-part series reflection of his work as a missionary dedicated to working closely with young people.

According to Fr Ambrose, the need to involve young people in the media was not only to their advantage but to the benefit of all in the community.

He recalled how he realized that young people had a lot to do with the media, and said these were all revealed during his role in the Social Communications and Youth Ministry for the Catholic Church in the Solomon Islands, and his experience of youth ministry in Mumbai.

In his analysis of Papua New Guinea, he said Hollywood and Bollywood action movies remained as regular forms of entertainment in remote villages of the isolated islands. Unfortunately, he said these movies gradually shaped the young minds and changed their ingrained attitudes, that encouraged an abusive lifestyle and a violent and dominant behaviour.

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**News Item 5 – DBTI Staff experience a “KAIROS RETREAT”**

Staff of Don Bosco Technological Institute were more than privileged as they got to participate in the Kairos Retreat held from 17th and 18th July at the Emmaus Conference Centre, Boroko.

The Kairos Retreat translated from Greek as “the *right or opportune moment*” was led by Fr. Roger Miranda sdb, and gave participants an opportunity to reflect and realize the purpose of God in their lives. The retreat had three sessions with group sharing and personal reflections.

The first session discussed the qualities a person should have to be a good leader. The second dwelt on the power of love, and the third provided valuable tips to boost teamwork. Participants were challenged to cultivate good teamwork at DBTI as they care and educate young people.

During the two days, the staff were encouraged to observe ‘Silence’ in a new light, “Silence is not the absence of noise, but it is the presence of God’.

Speaking on behalf of DBTI’s staff was Dr. Catherine Nongkas, Vice President of DBTI. She extended her thanks to the retreat’s facilitator and described the retreat as both inspiring and informative.

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**News item 6 – CSMA Priest celebrates Silver Jubilee**

Parish Priest Fr. Jozef Pekala CSMA, from the Rukus Divine Mercy Shrine in the Catholic Archdiocese of Mt. Hagen has celebrated his 25th year of service in the priesthood ministry. His silver jubilee was formally celebrated on May 13th 2020, at the Rukus Divine Mercy Shrine in the North Waghi Deanery, his current post since 2018.

On the day of his silver jubilee, a number of priests gathered with Archbishop of Mt Hagen Douglas Young SVD, and Vicar General Fr. Bogdan Swierczewski CSMA, at the Shrine for the celebration. Reverend Archbishop Douglas Young led the Eucharistic celebration and Fr. Jozef Pekala, and Fr. Bogdan concelebrated with him.

Abp Douglas in his homily said that Fr. Jozef’s silver jubilee coincided with the feast of Mary of Fatima, and was a time of excitement and happiness. He said this was an occasion to express gratitude and thanks to God, for His own purpose and will, to choose and call Fr. Jozef into this life and for caring for him in these 25 years of priesthood.

Fr. Jozef is from Grybow Krakow, South Poland, and is one of the priests of the Congregation of Saint Michael the Archangel (CSMA) serving in the Archdiocese of Mt. Hagen, Western Highlands Province.

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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.**