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Catholic Dioceses undergo Media Workshop

By Arlene Abital & Bomai Witne

“SOCIAL communication and networking: a way forward to keep contacts and stay connected” was highlighted during the Catholic Bishops' Conference of Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands' (CBC-PNG/SI) Media Seminar and Workshop held on September 29 to October 2, 2016 at Emmaus Conference Centre, Don Bosco Technological Institute campus, Port Moresby.

Fr. Fabrizio Colombo, MCCJ, Director of SIGNIS Services Rome together with Fr. Ambrose Pereira, SDB, Sr. Daisy Anne Lisania, MSC and Bishop Rochus Tatamai, MSC, Diocese of Bereina and Deputy Chair of the CBC SOCOM guided the four-day seminar and workshop.

“Communication technologies change people and society. The Catholic Church does not operate in isolation but with communication technologies,” said Fr. Colombo as he commenced the session on the first day. He highlighted the fact that, ‘Media has the power to change individuals and organizations’.

The interactive session enabled the participants to develop new knowledge and skills to enhance their communication possibilities. Radio communication, interviewing skills and the ripple effect of a good radio broadcasts were emphasized.



Participants in the Media Workshop.

The three-minute radio interview on current issues gave the participants an opportunity to put the theoretical input into practice.

On the second day, Fr. Fabrizio challenged the participants in the use of their Social Media. “Do not be afraid to use Social Media for conversational evangelisation,” he said. With the help of IT students from DBTI the participants were able to create a Facebook page on current social issues in PNG.

In the afternoon, Media professionals, Phoebe Gwangilo (the National), Veronica Hatutasi, Anna Solomon and Paul Suvani (Wantok Niuspepa), Anthony Paul (Holy

Spirit Seminary) and Joe Gickmai Kundun (Bomana Parish) provided an avenue for an open Media Forum. The session has opened the minds of the group to the need for liaising between the media and the Church and to use the opportunities available to address the fundamental issues confronting the youth and people.

Storytelling through images using the elements, attitudes and moments formula – challenged the group to work on the theme: ‘Church to Mission’. The short video clips highlighted the role and impact of the missionaries in the lives of the people.

Along with the engaging activities

were prayers, group dynamics and the morning Eucharistic celebrations.

The fourth day was dedicated to sharing and networking. “Our purpose of every production should be - to educate, to inform, to entertain and to inspire”, stressed Fr. Ambrose as he opened the session. Each diocese digitally presented its communication work.

It was an occasion to learn and pick up useful information for their own diocese. A high point in the afternoon was a field visit to Post Courier.

The participants appreciated the dedication and hard work of

this leading commercial media outlet.

After solemn vespers, the ‘Church to mission’ videos were screened in the presence of Fr. Victor Roche sdb, CBC General Secretary, Fr. Peter Baquerosdb, Provincial and Fr. Malak Zdzislaw sdb. Souvenir items were exchanged as tokens of memorable experiences, friendships made and connections established.

The Social Communications and the Commission on Social Communications (SOCOM) is now working towards fulfilling the new joint Conference Pastoral Plan (2015-2020) for the Catholic Church in PNG & SI. This can assist the CBC and the Church in attracting media attention on social, moral and religious issues and concerns.

The participants comprised of the clergy and laity representing the Dioceses of Goroka, Madang, Kavieng, Rabaul, Mt Hagen, Mendi, Autonomous Region of Bougainville, and the Diocese of Gizo, Solomon Islands. Joining them were staff from the Don Bosco institutions of Port Moresby.

All have returned to put into practice the new insights and knowledge received during the four days and are committed to use the means of communication and networking to build a stronger church and people of God.

Archdiocese of Rabaul aims for Unity

By Sr. Daisy Anne Lisania msc

AS preparations amount towards the 50 years Jubilee celebrations for the dioceses of Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands, on November 15, 2016, the Archdiocese of Rabaul has taken a big step towards greater unity among the Clergy, Religious and the Faithful.

In his homilies in parishes, Archbishop Francesco Panfilo sdb reiterates the call for comu-

nio. “Priests must work together with their bishop, the religious and the faithful to build the kingdom of God, it is only when there is unity then the fruits of labour are abundant.”

In view of the celebrations, the bishop has the Coat of Arms for the Archdiocese, first of its kind for a diocese in both countries. For the motto, he chose the words “UT UNUM SINT” (Latin: That they may be one) which are taken from the prayer of Jesus in the Vulgate transla-

tion of the Gospel according to John.

The call to greater unity for the jubilee celebrations with such impassioned commitment is finding an ever greater echo in the hearts of the believers, especially as preparations for spiritual renewal take place in all levels in the diocese. It is no surprising that the Pastoral plan coincides with this call, building Christian Communities in Charity is an appropriate way to Communion as it begins in fam-

ilies and small Christian Communities.

To add to the call of unity, family conventions will take place in parishes and the diocesan level with grand Marian processions in October asking the maternal intercession of the Mother of God for this great step.

Christ calls all his disciples to unity, “my earnest desire is to renew this call today to all in the Archdiocese of Rabaul” the Archbishop said.



Archbishop of the Rabaul Archdiocese, Francesco Panfilo sdb.

Family Bible enthronement celebration

THEME: "Listen to God's Heartbeat on every page of the Bible."

IT has been four years of preparation for the Bible Enthronement for the people of Daru-Kiunga Diocese.

The time had come for the people to bring God into their homes and made Him the centre of their heart and everything that they will be doing along in their journey of faith as people on the journey with one vision and mission as the motto of the Diocese says.

7th August, 2016 was the Bible Sunday; the Diocese of Daru-Kiunga took that opportunity to celebrate and do the Family Bible Enthronement. Each parish celebrated that day in a very special and meaningful way.

The parishioners of St. John, Matkomnai, came in their Small Christian communities procession, singing and praying together to the church.

All the parishioners gathered together to celebrate the long awaited day. The Holy Eucharistic celebration was presided over by the parish priest, Fr. Yulianus cm, which began at nine thirty and ended at 12: 30pm.

The families were asked to sit together in their own family. They were asked to bring their Bibles to be blessed. The Bibles were placed on the table near the altar. Each SCC took the responsibility to prepare the different processions for the liturgy.

During the homily Fr. Yulianus asked a few questions to the people: why do you build new houses? The people responded that we build new houses when we see that the old posts are rotting away. We don't want to have accident with heavy rain and strong wind. We want to be protected our family from any danger of life. Fr. Yulianus asked one more question: what kind of posts do you usually put in the middle of your houses. People responded that they choose the strong, big and heaviest ones so that it will last for many years in spite of



heavy rain and strong wind.

Fr continued telling the people that, in the same way, today you will take the word of God into your houses and make Him the strong post of your family and your individual life. From now on He will be the King of your family and your life. The Word of God will be the strong post where you will get strength when there will be problems, and storms in your life. Remember that God is in your heart, in your family and in the Bible that you will be enthroning in your houses. The secret of the enthronement of the Bible is your heart.

Fr Yulianus elaborated further with the theme of the Bible Sun-

day "Listen to God's Heartbeat on every page of the Bible" telling the people that every heartbeat in our heart is very vital because it is a sign that we are alive and our blood vessels are working well, circulating the blood to all parts of the body. In the same way God's heartbeat on every page of the Bible is alive only if we listen to him every day with our family by praying and reflecting upon it.

Fr. Yulianus gave more reflections on the readings of the day, mainly on the faith of Abraham. God demanded Abraham to sacrifice his only son and he listened to God and obeyed Him. God was very pleased with Abraham's faith. Abraham had listened to God's



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voice. His faith was strong and he became the father of the faith. He continued to encourage the people to listen to the voice of God, to His heartbeat on every page of the Bible, like Abraham.

If challenges come on your way, get strength from God who is the strongest post of your life. Do not give up your faith when encountering challenges but be strong in your faith with the Word of God.

The challenges will make you strong again like Abraham who then became the father of many nations because of his faithfulness in listening to God.

The celebration continued with the liturgy of the Eucharist. At the end of the final procession the people were asked to be seated and the special celebration of the Bible Enthronement began. The parishioners made their three promises by saying;

1. We will live by the Word of God in our family and put it into practice in our daily live;

2. We will be faithful to carry out our responsibilities towards our family members;

3. We will be faithful to attend Sunday service and other parish activities.

Then, the elder of each family took the Bible from the table and lifted it high. The rest of the family members followed in procession to their homes to do their enthronement. When they were in procession, they sang and prayed until they reach home.

They enthroned their Bible in the prepared place and the elders finished the celebration by making the sign of the cross. They were very excited and filled with joy in their heart and in their family. After being part of the celebra-

tion, I was really impressed by the faith of the people.

It was a moment of joy because as I reflected on the Words of prophet Isaiah saying that 'just as the rain falls to water the earth; just as the seed becomes the bread...My Word upon you can never return...until my longing is filled' I felt that, it was the time now for the people to take the Word of God into their homes.

I prayed for my former Montfortian missionaries who have worked so hard during those early years,

it was not in vain, it has watered the gardens of the lives of the people of Matkomnai and now they are happy with the Word of God.

Though there will be challenges, I felt that this special celebration will always be a strength in their lives.

As I took time to visit people in their homes and I came across to Ari Linda's family. I asked her why she chose the centre of her house to be the place of the enthronement of the Bible.

She responded that she wants the Word of God to be now the centre of her house, her family and her life. She was very excited and happy about the special event of that day.

All were filled with joy and happiness with these new experiences in the celebration and the enthronement of the Bible in the family.

To finish their celebration, they came together in their small Christian Community to share a meal as we normally do in our Melanesian society. May Jesus Wisdom continue to be incarnated in us as we reach out for the poor...Sr Cecilia Gabriel, DW,

Workshop for Bishops 2016

By Fr. Victor Roche SVD

THE Bishops of PNG/SI gather together for two meetings a year: first one for the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in the second week of Easter and second one for their on-going formation (Workshop for Bishops) in the week after Independence Day in September.

This year the Workshop for Bishops was held on 21-28 September, 2016 in Emmaus Conference Centre, Port Moresby. Two themes were treated during this work-

shop: "Laudato Si- Earth is our Common Home" and it was facilitated by Fr. Joseph Sayer (CIDSE) from Germany; and "Communication and Bishops" by Fr. Fabrizio Colombo from SIGNIS, Rome. There was also a session by Fr. Francis Meli on procedures for the nullity of marriages according to Motu Proprio of Pope Francis: "MITIS IUDEX DOMINUS IESUS".

There were 17 Bishops from PNG and no bishops from SI. Fr. Victor Roche (General Secre-

tary) and Sr. Kumari Pappu (Admin Manager) were the coordinators.

During the Workshop there was a celebration of the "50 years of the Establishment of the Dioceses of PNG/SI (November 15, 1966 - November 15, 2016)". Archbishop Kurian Vayalunkal, the newly appointed Apostolic Nuncio was the main celebrant. During the Eucharistic Celebration, student representatives from all the 22 dioceses of PNG/SI were dressed up in their traditional attire. We also thanked God for New saint: St. Teresa of Calcutta.

THIS month, October is Mission month for the Catholic Church throughout the world

Below is a message by Pope John Paul on the Mission Sunday and the Jubilee year of Mercy.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, which the Church is celebrating, casts a distinct light on World Mission Sunday 2016: it invites us to consider the *missio ad gentes* as a great, immense work of mercy, both spiritual and material. On this World Mission Sunday, all of us are invited to “go out” as missionary disciples, each generously offering their talents, creativity, wisdom and experience in order to bring the message of God’s tenderness and compassion to the entire human family. By virtue of the missionary mandate, the Church cares for those who do not know the Gospel, because she wants everyone to be saved and to experience the Lord’s love. She “is commissioned to announce the mercy of God, the beating heart of the Gospel” (*Misericordiae Vultus*, 12) and to proclaim mercy in every corner of the world, reaching every person, young or old.

When mercy encounters a person, it brings deep joy to the Father’s heart; for from the beginning the Father has lovingly turned towards the most vulnerable, because his greatness and power are revealed precisely in his capacity to identify with the young, the marginalized and the oppressed (cf. Deut 4:31; Ps 86:15; 103:8; 111:4). He is a kind, caring and faithful God who is close to those in need, especially the poor; he involves himself tenderly in human reality just as a father and mother do in the lives of their children (cf. Jer 31:20). When speaking of the womb, the Bible uses the word that signifies mercy: there-



Pope Francis

fore it refers to the love of a mother for her children, whom she will always love, in every circumstance and regardless of what happens, because they are the fruit of her womb. This is also an essential aspect of the love that God has for all his children, whom he created and whom he wants to raise and educate; in the face of their weaknesses and infidelity, his heart is overcome with compassion (cf. Hos 11:8). He is merciful towards all; his love is for all people and his compassion extends to all creatures (cf. Ps 144:8-9).

Mercy finds its most noble and complete expression in the Incarnate Word. Jesus reveals the face of the Father who is rich in mercy; he “speaks of [mercy] and explains it by the use of comparisons and parables, but above all he himself makes it incarnate and personifies it” (JOHN PAUL II, *Dives in Misericordia*, 2). When we welcome and follow Jesus by means of the Gospel and sacraments, we can, with the help of the Holy Spirit, become merciful as our heavenly Father is merciful; we can learn to love as he loves us and make of our lives a free gift, a

sign of his goodness (cf. *Misericordiae Vultus*, 3). The Church, in the midst of humanity, is first of all the community that lives by the mercy of Christ: she senses his gaze and feels he has chosen her with his merciful love. It is through this love that the Church discovers its mandate, lives it and makes it known to all peoples through a respectful dialogue with every culture and religious belief.

This merciful love, as in the early days of the Church, is witnessed to by many men and women of every age and condition. The considerable and growing presence of women in the missionary world, working alongside their male counterparts, is a significant sign of God’s maternal love. Women, lay and religious, and today even many families, carry out their missionary vocation in various forms: from announcing the Gospel to charitable service. Together with the evangelizing and sacramental work of missionaries, women and families often more adequately understand people’s problems and know how to deal with them in an appropriate and, at times, fresh way: in caring for life, with a

strong focus on people rather than structures, and by allocating human and spiritual resources towards the building of good relations, harmony, peace, solidarity, dialogue, cooperation and fraternity, both among individuals and in social and cultural life, in particular through care for the poor.

In many places evangelization begins with education, to which missionary work dedicates much time and effort, like the merciful vine-dresser of the Gospel (cf. Lk 13:7-9; Jn 15:1), patiently waiting for fruit after years of slow cultivation; in this way they bring forth a new people able to evangelize, who will take the Gospel to those places where it otherwise would not have been thought possible. The Church can also be defined as “mother” for those who will one day have faith in Christ. I hope, therefore, that the holy people of God will continue to exercise this maternal service of mercy, which helps those who do not yet know the Lord to encounter and love him. Faith is God’s gift and not the result of proselytizing; rather it grows thanks to the faith and charity of evangelizers



**Commentary by
Fr. Victor Roche,
SVD
October 2016**

I used to go for a walk around CBC Road and Waigani Drive. I saw how dirty the pedestrian paths are! It is filled with plastic bags and plastic water bottles; betelnut (buoi) skins, broken glasses from the beer bottles, pieces of paper and the like.

Above all there were red “paints?” from the spittle of betelnut chewers everywhere. The Governor and the workers from the National Capital District try their best to keep the city clean. But there are ‘stubborn’ citizens who can not be taught about cleanliness.

Once I was with a friend in Vienna waiting for the bus at the bus stop. But there was a bottle top lying down in a corner.

He went and picked it up and threw it in the waste bin. He said, “I want my city to be clean”. He took ownership of that city as a resident.

We need to take ownership of the cities we live in whether Port Moresby, Lae, Mt. Hagen, or any rural village.

Teachers, please teach the students about cleanliness and ask them to teach their parents.

Clean city enhances healthy living.

Let us follow Pope Francis from his letter to the people of the world in “*Laudato Si*”, Earth is our home and we all should look after it.

who witness to Christ. As they travel through the streets of the world, the disciples of Jesus need to have a love without limits, the same measure of love that our Lord has for all people. We proclaim the most beautiful and greatest gifts that he has given us: his life and his love.

All peoples and cultures have the right to receive the message of salvation which is God’s gift to every person. This is all the more necessary when we consider how many injustices, wars, and humanitarian crises still need resolution. Missionaries know from experience that the Gospel of forgiveness and mercy can bring joy and reconciliation, justice and peace.

The mandate of the Gospel to “go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you” (Mt 28:19-20) has not ceased; rather this command commits all of us, in the current landscape with all its challenges, to hear the call to a renewed missionary “impulse”, as I noted in my Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium*: “Each Christian and every community must discern the path that the Lord points out, but all of us are

asked to obey his call to go forth from our own comfort zone in order to reach all the ‘peripheries’ in need of the light of the Gospel” (20).

This Jubilee year marks the 90th anniversary of World Missionary Day, first approved by Pope Pius XI in 1926 and organized by the Pontifical Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

It is appropriate then to recall the wise instructions of my Predecessors who ordered that to this Society be destined all the offerings collected in every diocese, parish, religious community, association and ecclesial movement throughout the world for the care of Christian communities in need and for supporting the proclamation of the Gospel even to the ends of the earth. Today too we believe in this sign of missionary ecclesial communion. Let us not close our hearts within our own particular concerns, but let us open them to all of humanity.

May Holy Mary, sublime icon of redeemed humanity, model of missionaries for the Church, teach all men, women and families, to foster and safeguard the living and mysterious presence of the Risen Lord in every place, he who renews personal relationships, cultures and peoples, and who fills all with joyful mercy.

Yul Ailan ples we Katolik sios i stat long Papua 131 yia i go pinis

Ol poto na stori
Anna Solomon

DISPELA yia 2016 i makim 150 yia bilong Asdaiosis bilong Pot Mosbi. Bipo long 1966, Pot Mosbi na Bereina i bin wanpela daiosis.

Na long makim dispela 50 yia, wanpela program bilong Asdaiosis em long kirapim tingting bilong ol Katolik bilipman na meri bilong NCD, long go lukim ol ples i holi o i gat stori bilong ol namba wan misineri husat i bin kisim Gutnius i kam long Papua.

Sios i makim dispela yia tu olsem Yia bilong Marimari na ol bilipman meri i mas soim marimari bilong God long ol arapela brata-susa.

Wanpela bilong ol dispela ples em Yul Ailan long Bereina Daiosis, Sentral provins. Pater Henry Stanislaus Verius, Bruder Nicola na Salvatore, ol Misineri bilong Santu Hart (MSC) long kantri Frans, i bin kamap long dispela ailan long Julai 1, 1885.

Ol i statim wok bilong autim tok bilong God i go long ol pipel bilong ples Tsiria long Yul Ailan na bihain i go long ol arapela ples long Papua.

Long hap bilong Niugini, ol lain MSC i bin kamap long 1882 long Matupit, Is Nu Briten.

Planti peris long NCD i wok go long Yul Ailan long lukim ol dispela historikal ples na pre long strongim wok bilong sios long olgeta hap bilong PNG.

Ol lain bilong St Peter Chanel peris, Erima i bin makim wiken bihain long Independens wik long mekim dispela wokabauto pilgrimes.

I bin gat tripela de novena long redi gut long dispela wokabaut. Na ol i kritimseksen bilong dispela buk, *The Mustard Seed*, Georges Delbos i raitim, we i stori long taim Pater Verius na lain bilong em i kamap long Yul Ailan.

Long Fraide 23 September, ol 56manmeri na ol pikinini wantaim peris pris, Pater Marcianus Bei SVD i bin lusim Mosbi long 10 klok moning long kar i go long Poukama, ples bilong kisim bot i go long Yul Ailan.

Tripela banana bot i redi i stap na kisim mipela i go



Ol peris memba i bung wantaim peris pris Fr Marcianus Bei SVD.

long ples Tsiria. Ol famili bilong wanpela peris memba, Anne-Marie Baniyamai i bin kisim tok save na ol i stretim olgeta samting.

Long nait ol pipel na ol pikinini bilong ples i kam bung wantaim mipela long pre na felosip. Ol lain Disapels Ov Jisas Kavanen (DOJCC) long grup bilong mipelai go pas long dispela program. Insait long ples yet, i gat strongpela ministri bilong ol pikinini, St Philomena na St Peter and Paul na ol tu i kam bung na pre wantaim mipela.

Long Sarere moning Pater Marcianus i wokim misa long haus lotu bilong ples, St Peter na St Paul.

Orait bihain long misa, mipela i bung na statim pre bilong Divine Mercy na bihainim nambis i go long Memorial Hil, ples we Pater Verius i bin wokim namba wan misa.

Namba wan hap mipela i stop long en em long St Patrick skulwe ol misineri i bin statim namba wan skul bilong ol pikinini. I bin gat wanpela tisa koles i stap bipo tasol nau ol i muv i kam long Bomana autsait long Mosbi.

Mipela lusim skul na kamap long matmat bilong misin. Planti ol namba wan lain misineri na ol dispela i kam bihain, wantaim ol wokman na meri bilong sios i slip long dispela matmat.

Wanpelaman i wok long klinim matmat bilong Bisop Andre Sorin i stap.

Mipela i pre long matmat pinis na wokabaut i go antap long hil we stesin i sanap, abrusim ples we haiskul bilong ol pikinini meri i bin stap.

Mipela kamap arere long haus lotu na pre gen. Dispela haus lotu i bin bikpela katedral bipo.

Pater Sebastian MSC, peris pris long Yul Ailan, i kam bungim mipela na i stori liklik. Bipo Yul Ailan i bikpela misin stesin tru na i wanpela bisi ples stret.

I bin gat planti ol pater, sister na ol arapela wokman meri bilong sios. Tasol bihain long Bereina i kamap hetkwata bilong sios, ol i lusim ailan na muv i go long bikples.

Haiskul bilong ol meri tu i muv i go bung wantaim Mainohana haiskul. Bus i kamap karamapim bikpela hap graun long stesin na ol pos na simen na hap ain bilong ol haus i hait insait long gras.

Mipela i malolo sotpela taim na lukluk raun pinis, orait mipela i statim rot bilong kruse i go antap long Memorial Hil, ples we Pater Henry Verius i bin wokim namba wan misa long 4 Julai 1885. Ol pipel i bilip dispela ples i holi, bikos bihain long konsekresen bilong wain, wanpela wel

doki binkam insait na bamim altarna wain i kapsait long graun. Ol i bilip em i makim blut bilong Kraisi kapsait long graun long sevim ol pipel.

Dispela ples antap long hil i stap isi tru. Long lephan i gat bikpela kruse i stap. Pop John Paul 2 i bin blesim long 1985 long makim 100 yia bilong sios long Papua.

Antap long hil stret em ston altar i sanap long ples we Pater Henry Verius i bin wokim namba wan misa. Baksait long dispela haus i gat wanpela bikpela ston stetu bilong Pater Verius i sanap wantaim kruse long han na pesi lukluk i go bek long bikples.

Long taim mipela i sanap antap long dispela hil na tingim ol misineri husat i kamap long Papua, moa long 131 yia i go pinis, mipela i tok tenkyu long God Papa long dispela sans long mipela yet i kam lukim. Tude, ol asples tu i nidim pre na sapot bilong ol bilipmanmeri long strongim gen bilip na wok bilong sios. Dispela wokabaut o pilgrimes i go long ailan em i wanpela rot bilong strongim ol.

Dispela sid olmisineri i bin planim long hil long Yul Ailan i gro na kamap bikpela diwai moa na tude ol han bilong en i sut i go nabaut long olgeta hap bilong Papua Niugini.

Pope's Telegram for Death of Former Israel President Shimon Peres

Posted by ZENIT Staff on 28 September, 2016

His Excellency Reuven Rivlin
President of the State of Israel

I was deeply saddened to learn of the death of His Excellency Shimon Peres, and I wish to convey to you and to all the people of Israel my heartfelt condolences. I fondly recall my time with Mr Peres at the Vatican and renew my great appreciation for the late President's tireless efforts in favour of peace.

As the State of Israel mourns Mr Peres, I hope that his memory and many years of service will inspire us all to work with ever greater urgency for peace and reconciliation between peoples. In this way, his legacy will truly be honoured and the common good for which he so diligently laboured will find new expressions, as humanity strives to advance on the path towards enduring peace. With the assurance of my prayers for all who grieve, especially for the Peres family, I invoke the divine blessings of consolation and strength upon the nation.

FRANCISCUS PP.

New Vision of Mission for the 21st Century

By Sr Mary
McCarthy

“A Christian community is never meant to be a comfortable place for its members. It cannot insulate itself from the realities of the world around it. It must be attentive to issues of social justice and spiritual hunger in society. Fr Tony Arthur MSC formerly President, CTI, Bomana, was the guest speaker at the Jubilee Seminar to mark the Golden Jubilee of the Catholic Dioceses of PNG. He challenged the participants pointing to the need today to develop a new vision of mission, grounded in a proper understanding of inculturation. A new vision of mission requires the development of new strategies, appropriate programs of action and support.

Such commitment to mission will transform the local church. No longer will it be focused on itself but on service of those “outside”.

But first the local churches must incarnate the faith in their own cultures and societies. This requires a radical conversion of the individual members but also the way in which the church sees itself.

“It was really challenging to reflect on how at present we carry with us into the future the values and ideas proposed by the Gospel.

Do we mirror peace and reconciliation as a community? Am I contemplative as well as active; mission is not our work but the work of God working through us? We need to keep our bond with God alive and real.”

Many situations in our world today call us to be prophets, to stand up for truth and justice.

Do we recognize and acknowledge the prophets in our local church? Are we people of dialogue? Does dialogue distinguish our relationships and communication across differences created by economies, globalization, migration and refugees?

Healing and reconciliation are most important parts of mission for the 21st century (Eph 2, 12-19). They mean that we contribute to the moral reconstruction of society. The message of the death and resurrection of Jesus is central to mission.

“What Jesus offers to his followers must be shared with others. In God alone is the fullness of life”.