

TAVUR

OCTOBER 2011



The newsletter of the Salesian delegation of Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands

15th October, 2011



Dear friends,
Peace be with you!
Peace to all of you. Once again an occasion of grace and blessings. I had attended the installation of the new Archbishop of Rabaul, our very own Bishop Francesco Panfilo sdb. It was a moving experience to join with 80 clergy and eight bishops, without counting the invited guests, the religious sisters and brothers, the seminarians and the faithful.

The last week of August was the Missionary course offered by the Department of the Mission, with Fr. Klement, Fr. Alfred and the FMAs. It was more a reflection and sharing of ideas and reflections on the initial proclamation of the Gospel. I also joined the region in coming together at Manila for the curatorium. Fr. Andy and some provincials were present. We had an update of the status of the Seminario ng Don Bosco and the DBCS. Time was also allotted to talk about the formation of the lay brothers. Prior to the curatorium, I was privileged to attend the Symposium on Youth Ministry. It was presented by Fr. Fabio Attard sdb, our councilor for Youth Ministry, Fr. Marty Macasaet who came here this year to preach our retreat; and a lay man who dedicated his life for Campus Ministry.

Since the month of October is dedicated for the missions, I would like to share the beautiful message of our dear Rector Major on the occasion of the 142nd Salesian Missionary Expedition held on 25th September 2011 at Valdocco. I would like to address this thought not mainly to the SDBs but to our Salesian Family.

Fr. Pascual capsulizes the real meaning of '*missio ad gentes*' in his words: "Going on to the mission '*ad gentes*' means

emptying oneself of everything that can separate us from the people to whom we are sent, of our presumptions, our knowhow, our qualifications, our economic means, etc., and to begin in humility like a child to learn their language, to know their culture, to appreciate all that they have that is good, true, beautiful, in a word to look at them as Christ has loved them giving himself for them."

Emptying of oneself is of equal meaning to giving of oneself to others. A certain Geraldine Marchal narrates this true story of her: 'Birthday Memories' - not of her own but one of her Dad's. One day her Dad gave her a beautiful stuffed tiger. She jumped up and down with joy. 'But Daddy it's your birthday, not mine. Why are you giving me a birthday present? I should give you one. Her Dad replied: 'you have given me a gift. It is being so happy'. Geraldine still has that stuffed tiger: but the most precious gift her father gave that day was an insight into the JOY of GIVING. The Lord himself said: 'There is more happiness in giving than receiving'.

I wish that all of us, salesians and members of the salesian family would really be happy in giving of our time, skills and talents for the service of our young people, to become a true missionary within our country or outside our country; one who is ready to empty oneself and capable of giving one's service with joy.

Let us entrust all our missionaries working abroad to our Blessed Mother, Help of Christians. Being the month of the Holy Rosary, may she be our constant guide and teacher in all our undertakings. God bless all of you.



Affectionately,

- Fr. Raffy Galve sdb, Delegate PNG-SI

May He bless you abundantly
all the days of your life and grant you
grace, strength and wisdom to lead and
guide the Delegation the 'Don Bosco Way'

Birthday Wishes

Fr. Raffy Galve sdb
PNG-SI Delegate



INSIDE:

- 2: EAO Mission Study Days
- 3: Youth Gathering at Kungli
- 4: Tetera News Bits
- 5: Alive and Growing
- 6 & 7: The Digital Image
- 8: Love the Church
- 9: An experience of Faith
- 10 & 11: The Prodigal Son
- 12: Alter Christus

EAO

Mission Study Days

- Fr. John Cabrido sdb

PORT MORESBY: 29th August 2011 -- The EAO set of Mission Study Days concluded on 25th August with the Oceania group (Australia, Melanesia, Polynesia) in Port Moresby. It was a preparation for the Missions Teams to meet in Rome, then in Piedmont, and for the 142nd Annual Mission Send-off, in September.

The Mission Study Days, which began in Sampran, Thailand, and concluded in Port Moresby, PNG, focused on 'first proclamation' of the Gospel, and what it means in local contexts. The same theme was repeated throughout the continents. This deeper, contextual approach seeks to identify the real challenges and also new insights and perspectives arising from practice.

The situation for initial proclamation in Oceania is vastly different than that for East Asia - and indeed within 'Oceania', which includes at least Australia and New Zealand, Melanesia and Polynesia, the situation is again a varying one. These differences were reflected in the contents, contributions and responses of participants at the Oceania meeting. Perhaps the one similarity between East Asia and Oceania was the value of storytelling as a way of visualising proclamation in practice.

The Oceania group was helped by a number of scholarly and practical reflections by experts in the field - such as the talk by



Fr. Franco Zocca on initial proclamation within the Melanesian (and specifically PNG) context; Fr. David Willis OP reflecting on rapid secularisation especially in societies (again largely in the Melanesian context) where people have moved from Stone Age to Digital Age over a relatively short period of time; Fr. Elio Capra SDB, an expert from Australia on the Catechumenal model; Fr. John Cabrido SDB who looked at the situation in the Melanesian context. But there were no lack of questions and reflections either on the situation for Polynesia. One of the very real questions in a part of the world which adopted Christianity almost totally, but less than 200 years ago, and with the exception of Fiji, has very few non-Christians, is what precisely 'first proclamation' could mean in such a context.

Despite the fact that there are always more questions than there are answers, the Oceania group has drawn up a synthesis of insights based on 4 Cs: Context, Culture, Community, Christ, with some ideas relating also to post-initial proclamation (based on the same themes).

If readers wish to follow up on any of the materials for both groups (East Asia and Oceania), all documen-

Vunabosco Blessings

- Fr. Roger Miranda sdb

The rains cleared for a bright day on the 1st October, Feast of St. Theresa of the Child Jesus, Patroness of the Missions. The boarders then began their work parade - planting kaukau, singapur and cleaning the surrounding area. At 9.00am, Fr. Heraldo celebrated the boarding house mass in honor of this great saint - St. Therese. Fr. Roger then blessed the new School Truck after the mass - bringing joy to the boarders and all present.

Fr. Roger Miranda sdb, Rector gave the year-end recollection to the Grade 12 graduands. He spoke to them about the Preventive System of Don Bosco and highlighted the Fruits of the



Preventive System. He proposed to them young people who have been raised to the altar - awaiting their moment of their beatification and canonization. While they prayed the rosary, confessions were heard.

At 1.30pm, the graduation of the Short-course students was held in the school gymnasium. Mr. Richard Buanga, the Deputy for Technical, organized the programme. Mr. Aaron Gibson, the MFM instructor served as the Master of Ceremonies. Fr. Rector and Fr. Clifford gave inspirational talks and awarded them their certificates. Ms. Daphnee, one of the students spoke on behalf of all the students.



Left: The MFM short course students

Youth Gathering *at Kung'i*

KUMGI (PNG): 1st October 2011 -- The 11th Highlands Regional youth gathering took place at Don Bosco Tech Kung'i from 26th to 30th September 2011. The theme for the gathering was 'The light of Mary lights up our way'. Over 500 youth from the five dioceses of Kundiawa, Mount Hagen, Wabek, Mendi and Goroka gathered together to celebrate Youth and Culture. These five dioceses belong to six provinces in PNG. They are Simbu, Eastern highlands, Western Highlands, Southern Highlands and the new provinces of Hela and Jiwaka. Once in two years the Highlands Regional Bishops Conference organizes the gathering to rejuvenate the life of young people. So this year Don Bosco Tech, Kung'i, was chosen as the hosting place in Simbu province. The young people arrived early on Sunday to take their place in Don Bosco.

The youth gathering was inaugurated by Bishop Anton Bal, bishop of Kundiawa Diocese on 26th September. In the opening mass the Bishop challenged the young people to be agents of change in Society. He spoke about the need of transformation and the need to nurture a Christian culture in the life of young people. He wished them an enjoyable spiritual week.

The youth from different provinces had a cultural show for two days. They sang and danced in various rhythms and tunes and revitalized their sense of culture. One of the young persons in his introduction to the show thanked the missionaries for uplifting the culture of the place. He said that Christianity had entered through the culture:

"We see that lots of western traditional practices are creeping in through politicians and people. The Catholic Church is revitalizing the existing culture of the place and that is where we feel at home. This cultural show is the expression of our faith and we thank Pappa God for the creation of nature and all the birds and animals in it".

Young people never get tired of singing and dancing (traditionally called Waipa). One of the Mammias from the place remarked: "Usually I see old people participating in the traditional cultural show. Now I see all young people participating in it. I am happy that they are learning to do it well. Thank you fathers, brothers, sisters".

On the second day the young people had health talks on HIV/AIDS by Nurses from Mingende hospital. The nurses explained in Tok-Pisin the danger of this epidemic devastating the lives of young people. The youth had endless questions and clarifications on the issue. While thanking the nurses one of the youth thanked the Catholic Church for giving importance to the gift of life, care and concern for the young and implementing health programs in their dioceses.



In the evening of the same day there was the talent contest and entertainment by

young people from different dioceses. It was an opportunity to bring out the talents of young people.

Another attraction of the gathering was the Miss Highlands beauty contest! The theme for the contest was youth, environment and culture. 16 young girls in traditional dress spoke about the environment and culture. There were no cosmetics or western fashion materials involved; they used natural resources from the environment as ornaments and dress.

Another attraction of the program was a hot debate on Sanguma (evil spirit) in PNG and the Catholic point of view. The debate was moderated by Fr. George Mondia, Deputy Rector of the minor seminary, Banz. In PNG the highlands region is notorious for many sunguma-related deaths and murder cases. It was an opportunity for young people to understand the view of the church from the Bible and the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

The liturgical celebrations for all five days were well led by youth from different dioceses. They also had an opportunity for a reconciliation service and many priests from the dioceses were present to help the young people in their spiritual needs.

On the final day Archbishop Douglas Young from Mount Hagen highlighted the Church's vision for youth in PNG. He reminded them of the vision-mission statement for the youth which had been prepared by the Catholic Bishops Conference and encouraged them to discover their strength within to walk Christ's way. In the concluding mass he emphasized the need to build their own lives as a beautiful gift to God and the nation.

The youth enjoyed the continuous Salesian presence, hospitality and the family spirit. The Salesians and Sisters of Charity were available at all times to make sure the youth enjoy their stay at Don Bosco. Within five days the youth felt they too were 'Bosconians' belonging to the family of Don Bosco and Church.



Tetere News Bits



Fr. Micky and the Volunteers at a performance

Eight members of the Don Bosco Volunteer Group (DBVG) arrived on the 15th August, 2011 together with Fr. Micky, sdb. They spent three weeks with the DBRTC students - joining happily in work, games and other school activities. Together with the students they visited the Solomon Islands Parliament House, the Solomon brewery and the Tenaru Waterfall. They left on the 3rd September leaving an emptiness in the hearts of all the staff and the students.



Catholic Women's Gathering. Over a thousand women, gathered at Christ the King parish, Tetere for the five day event. They hailed from 17 parishes of the three dioceses of the Solomon Islands. The event commenced on 11th and concluded on the 15th August, 2011 with the solemn celebration of the catholic women's patroness-Mary's Assumption. Its only purpose was to unify and motivate the Solomon Catholic women and give them an opportunity to learn from each other's story through sharing and inputs. The theme for the event was: *Mary's virtues empower women*. This is the fourth time that women come together. The first gathering was in August 2005 in Ruavatu, this one encouraged women to stand for their rights and become part of the church activities, modeled on Mary. We openly salute the Christ the King's parish Priest, Fr. Michael Lap, sdb,



especially the women committee for their industrial contribution and excellent preparation to accommodate that myriad of women, men and children. We admire the patience and commitment of the women in joining the program. We acknowledge the husbands and men for their openness and support in allowing their wives to happily enjoy the program. Everyone went back to his home with new insight, giving a hope of being able to give new life to her local church and community.

Inter-Parish Youth Camp. From an event to another, the weekend of 16th to 19th September has also been busy. These were youth from The Assumption of Mary Parish-Ruavatu, Good Shepherd Parish-Red Beach, and Christ the King Parish-Tetere. Tetere has hosted more than 7 hundred young boys and girls for 4 days. In reflect on the World Youth Day, all the invited speak-



ers have discussed on *Planted and Built up in Jesus Christ. Firm in the Faith* as theme of the forum. Among the orator, were invited Fr. Francis, sdb and Mr. Bernard, former High Commissioner of SI to PNG. The archbishop could not also leave his children away, He said mass to them in which he blessed the soil the youth have brought as symbol of Unity and oneness. There were Taize's adoration, games, as well as voca-

Right:

Participants line up for the Youth Rally



tion promotion of all the congregations present in the country, as reminded by the archbishop to all the youths to join the consecrated life. On the sending out mass, the parish priests have held to each youth coordinator a plant growing in that mixed soil as memory of the 2011 WYD. Briefly, we congratulate each of the participants, the Salesian community of DonBosco Tetere, the Salesians from DBTI Henderson, the FMA sisters, the Sisters dela Pieta, DMI and other religious congregation and lay people who have contributed for the successful gathering of the inter-parish youth camp.

- Maria Ivy Labradores, Lay Volunteer

Don Bosco:

ALIVE AND GROWING



It was a lovely day... not sunny and yet no dark clouds. God blessed us with a very fine weather, festive and vibrant. Young and old were all excited and full of expectations as seen in the faces of the students and their families for the event that will unfold on that day.

The celebration started with a Holy Mass, officiated by Fr. Edwin Genovia, SDB the Principal and Rector of the school. The Holy Mass was extraordinarily special since the students prepared a traditional procession. In his homily, Fr. Edwin shared to the congregation mostly students and their family to live the spirit and ideals of St. John Bosco, making them ALIVE AND GROWING in their midst that even if they will depart from the portals of the school they will be a shining testament and a model of the teachings of Don Bosco.

The day was marked with beautiful colors and resounding beats of the Kundu since it was a day for the students to present their own cultures which was handed on to them through the generations. It was a momentous occasion to see parents and relatives of the students who went all the way to the school to witness their children, dance and sing their well-respected cultures. Seeing the students practice hard days before the event in the sweltering heat of the sun, perfecting the songs and every step, made me realize how they value their culture and traditions, passed-on by their ancestors. Now was the moment for them to show it to all the people. As they moved and sang with the beat of the Kundu, pride and honor was written all over their faces.

Aside from the cultural show, the school held a Raffle Draw with tantalizing prizes at stake. The raffle was raised to help the staff of the school to acquire funds to buy computers to aid the teachers in their lesson preparations. The school is indeed grateful for all the people who in one way or another extend their helping hand.

As the sun set and everyone dispersed home, the famous Parable of the Sower from the Gospel of Mark 4:3-8 dawned on me: "Hear this! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Other seed fell on rocky ground where it had little soil. It sprang up at once because the soil was not deep. And when the sun rose, it was scorched and it withered for lack of roots. Some seed fell among thorns, and it produced no grain. And some seed fell on rich soil and produced fruit. It came up and grew and yielded thirty, sixty, and a hundredfold." For the thirty-one years of existence of Don Bosco here in Papua New Guinea, seeing the faces of my students and experiencing their culture through them, St. John Bosco has planted a seed through every Bosconian which is and will always be ALIVE and GROWING for future generation to emulate.



Understanding The Digital Image



- Fr. Ambrose Pereira sdb

Participants ready for a visit to EM TV, Port Moresby



Photos above: Charmaine Kombeo, Sheryll Extra-Isoaimo and Ricardo Jovellanos from DBTS at video editing, while Jessica Whiting looks on and Terrance Aisi, engaged in his camera lesson



Photos above:

Ricardo Jovellanos, DBTS student - fascinated as he peers into the camera; Participants trying out their new media skills, Trevor Ururu - into the video camera. Below: Carol Labbad, animates the group.

Students enter the Digital Age

- Jessica Whiting

Creative photographs, operating a camera and an introduction to social media were just some of the topics covered during the first day of the 'Digital Age' media course being held at the Don Bosco Technical Institute (DBTI), in Boroko, Port Moresby. 32 participants from the Salesians of Don Bosco (sdb) congregation, Catholic Bishops Conference, DBTI and Don Bosco Technical School Gabutu commenced their 4 day course at the Emmaus Retreat Centre, which started on Thursday, September 29.

Salesian delegate to Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands, Fr. Raffy Galve sdb, welcomed the participants to the course with the message that all must be open to learning about digital media so to be able to use it in a positive way in their daily lives.

In the afternoon, participants formed small groups, and took turns taking imaginative photographs interpreting one of two themes, peace and the number 50. Participant Moise Polaku says he enjoyed the dynamism of the sessions presented, and learning how to be creative when taking photographs.

Later in the day, the participants watched the documentary *War Photographer*, about American James Nachtwey; whom for more than 20 years has ventured into conflict zones to capture images of destruction and devastation.

The media course was organised by Fr. Ambrose Pereira sdb, who hails from the Solomon Islands, and has been involved in media education for over a decade. He was joined by two Australian animators, Carol Labbad and Jessica Whiting, who have previous experience in conducting media workshops in the Solomon Islands and who have an interest in communications.

Chains of Appreciation

- Carol Labbad

The final day of the 'Digital Stories' short media course at Don Bosco Technical Institute started with a ZAP!! In fact that was the name of the icebreaker that had participants in hysterics as they warmed up for the intense day ahead.

Participants then went straight into filming their short movies that were themed around a positive message or current issue affecting youth. The filming followed a carefully mapped out script using the guidelines learnt from a Script Writing presentation by Jessica Whiting the previous day. When finished filming, participants edited and added final touches to their movies using specialized computer programs where they cut, added music and applied special effects. To wind down before the celebrations, participants were asked to take part in an "appreciation" activity. This consisted of a sheet of paper that was put on their backs and went around writing positive messages about one another. The activity turned into a 'human chain of appreciation' as participants lined up and wrote on each other's backs.



Some very complimentary and encouraging messages were shared.

The formal celebrations and appreciation commenced at 3pm and included special guests Fr. Raffy Galve sdb, Fr. Dominic Kachira sdb, Fr. John Cabrido sdb and Sr. Alice Fulgencio fma. Participants proudly showed off a summary of their efforts that included creative still shots, image stories and of course short movies. Course facilitators, Jessica Whiting and Carol Labbad were truly amazed by the standard of work produced by the participants. "...we are so proud of the creativity and efforts of each student, the output was of an extremely high level, a particularly impressive output given the length of the program" said Carol Labbad. Fr. Ambrose Pereira sdb summed up the efforts of the participants nicely when he said, "If you ask youth for a little, they will give you nothing but if you ask them a lot, they will give you everything." The latter was indeed true for all the participants of the short course. Although the program was very fast paced and intense, participants managed to keep up and exceed all the expectations of the facilitators and possibly even themselves! Well done to all involved, it certainly was a great learning experience and a highly memorable event. The participants do their best to ensure that the 'Good News' and their positive stories is shared through the media.

The Media Course has been the initiative of the Salesians of Don Bosco. SIGNIS, the World Catholic Association for Catholic Communications stresses Media Education and has been very supportive of the Programme.

Powerful Tools in Teaching

- Josephine L. Sager, DBTI

Movie analysis adds spice to our day activities and it is usually at 7.45pm in the evening. Early the next day it becomes the springboard for comments and discussion for the next session. It's quite good. It gives more time for the participants to think and pick out ideas then express their own opinions and reactions.

This makes us, the viewers, become aware of the colours, the dialogues and the reality of life. Mind you this is not simply watching to fill our time, but we delve deeper into incidents that lead to the plot development. More than that, we learn lessons applicable when we face similar situations in the future.

One homework that I enjoyed is the *two minute video*. Before came out with one, we brainstormed on dialogues and situations, where to shoot and I appreciate also the members of my group who suggested different ideas. There is openness and teamwork. At the outset, we planned, argued and changed until one idea was conceived. Never did we know that the short video we watched, the samples shown to us before our task, takes time to finish.

Just like arranging events in a storybook, this paves the way for them to sequence the shots and it's up for the viewer to link one photo with another and get it across. As the saying goes- *A picture speaks a thousand words*.

Another one that caught my attention was the modern texting that we do now. Even before the media sessions, one thing that worries me is the spelling. As a teacher, I

guess this will not be good, their words will be erratic. But we have to go with the times. This will be a good exercise for kids to communicate and pick out the message immediately.

This can also serve as a mind-tickler. How fast a student answers depend also on the information he has and connect it with texts and photos.

I enjoy and learn from the sessions and with the influx of modern gadgets children become more adept at their use and more often than not, adults refer to them when things won't work. Just with the cellular phone alone, they maximize the use of it.

While the short *video picks* have lesser dialogues and more of actions, viewers easily work out what the message is. Learners become creative, too on what to mix - location, sound, facial expressions, focus - to name a few. To add up, *video clips* are a necessity for interpretation. Literature states that there is no wrong interpretation as long as you can support it.

Some are hesitant to talk, others are thinkers and the majority are doers, but this activity opened their minds to a new horizon.

Thanks a lot to the organizers. I take my hat off to all of you.

DBTI Students in Communications

- Jessica Whiting

35 Don Bosco Technical School (DBTS) students spent their last day of holidays in the 'Digital Age' - learning about new technologies and how they are affecting communication.

A one-day media workshop covering the principals of news writing, creative photographs, plus reflection on the importance of sending positive messages in an era of increasingly digital communication was held in the DBTS conference room on Friday, 30th September.

Course animator Jessica Whiting said the students were able to write interesting and creative news articles quickly. "The students very capably embraced the '5W and 1H' and 'inverted pyramid' principals and produced news articles of a high quality", Jessica said.

During the workshop the students also viewed a selection of short videos from the Plural+ 2010 Youth Film Festival and reflected on the messages contained within.

The workshop was initiated by DBTS Rector Fr. Dominic Kachira sdb, and organised and conducted by Fr. Ambrose Pereira sdb, together Australian animators Jessica Whiting and Carol Labbad who have previous experience in coordinating media seminars in the Solomon Islands.



Animators: Fr. Ambrose Pereira sdb, Carol Labbad, Jessica Whiting and Fr. Raffy Galve sdb



Above: Students prepare posters with a message

WYD 2011
16 - 21 AUGUST, 2011

Love the Church

MADRID, Spain, 21st AUGUST, 2011 (Zenit.org).- **You cannot live your faith alone**, Benedict XVI told the young people gathered at the Cuatro Veintos Air Base in his homily during the closing Mass of the 26th World Youth Day.

Benedict XVI greeted the 1.5 million young people -- according to figures confirmed by the Spanish National Police -- who had slept all night on the ground. His first remark was: "I thought a lot about you; I hope you were able to get a little sleep."

Accompanied by the Spanish royalty, the Pope made his way to the altar to preside at the Eucharistic celebration in which the sending of the young people out to evangelize their peers in the world was also celebrated.

The Pontiff, as he had also done in his address in the opening ceremony of World Youth Day in Plaza de Cibeles, warned the young pilgrims against the danger of individualism, one of the most significant threats that the new generations of Christians face.

"Following Jesus in faith is to walk with him in the communion of the Church. You cannot follow Jesus alone," he explained.

The Pope then cautioned them against the temptation of "going it alone" and "of living the faith according to the individualistic mentality that predominates in society" because in this way there is "the risk of never meeting Jesus Christ, or of ending up following a false image of him." "Having faith means leaning on the faith of your brothers, and that your own faith in the same way serves as a support for that of the others," he added. In light of this the Bishop of Rome called on the young people to "love the Church," concretely inserting themselves in "parishes, communities and movements," and "to participate in the Eucharist every Sunday, to approach the sacrament of Reconciliation frequently and to cultivate prayer and meditate on the Word of God."

The Pope stressed, "The world needs the witness of your faith, it certainly needs God," exhorting the young people to be "disciples and missionaries of Christ in other lands and countries where there is a multitude of youth who aspire to great things and, glimpsing in their hearts the possibility of the most authentic values, do not let themselves be seduced by the false promises of a lifestyle without God."

At the end of the celebration, Cardinal Stanisław Rylko, president of the Pontifical Council for the Laity, thanked the Pope on behalf of the young people.

"Here before you, Your Holiness, there is a young Church, full of the joy and enthusiasm of faith. They are young people who are proud to belong to Christ and to his Church. It is truly a generation that seeks God," he said.

In particular he thanked the Pope for the creation of the Youcat, the youth catechism that was included in each pilgrim's backpack, and the World Youth Day cross, which the Pontiff blessed at the conclusion of the Mass and symbolically entrusted to five young people.



TAVUR Correspondents

Looking forward to receiving your reflections, articles, photos and news bits for our

Christmas Special

The last issue of TAVUR for 2011

Articles and matter for print can be sent to:
Fr. Ambrose Pereira sdb
Mayette Carvajal or Fr. Edwin Genovia sdb
By 1st December, 2011.

Photos are to be sent in High Resolution (300Kb to 450Kb).

A personal experience of FAITH

From Papua New Guinea we were 54 of us who joined the whole world in the massive gathering of 2 million young people in the personal encounter with Christ and in the celebration of youthful joyful life. Many times I have heard from priests and religious that Europe is deteriorating in Christian faith. But in the words of Benedict XVI: "I wish that all the young people, both those who share our faith and those who hesitate, falter in belief or don't believe at all, could live this experience, which may be a turning point in their lives: the experience of Our Lord Jesus Christ, who resurrected and is alive, and of his love for each and every one of us." I strongly believe and that is what I witnessed in Madrid. There were young people all over Madrid from all walks of life both believers and non believers singing, dancing and proclaiming their faith in Christ with joyful hearts. This is the renewal of the church and for the young people to build their roots of Christian faith in friendship and fellowship with Christ, Church and Vicar of the Church the Pope. The WYD programs began with the days in the Diocese where we had integral experiences of faith, prayer, sight seeing, festive moments and to cherish the culture of Spanish people who were very hospitable and may be the best experience in the life of every Papua New Guinean.

The inter cultural family faith experience was exchanged with the parishioners of St. Joseph the Worker in the Diocese of Cuenca, approximately 300 miles from Madrid. Even though language was a barrier in communication, since people in Spain speak only Spanish, many of our people made new friends with the language of the heart which is more binding with Christian joy. We could notice the vitality of Christian faith deep rooted in the families since Spain is one of the greatest Catholic Countries. The country of Spain also is called Land of Mary. After the WYD I could visit Zaragoza one of the most popular shrines of Our Lady of Pillar. We also had opportunity to pilgrimage ourselves to the famous Cathedral of Madrid which is dedicated to the Our Lady of Almudena. We could experience the deep rooted Marian devotion which was flowing in the endless prayers and rosaries recited by the young and old all throughout the day. The Marian devotion has profoundly manifested in the sculpture, paintings and literatures in many places. The lives and history of Saints who were patrons for the WYD were very inspirational in our journey of faith. Lives and writings of Saints like St. Francis Xavier, Ignatius of Loyola, Juan of Avila, Teresa of Avila, John of the Cross, Rose of Lima, Rafael Arnaiz, and Blessed John Paul II brought us more closer to God and once again reminded us of the words of Benedict XVI "The Church needs saints. All of us are called to holiness, and only saints can renew mankind."

On 16th August when the whole Salesian congregation was celebrating the birthday of Don Bosco, we young people gathered at Plaza de Cibeles for the opening mass with the Cardinal of Madrid. For the Papua New Guineans it was the first time to see a massive crowd who were singing and praising God in the atmosphere of prayer and devotion. I could notice the real wonder and surprise on the faces of all. We held the PNG flag high and many young people rushed to us have a photograph. The whole evening we spend posing for photos with other youth from different countries.



Of course we made impression in the crowd by singing national anthems and Christian pidgin songs.

On 17th August we went to Don Bosco School Atache to join the gathering of the

Salesian Youth Movement. We were privileged to meet Rector Major and Mother General.

15000 Bosconians from all over the world gathered together to express the Salesian Joy and cheerfulness. There were cultural exchange and entertainment by Bosconians from different countries. We were taken up by the Salesian joy and proud to be part of this great family get together. Three days of Catechesis led by different bishops from Canada and America were part of the faith formation of WYD. Topics like Gifts of the Holy Spirit, Salvation in Christ, The Son made flesh etc. were dialoged in the mornings of every day. On 18th August was a memorable day for us when we had Mr. Tony Melendes (with out hands) spoke to us about the issues of Christian faith, marriage, abortion, premarital sex. He surprised us by playing guitar with his legs and praising God for the gift of life. Though he is handicapped he is not discouraged and disappointed. He used his gift of life for the glory of God and inspiration of young people.

The young people gathered at plaza de Cibeles for events like Opening Mass, Welcoming Pope, Way of the Cross. Since the roads were not accommodating enough we had to spend the evenings in front of massive screens. The Benedicto Claps were echoing in the air every now and then which was very amusing for every Papua New Guinean as we joined the young people in welcoming the Pope. On 20th August we were already prepared ourselves to go to Cuatro Vientos Madrid Airfield for the night vigil and Sunday closing Mass. After two hours walk together with echoing melodies of songs and praises in the burning heat we reached the Airfield. Since the sun was too hot the fire engines were spraying cool showers to keep ourselves from sun burn. The whole Airfield was full of people and we were packed like fish in a box. The young people welcomed the Pope, and as we began the vigil service there was huge storm and rain. We could see the breaking of thunder and lightening and the rain drops began to fall down. The young people danced with joy singing praises and clapping their hands and praying loud. Almost for 15 minutes the Pope has to remain in the shower drenched together with the young people.

The act of self sacrificing attitude and courage of the Pope thrilled the youth to echo more 'Benedicto claps'. Since the weather was not that conducive for vigil, the benediction service was very short. The young people spend the whole night in the atmosphere of prayer. On Sunday I had the privilege of concelebrating with the Pope. Thousands of Cardinals, Bishops and Priests joined the Pope for the concluding thanks giving mass. The Pope encouraged the young people to continue their faith experiences and living witnesses of Christ in the world. The Pope thanked the young people by saying: "Thank you young people, you rejuvenate the Pope, inspire the Church & refresh a world thirsty for hope & courage. The Pope thanks you for your affection and sends you out as ambassadors of the joy that our World needs." I wish and pray that many young salesians get an opportunity in the future to be part of this WYD event.



Photo left: Among friends - Fr. Robinson Parappilly and Mayette Carvajal at the WYD 2011, Madrid, Spain.



Lawrence Waddy's

Prodgal SON

I will rise and



He went into a far country

The Prodigal Son follows the scripture passage: **Lk: 15: 11-31**. It opens with a family household scene and the demand of the younger son. A life of loose living follows as the young man – enticed by passing joy strives to fulfill himself. He then realizes his folly and says, 'I will rise and go to my Father'. The father and mother eagerly wait for his return. It is joy and celebration as the young man returns back home. The elder son is not too happy with all the fuss made over one who has squandered his father's wealth on harlots and thieves. The father and mother lovingly remind him that they rejoice because their son and his brother has returned. 'He was lost and is found again, he was dead and is alive again.'

part of the barman. The villain **Luke Houpere** leading all the evil made sure that the prodigal succumbed. He then strode into the audience and drew fears and scares. 'I will rise and go to my Father' sung by a repentant Prodigal, brought tears to the eyes of many in the audience. The loving embrace of Father played by **Adrian Sudamai**, welcoming the Prodigal son brought hom the ideals of repentance and forgiveness. He then sang a powerfully 'There was a good shepherd'. **Stanely Ulufa'alu** portraying the hardworking, angry and jealous elder son, expressed his confusion and disappointment at the celebration of the feast – as he stated clearly – 'Why all this fuss'. All the actors played their parts. There were some fine moments of audience response as Moses Paipai played his part.

The main characters suited their roles and played their parts well. Anguish was clearly portrayed by **Rose Timi**, playing the part of the mother as she sang – 'What ever happened to love'. Choreographed excellently were the dances on stage, backed by the choir led by Sr. Sialei Puapuaga fma. **Steven Maetora**, the Prodigal son, put in a lot of feeling and emotion as he sang 'Who am I?' while the boys mimed and danced to the beat. The temptresses played their part enticing the prodigal to a life of vice and loose living. Lively singing by **Delialah Goutala**, barmaid, **Luciano Kii** and **John Mark** are also to be commended. Douglas Porokura played well the

As the Academic Year commenced the idea of a musical was tossed around. Encouragement and support from a number of persons flowed in. Lawrence Waddy's 'The Prodigal Son' was then chosen and the audition began. It was then weeks and months of practices - singing, dancing and long hours of painstaking rehearsals. As the play unfolded the right characters to fit the roles were finalized. The final production was an excellent entertainment with a powerful message – of love, forgiveness and reconciliation – something most

THANKSGIVING DAY - 20TH AUGUST, 2011

Photos:
At the tavern - Shackles - Welcome back home - Reconciliation -



and go to my Father!



Who am I?



Tempresses ...



Welcome embrace !!!

needed in the Solomon Islands today. The musical was directed by **Theresa Murphy**, Mahitahi Volunteer from Auckland. With patience and firmness she brought out the very best in each of the characters. "It has been a wonderful experience to watch the actors grow so much over the past few weeks. It's an experience I will treasure", she said. Earlier, **Chris Procter**, ABV Volunteer led the characters through the finer points of stage-craft. Stage Managers, Hilda Anihoniara and Tegan Sleaf, together with Crew persons – Paulus Buna and Davis Mabolou ensured that the stage was set for the next scene. **Costumes were handled creatively** by Camari Bainivalu, Phillipa Ri'iman together with the Life skills department. The characters were delighted to be made up for the play. Mary Porowai and her team, together with Hams Theater persons were happy to do the same.

the sacrifice, dedication and commitment of the cast and the crew. It has been a learning experience for all and I do hope that all that has been learnt will be shared in the different churches and communities", said Fr. Ambrose Pereira sdb, who has been coordinating the entire production.

The sets were designed and painted by Fr. Pankaj Xalxo sdb, Fr. Srimal Priyanga sdb, Adrian Sudamai and the Carpentry students. Ronualdo Mondez handled the audio track and projected the words of the songs. The lights were handled well by Nelson Soke, John Ramo and Patrick Ramo together with the Electrical Students. "The entire production was a learning experience for all the departments", said a very contented principal, Casmari Bainivalu. "The production has been the result of

Photos: Right: - 2 Trade boys

Below: - Choir



Alter Christus

- Fr. Albert Lenon sdb, Rector

4th of August has been marked in the Church Liturgical Calendar as the DAY OF THE PRIESTS, in remembrance of St. John Vianney – the Patron of all Priests.

This day too marked a very special and memorable day for the Diocese of Kundiawa, Simbu Province. Three young men vowed themselves to be "ALTER CHRISTUS". They are Fr. Christopher Onguglo from Mingende, Fr. Joseph Tinake from Bogu-Kawa and Fr. Otto Kupo from Naregaima.

The celebration began with the three candidates in their traditional dress culture while their family members presented them to the church. The Bishop of Kundiawa Diocese – Bishop Anton Bal received the candidates for the Sacrament of Holy Orders. The whole place was filled with people – family members, relatives and friends wishing and praying for them. The presence of the priests, religious and the seminarians was an expression of joy and oneness with the three newly ordained priests. The melodic singing and voicing of the choir brought angelic echoes to the beautiful panoramic mountain views of the highlands.

In his homily, Bishop Anton Bal reminded the newly ordained priests that catholic priests must become a beckon of light to show the people the right path to God . They should become true leaders in the church without seeking



Bishop Anton Bal, Bishop of Kundiawa ordaining the candidates

wealth or glory. He stressed that village leadership was completely different from becoming a priest in the church. Bishop Bal urged the priests to become servants of the people and not to abuse their positions.

On this occasion, the Emeritus of Kundiawa Bishop Henk te Maarssen concelebrated. He too played an important role in the formation and spiritual growth of the three newly ordained priests. For us Salesian as well, we are happy in this occasion because the present Rector of Don Bosco Kumgi – Fr. Albert Lenon had a great role in the vocation of Fr. Joseph Tinake when he was still a seminarian.

Fr. Christopher, Fr. Joseph and Fr. Otto we are always praying for you. May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be your inspiration as you journey in the footsteps of the Lord.

Birthday corner

Next edition...

OCTOBER

- 19. Bp. CAPELLI, Luciano
- 20. Fr. GALVE, Raphael
- 25. Cl. MARAMUN, Isidore

NOVEMBER

- 3. Fr. GENOVIA, Edwin
- 5. Fr. THANH, Joseph
- 20. Fr. PARAPILLY, Robinson
- 21. Cl. MASWILI, Stephen
- 23. Bp. PANFILO, Francesco
- 27. Cl. SINGAN, Michael

DECEMBER

- 4. Cl. PALUKU, MOISE
- 6. Fr. FAJARDO, Fernando
- 7. Fr. PEREIRA, Ambrose
- Fr. REVILLA, Eduardo
- 13. Fr. HARUYAMA, Mikaeraruppu
- Fr. ODORICO, Luciano



Christmas Special

Please send in your articles, reflections, photos and comments by:
1st December, 2011

You can send articles and photos to:

Fr. Ambrose Pereira, sdb -

ambrose@donbosco.org.sb

Mayette Carvajal -

mayettebcarvajal@hotmail.com

Fr. Edwin Genovia -

edge_png@yahoo.com

Last day for submissions: 1st December, 2011

Acknowledgements

TAVUR Edition October, 2011

Contributing authors:

Fr. Raffy Galve, Br. Moise Paluku sdb, Fr. Julian Fox, Fr. John Cabrido, Fr. Roger Miranda, Fr. Albert Lennon, Fr. Edwin Genovia sdb, Fr. Albert Lenon sdb, Fr. Ambrose Pereira.

Layout, proofreading and editing:

Fr. Ambrose Pereira sdb
Fr. Srimal Priyanga sdb, DB Communications

Tavur news correspondents

Fr. Rafael Galve:	delpng_sl@datec.net.pg / galve@dbtl.ac.pg
Fr. Edwin Genovia:	edge_png@yahoo.com
Fr. Valeriano Barbero:	valerianob@gmail.com
Fr. Dominic Kachira:	dominickachira@gmail.com
Fr. Edward Revilla:	sdbed@gmail.com
Fr. John Cabrido:	keoni728vb@yahoo.com
Fr. Albert Lenon:	albertlenonsdb@yahoo.com
Fr. Ambrose Pereira:	ambrose@donbosco.org.sb
Br. Moise Palaku:	palman02@yahoo.fr
Br. Jess Gracla:	jgarcla@dbtl.ac.pg