**2018 QUESTIONAIRE FOR YOUTH SYNOD**

**Young People: Faith, Vocation and Discernment**

Diocese: ARCHDIOCESE OF PORT MORESBY

Name of the youth coordinator/ chaplain/ animator

Youth Coordinator: Sr. Rebecca S. Fernandez, OND

Youth Chaplain: Fr. Sylvester Saladaga, PIME

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Number of Youth Groups in the Diocese: 25 Youth groups

Questions to be answered:

**a) Young People, the Church and Society**

1. In what manner does the Church listen to the lived situations of young people?

* In the Archdiocese of Port Moresby, we have archdiocesan youth coordinator who is the overseer of the catholic youth ministry programs and activities; we have a youth chaplain who attained our spiritual nourishment and we have ACYC (Archdiocesan Catholic Youth Council) who worked closely with our youth coordinator and youth chaplain in facilitating and implementing the programs and activities.
* We are provided with a Youth Office in the Chancery.
* Annually we have Archdiocesan Youth Programs in line with the Archdiocesan Pastoral Plan
* Our youth ministry conducting the four areas of formation (Human: Physical & Psychological, Spiritual, Intellectual and Social Pastoral Dimension) in the diocesan level
* We have Parish Youth leaders team regular meetings to ensure the proper coordination and dissemination in organising youth programs
* Parish Youth Coordinator is the representative to Parish Pastoral Council.
* Ongoing youth counselling for youth in school and out of school in coordination with the Family Life Apostolate and Caritas
* Family life conducting education, dissemination in the schools on understanding their sexuality and integrating their issues affecting their lives
* The catholic Religious Education conducting recollection for graduating students

1. What are the main challenges and most significant opportunities for young people in

your country / countries today?

CHALLENGES:

* Youth involved in drugs, alcohol and smoking is rampant in the society
* Youth are voiceless, no voice in the community and society
* Youth have the tendency to withdraw in the group or in the Church;

and can easily be discouraged

* Youth can be easily influenced by modern technologies, gadgets and media
* Youth unemployment is increasing due to insufficient skills and knowledge
* Peer pressure

SIGNIFICANT OPPORTUNITIES

* Youth can be an agent of evangelisation especially to their fellow youth
* Youth can be a partners to any organisation in the Church
* Youth can animate people in the Church, in the community and in the society.
* Youth can play an important role in the Church
* Youth can be a contributing citizens in the country
* Youth can be a future leaders in the Church and in society

1. What kinds and places of group gatherings of youth, institutionalized or otherwise,

have a major success *within*the Church, and why?

* Archdiocesan Youth Programs; organising Archdiocesan Way of the Cross, Archdiocesan Youth Conference, Catholic Youth Day, Mini World Youth Day, Marian Motorcade, Youth Convention, Pilgrimage; in this way, the youth recognizes their talents, abilities and responsibilities. They are free to work with unity, collaboration, participation and making friends to their fellow youth from other parishes.

1. What kinds and places of group gatherings of youth, institutionalized or otherwise, have a major success *outside*the Church, and why?

* Youth camp, Inter-faith dialogue with other denomination, Rallies, Youth Concert, Youth Festival, Cultural Festival, Inter-deanery Sports; Walk for a cause;

Youth respect and open for friendship to the members of other churches and acceptance is opened among others

1. What do young people really ask of the Church in your country / countries today?

* Greater opportunity for education
* Skills training and Employment opportunities
* Stronger family relationship

1. What possibilities for participation exist in your country / countries for young people to take part in the life of the ecclesial community?

* Being part and taking part in the Church liturgy, leadership, corporal and spiritual works of mercy, catechetics and Sunday schools

1. How and in what manner is contact made with young people who do not frequent Church surroundings?

* Organised visitation, involving them in sports activities, youth concerts, cultural dances show cases and organising liturgical music and liturgical arts

**b) Pastoral Vocational Programmes for Young People**

8. How are families and communities involved in the vocational discernment of young people?

* Here in Papua New Guinea only few family or parents involved in the vocation discernment of the young people
* There were some communities who really encourages their young people to join religious life
* Some families and communities offer prayers for vocation

1. How do schools and universities or other educational institutions (civil or ecclesial) contribute to young people’s formation in vocational discernment?

* In School especially under Catholic Agency, it is part of their school curriculum to facilitate vocation awareness and promotion to the students every year.
* Young people boys and girls engaged as altar server, vocation club group
* Priests and sisters are teaching in the school

1. In what manner are you taking into account the cultural changes resulting from the development of the digital world?

* The Papua New Guinean culture such as telling stories and fun in the family and community is fading due to young people involved so much in digital world; they focused on different kinds of new technologies and gadgets but there are some group of youth already understand the advantages and disadvantages of using media through media awareness seminars and media education.

1. How can World Youth Days or other national or international events become a part of ordinary pastoral practice?

* It is part of the youth ministry In the Archdiocese of Port Moresby, to organize Mini World Youth Day to let the youth experience the spirit of World Youth Day and applied the whole program of world youth day.

1. In what manner is your diocese planning experiences for the pastoral vocational programme for young people?

* Vocation program is integrated in the youth ministry
* Youth organised Vocation Camp, Vocation Promotion , education for vocation awareness
* Some youth expresses their desire to join religious life

***c) Pastoral Care Workers with Young People***

13. How much time and in what manner do clergy and other formators provide for personal spiritual guidance?

* Youth was provided spiritual guidance by their parish priest and religious brothers and sisters through counselling, faith sharing, telling vocation stories and formation of spiritual dimension such as; prayers and giving recollections and retreat

1. What initiatives and opportunities for formation are in place for those who provide pastoral vocational guidance?

* Opportunities to express their desire to serve God, to join religious life and to become missionary

1. What personal guidance is offered in seminaries?

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**ASIA AND OCEANIA**

1. Why and how do religious gatherings by those who are non-Catholic exercise an attraction on young people?

* There are some non - catholic groups knows how to attract people especially young ones through their way of preaching and singing

1. In what way can the values of a local culture be combined with Christian teaching, while also giving importance to popular piety?

* Through Inculturation courses, training and seminars
* To remain alongside young people in their development, growth and journey of faith, to enter into harmony with them, new and effective ways of communication have to be found.”

1. How is the language used in a young people’s world incorporated in the pastoral care of young people, especially in the media, sports and music?

* The use of multi-media ---
* makes the formation of the youth more attractive;
* helps students remember the lesson content better;
* brings reality into the classroom; stimulates participation; into a youth group
* allows a more concrete vision of the subject;
* helps the youth ministers, teachers and other ministers’ expository work; and arouses the interest of students or youth…