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

**Air Date: 14/ 7/ 2021**

**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: Healthcare for all is essential service**
2. **Chimbu Catholics Pledge Partnership with new Bishop**
3. **Experience of Jesus essential to Evangelization**
4. **Positive Attitude key to overcoming Unemployment**
5. **TSC launches database system for teachers’**
6. **Church Media undergo COVID-19 Training Program**
7. **DWU celebrates Feast of Bl Peter Torot**
8. **Supporting women and girls in rural areas**

……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**News Item 1 – Pope: Healthcare for all is essential service**

Pope Francis greeted the crowd who gathered for the Sunday Angelus of 11th July, from the balcony of his tenth-floor hospital window and thanked the people for their closeness and offered his prayers for those suffering and needed care.

In his brief address before leading the recitation of the Angelus prayer, he reflected on the Gospel reading where Jesus’ disciples went out and anointed with oil many who were sick and healed them.

He noted that we all will need this “anointing” some time in our lives, and “we can all give it to someone else” through simple gestures such as a visit, a call, a helping hand.

In conclusion, the Pope expressed his profound “appreciation” and “encouragement” to the doctors, healthcare workers, and staff.

…………………………………………...ENDS………………………………………………………………….

**News item 2 – Chimbu Catholics Pledge Partnership with new Bishop**

The Catholic people of Chimbu Province welcomed and pledged to work in partnership with the new Bishop of the Diocese of Kundiawa, Bishop Paul Sundu during his Episcopal Ordination on Saturday 3rd July, at the Mary Help of Christians Cathedral, Kundiawa.

Secretary to the Apostolic Nuncio to PNGSI, Fr Jacek Pinocy, in his speech congratulated Bp Paul Sundu and invited the people of the Diocese of Kundiawa to bring about a change by the holiness of their lives.

Bp Paul Sundu thanked the Catholic faithfuls for their constant prayers and vowed to work with them. He said his role as the new bishop was no easy task and urged for all faithful to work together to carry the Church of God forward.

………………………………………...ENDS…………………………………………………………………….

**News item 3 – Experience of Jesus essential to Evangelization**

**“**If we can have our people encounter the person of Jesus, there will be no more violence but a stronger support for the Church and its mission of evangelization,” said Bishop of the Diocese of Mendi, Donald Lippert OFM.

In a brief chat on Tuesday 29th June 2021, at the Catholic Bishops Conference PNGSI, Bp Don expressed his concern on serious social matters currently upsetting peace, law and order in the Diocese.

According to the Bishop, the key to resolving many of the diocese’s problems required an action to reprioritize its issues and to redirect its focus and effort toward what was needed the most.

When asked about the role of young people in addressing challenges facing evangelization Bp Don stated they were imperative in the Church’s Mission and that Jesus himself had a special purpose reserved for each. Despite the many distractions that have the potential to lead young people astray, Bp Don remained keen and committed to helping youths no matter the circumstances.

……………………………………...ENDS…………………………………………………………………….

**News item 4 – Positive Attitude key to overcoming Unemployment**

Start being creative and always try to maintain a positive attitude even though finding employment might at first seem daunting and way out of reach.

These were the encouraging words of five Grade-11 students of Don Bosco Technical Secondary School, on Wednesday 7th July 2021, during their talk on Chat Room regarding the issue of ‘Graduating but not being able to work’.

The issue had its various aspects dwelled on that gave viewers and listeners an in-depth insight into just how much it impacted our young people of the day. For Wednesday 14th July, Chat Room will have the Grade-11 students of Caritas Technical Secondary School take on the issue, ‘Social Media and its impact on young people’.

…………………………………………...ENDS………………………………………………………………….

**News Item 5 – TSC launches database system for teachers’**

The Teaching Service Commission officially launched the Teachers Information Management System (TIMS) database, an online system established to capture current information of all teachers in the country.

Hosted at the Catholic Bishops Conference on Wednesday, 7th July with the theme ‘Teachers Build our Nations,’ the system was launched by Dr Uke Kombra, Secretary for Education and Mr Samson Wangihomie, TSC Chairman.

In his keynote speech, Dr Kombra commended TSC for coming up with this intervention and said that with over 70,000 teachers in the country, it is important that every teacher’s biodata is captured.

Headmaster of De La Salle and Chairperson of Secondary Schools in Port Moresby, Bro. Antony Swamy, expressed satisfaction at such an initiative. He stressed how before the launching, it was quite a challenge to communicate with teachers, especially in the rural areas to pass on or receive information but now those challenges would be lessened.

…………………………………………...ENDS………………………………………………………………….

**News item 6 – Church Media undergo COVID-19 Training Program**

Personnel from various Church Media Outlets and Commissions were fortunate enough to be part of an intense one-day media training program on information sharing amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.

The workshop held on Friday 9th July 2021, at the CIMC CIMC Family and Sexual Violence Action Committee, Konedobu, was facilitated by Mrs Rosa Koian, Editor of Wantok Newspaper, and sponsored by International Foundation for Electoral Systems and ABC International Development. It had the involvement of 12 participants from the Social Communications Commission of the Catholic Bishops Conference PNGSI, Radio Maria PNG, and the Wantok Newspaper.

Covered in the workshop were the three main types of ‘Wrong Information’ that was being disseminated that caused hesitance and clouded judgment among the public sphere in their need to discern correct, truthful and reliable information, namely: Misinformation, Disinformation, and Malinformation.

………………………………………...ENDS……………………………………………………………………

**News item 7 – DWU celebrates Feast of Bl Peter Torot**

Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands students came together on Wednesday 7th July with a lively and beautiful choir leading the evening liturgy to celebrate Blessed Peter Torot’s day.

The main celebrant was Fr. Yanus SVD. He reminded the congregation of Blessed Peter Torot’s faith in the face of difficulties and for us to emulate this faith.

There was an amazing and solemn atmosphere in the chapel as the choir sang songs with angelic voices in the Kuanua vernacular. The Mass also honored the Solomon Islands 43rd anniversary of Independence which also falls on 7th July.

Meanwhile, celebrations to commemorate the feast of Blessed Peter ToRot were held in other parts of the country.

………………………………………...ENDS……………………………………………………………………

**News item 8 - Supporting women and girls in rural areas**

A breakfast talk fundraiser to support girls, vulnerable women and communities in remote areas of Papua New Guinea was hosted by the Lasallian Women of Hope group on Saturday 10th July.

‘Healthy Women building Strong Communities,’ was the theme of the talk and focused on accessibility to basic services such as education and health care for women and girls in terms of menstrual hygiene and cervical cancer.

According to Rose Polume, Chairperson for Lasallian Women of Hope, the talk served 3 outcomes:

1.     To celebrate the Lasallian’s 75years of Mission and existence in PNG

2.     First of its kind fundraising drive to support the Lasallian Women of Hope activities and projects

3.     A platform for community issues especially health concerns

The Lasallian Women of Hope is a subsidiary group of women teachers in PNG that work in partnership with the De La Salle Brothers.

The talk also had a Q&A panel that had as panelists Serena Sumanop, CEO of Digicel Foundation; Dr Gabriel Yohang, Rural and Generalist Medicine and Health Science; Sr Helen Hukula, Founder and SIC – Well Women Clinic and Fr Giorgio Licini, General Secretary of Catholic Bishops Conference.

………………………………………...ENDS……………………………………………………………………

**Recapping our headlines for this week:**

1. **Pope: Healthcare for all is essential service**
2. **Chimbu Catholics Pledge Partnership with new Bishop**
3. **Experience of Jesus essential to Evangelization**
4. **Positive Attitude key to overcoming Unemployment**
5. **TSC launches database system for teachers’**
6. **Church Media undergo COVID-19 Training Program**
7. **DWU celebrates Feast of Bl Peter Torot**
8. **Supporting women and girls in rural areas**

**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.**