



# ANGLICAN CHURCH OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

## NEWSLETTER ISSUE 39-42, VOLUME 2

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Anglican Church of PNG Newsletter

August –November 2022



### Message from the Acting General Secretary

Welcome to our Newsletter for the months of August to November, 2022.

May this Advent season of HOPE, PEACE, JOY and LOVE embrace us all and the welcoming of New Year be graciously blessed by God.

We are reminded this Advent of our “**Prayer and service**” to God.

The importance of prayer life for us Christians calls us to be good stewards of God’s creation and the service he calls us for the Ministry and Mission of His Church order.

In this newsletter it highlights the prayers and services carried out during the four months in ACPNG with the support and prayers from our overseas Church partners, local congregation in their communities respectively in the five dioceses.

We continue to give thanks and praise to God for gift of life.

To God be the Glory

Joyful reading and reflection with countless blessing to all.

Acting General Secretary, Dennis Kabekabe

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## THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA



### Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

It is with profound sadness that the Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea joins the nation, commonwealth and the world in mourning the death of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

At this time of deep sorrow and grief runs we also acknowledge Her Late Majesty the Queen extraordinary dedication, loyalty, service and humility for the last 70 years of Her Reign as Queen to the United Kingdom, Realms and Commonwealth.

We also extend our congratulations to King Charles III for formally being proclaimed the new monarch.

Our prayers are with the King and Royal family. May God draw near them and comfort them in their time of mourning.

***"The Late Majesty was the rock and defender of the Anglican Church faith which she lived out in the 96 years of her life".***

***May Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II Rest in Peace and rise in Glory.***

***"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted." Matthew 5.4***

**Acting Archbishop of the Anglican Church of PNG  
Bishop Nathan Ingen  
Anglican Church of PNG Chancellor  
Sir Bernard Sakora**



## A TRIBUTE IN COMMEMORATION



During this solemn period of Royal-Mourning in the Passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, on behalf of Sir Bishop George Koiawo Ambo, OBE, KBE, the first Indigenous Bishop and former Archbishop of the Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea and his wife, Lady Mother Marcella Karau Ambo, both formerly deceased, the Ambo Family commemorate on their behalf, the honourable moment of fifteen minutes in their meeting and talking with the Queen and Prince Philip during a two hour royal visit to Popondetta on 25th March 1977. It had been a great honour for them both to have been in moments of simplicity with the royal guests in what had been the first royal visit after the Anglican Church's Inauguration. Indeed, a great honour to have had shared memories of that great occasion with the royal couple. Her Majesty though of royal highness yet in loyalty and in meekness, was truly a great patriot, custodian, guardian and a fortress to the Church's Orders, enshrined in an infinite tradition of Churchly principles and practises. Rest in Peace in Heavenly Splendour.

[By George Koiawo Ambo-jr, for and on behalf of the Ambo Family as authorized by Alban Jaipoba Ambo - dated 14th September 2022]



## Gender Equality Theology Training



Photos of NTC Gender Equality Theology Training in Popondetta. On left Bp. Jeffery speaking to participants and on right participants of training showing their certificates attained after the completion of training.

The Gender Equality Theology Training ended on a high note. The Participants were really happy with the skills and knowledge they acquired. The training commenced on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and ended on the 8<sup>th</sup> of July. The training was officially opened and closed by College Principal, Bp Jeffery Drivers (Ret). training was conducted for five (5) days. The last week of their school term was used for the GET Training. The training venue was at Newton Theology College, Popondetta Diocese.

The participants who attended the training were the Theology students of the Newton College with their wives. Among them were 3 young male students and an ordained priest. There were 12 couples, 3 young boys and an ordained priest. Total of 28 participants. 16 male and 12 females from the Newton Theology College. The facilitator and co facilitator flew in to Popondetta from Port Moresby. The facilitator of the Gender Equality Theology Training was Fr, Theophilus Garibo from the St Johns Parish, Port Moresby Diocese. Ms. Cathy Wanga the GESI Officer for CPP help the facilitator through the five Days of training. Ms. Wanga took them through the first day with Gender Sensitization Presentation and Fr. Theophilus Garibo presented on Gender Equality Theology the remaining (4) four days.

The activity turn was excellent with the positive remarks from the college Principal Bp Jeffery which he said to consider this training as very important and make that as a curriculum to be taught in the college. The theology students understand the facilitator well and acknowledge and emphasized the importance of the workshop/training and further requested for the college to have such teachings to be included as part of the teaching curriculum or have more of this training conducted in the college.

The participants have shared with open feelings and questions that were seriously discussed on gender equality based in equal relationship towards roles and responsibilities as Gods images and likeness. The participants were deeply challenged to contextualized theology and culture in their future ministry as priests and pastors among the people (church). The participants really understand the training well which shows great outcome in the activities assigned for them to do.

Story and Pictures by Ms. Cathy Wanga, GESI CPP officer



# HOLY NAME SECONDARY SCHOOL

## HOLY NAME DAY CELEBRATION – 7<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2022



Two decades ago, the Holy Name High School became a secondary school changing its former name to Holy Name Secondary School. This new status not only brought changes but brought many big challenges which the school was yet to face. Many of these challenges were especially with the kind of infrastructure the school had. The school was faced with deteriorating classrooms, dormitories for both boys and girls, HOD offices, Library and science lab, computer lab and Expressive arts studios.

In the year 2019, Mrs Ethel Sirambat, the principal at that time, Mr Finian Sikin, a science teacher and the HOD for the practical skills department discussed with a local builder, Mr Dunstan Taumatagara for a new science lab to be built for the school from project fees paid by the parents and citizens. The construction of the new science lab began and on the eve of Holy Name day 2022, the building was ready to be officially opened. The building is 41 metres long, 9.5 meters wide and is 1.8 meters above the ground.

This church agency school is proud to have a newly built science lab which will accommodate Physics, Chemistry and Biology labs in one building as well the science HOD offices. The achievement is one of the developmental plans that the school has. Holy Name Secondary School needs a lot more help to develop into a modern school. Most buildings in use are so old and need to be replaced.

During the grand opening of the newly completed Science Lab, the Principal, Mr David Nimagara thanked the former School Principal, Mrs Ethel Sirambat for taking the initiative for a science lab to be built, Mr Finian Sikin for designing the building and Mr Dunstan Taumatagara and his carpenters for building the science lab. He also thanked the staff and the Parents and citizens for the continuous support to the development of the school.

The new building was blessed by the four clergymen who officiated during the Holy Name Day thanksgiving mass, Reverend Martin Sawaroia, the school chaplain, Reverend Simon Giton, the Vicar General and Diocesan Secretary, Reverend Faithful Arewa, the Parish Priest for the Cathedral/Dogura Parish and Reverend Martin Modudula, a visiting Priest from Taupota.

Any help given to the school to change and advance will be of great value towards the development of the school and students learning.

As the school motto says, *“In Thy Name We Will Triumph”*, so the students sing, *“We’ll triumph in His Holy Name”*

Story and Pictures by Victor Mabira, CPP Dogura DPO



# RELIGIOUS ORDERS IN POPONDETTA CELEBRATE PNG INDEPENDENCE AT DOBUDURU



MBH, SSF and CVL Ending Independence Celebration today with Sunday Holy Eucharist service at Dobuduru.

It was my great honour and privilege for having the brothers and sisters throughout the weekend for Independence Celebration last Friday, St Francis Stig-Martyr on Saturday and Sunday. As I called for 3 Religious SSF, CVL and MBH to come together and celebrated the PNG 47th Independence day in a simple way. I want to thank Brother Dominic Br. Guidan of the SSF and Sr. Beverley of the CVL for accepting Invitation.

On Friday morning in our gathering we have had a wonderful Eucharist service led by Brother Lawrence (SSF) and a sermon delivered by Brother Josiah Kijiri (MBH) as actual date falls for country anniversary commemorating.

This is also a sign of unity to work together hand in hand and to support the church works as we move forward the Christ mission in a various community.

God bless our Brothers and Sisters as they returned today to their respected centres.

Story and Pictures by Head Brother Joe. A-Melanesian Brotherhood





## GIRLDFRIENDLY SOCIETY UPDATE



Girls friendly Society members, left—right : Girika Sanata, Vivian Jiriga, Estellah Tawasu

In early July the President of GFS in Popondota, (Vivian Jirega), the Coordinator of GFS in Port Moresby (Girika Sanata) and the Leader of the new branch in New Guinea Islands, Kokopo, (Estellah Tawasu), met in Port Moresby with Canon Val Gribble from Australia. The meeting was financed by GFS Australia.

As the World Council of GFS requires GFS in PNG to have a Provincial structure, now they are in more than one diocese, this was the priority of the meeting. Without a provincial structure GFS in ACPNG cannot be represented or have voting rights at World Councils. (The next one is to be held in South Africa in August 2023). The three leaders agreed on an interim structure (until a formal constitution can be prepared). From 1 October 2022, GFS Port Moresby will have management of GFS in ACPNG for a three year term, this will be followed by GFS Popondetta and then GFS New Guinea Islands. The signed document has been sent to all Bishops and to the National office. It outlines the role of each diocese as they manage the provincial structure and the role of the President or Coordinator of GFS in that diocese.

With the agreement of the three GFS dioceses in ACPNG, GFS Australia has recently launched a program called “Soap for Hope” and “Make a Mask”. GFS members in Australia have made individual soap holders, masks, and given money to purchase soap in PNG. The program is to encourage members with hand washing as the wearing of masks in gatherings to address the COVID situation in PNG. The soap holders and masks were handed to the representatives and the money (apportioned to the number of members) banked to their diocesan accounts.

There was also a distribution of Days for Girls kits made by members of a non church organisation in Rockhampton. They are willing to make many more but there is always the challenge of getting them to PNG.

Magnifying glasses, a gift of a member of Rockhampton diocese, were also distributed.

Popondota diocese now has 700 members, mostly teenage girls, with a growing membership in the other dioceses. MU in Lae has recently contacted GFS Australia and hopes to commence the ministry in the coming months.

The ACPNG House of Bishops accepted GFS as a Provincial ministry in 2014.

For information about GFS please contact Ms Girika Sanata, Port Moresby, 76814224 or [girlsfriendlysocietypng@gmail.com](mailto:girlsfriendlysocietypng@gmail.com) (Canon) Val Gribble, World Vice-President, GFS



# DIOCESE OF AIPO RONGO UPDATE

## *Confirmation and MU New Admission member*



### Newly Confirmed Anglican Christians..

Acting Archbishop Nathan Ingen Confirmed Twenty Five (25) Anglican Christians at the St. Michaels and All Angels parish, Mt. Hagen, on the 9th of October, 2022.

We welcome this newly confirmed members! May God's blessings be upon you all as you journey in your faith with God.

Mathew 16:24-26

Story and Picture by Mr. Philip Ika.



Picture on the left shows Mr. Ika's admission into MU by President Rose Sitae and picture above is of Mr. Ika and MU members at Mt. Hagen Michaels and All Angels parish.

On the 21st of October, 2022, ACPNG Mothers Union admitted Mr. Philip Ika as a Mothers Union member at St. John's Cathedral in Port Moresby, this admission was witnessed by ACPNG MU provincial President Mrs. Rose Sitae, Fr. Theophilus Garibo and MU provincial executive members.

Mr. Philip Ika thanked Mrs. Dorothy Siep and Mrs. Anne Gewageu for their support and encouragement prior to his admission to the Mothers Union and that he will continue his journey with commitment and passion to serve the MU and Church.

Acknowledgement and Picture Courtesy to Philip Ika



Aipo Rongo Diocese Mothers' Union held its Council Meeting from the 15th-17th November, 2022. The meeting coincides with the 1. Official closure of the Parish, Deanery, Diocese and Provincial MU activities for 2022.



Farewelling of Late Mama Geraldine Kivu MU member of St Francis Parish and MU President. All were gathered for mama's good bye to her home at Watabung for burial.



# BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

## Lower Jimi, Jiwaka Province



Community development has been central to the mission of the Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea (ACPNG) throughout its entire history. This began in the 1891 at Dogura Diocese Eastern end of Papua New Guinea. In principal Mission and Evangelism, Health and Education, the 3 fold ministry are all Community Development Service. It continued in the late 19th Century, and now in to 21st century when ACPNG created a band of 3 fold ministry across the five diocese. Their common bond is a shared commitment and history to enabling local community residents to become agents of their own development. ACPNG –National Office has thereby is determine to play a pioneering role in re-imaging community development as a participatory process driven from the bottom-up rather than the top-down.

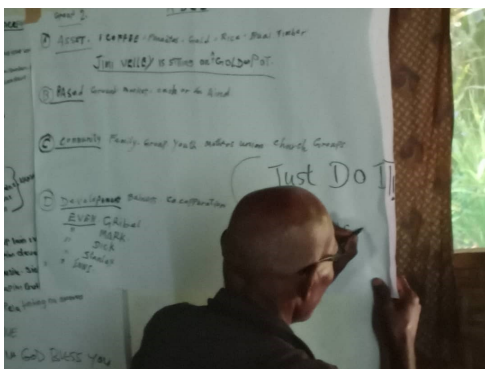


The Anglican Church Diocese of Aipo Rongo has taken a step forward and organized a In service training for Catechist from 26th -29th July 2021 at Kwima Parish. Fr. Nicholas has invited Diocesan Secretary Mr. Dick Kolai who has travel in to Jimi and facilitated the 1 week in-service training for the Catechist. During the in -service training one of the topics/session discussed was Asset Bade Community Development (ABCD). I took time and further discussed the ABCD concept in brief during one of their night sessions. The Diocesan Secretary Dick Kolai, comment the catechist for their participating in the evangelism work over the years. Further added, for the catechist to take on the Asset Based Community Development work in Jimi. I took it from the in-service training as matter of concern to further support the work of the mission and evangelism with Asset Based Community Development (ABCD). The transformation to work from Inside out, rather from need, deficit to asset/strength of the abidance of the many individuals' gifts and talents.

Continue next page...



The Asset Based Community Development Training, was conducted without any funding support from any sources. Accommodation and food provided at Kalanz Lodge. The training was attended by 17 very senior Evangelist/Catechist from lower Jimi Denary Aipo Rongo Diocese. Many of them did not attend, due to other commitments, for example, 8 catechist with Fr. Roy from Bokopai Parish were engaged in the Parenting Program (P4CD). They will be part of November team to be trained



Our Motor “Just Do It” We do not know where to start, we felt we are on the cross road, therefore, the Motor, is right, in deed it has deeper meaning rooted back to the indigenous knowledge, the culture which is the sleeping giant of our tradition. From the coastal regions to the Islands and inland of ACPNG communities. A full report will be made available to ACPNG ANO and Aipo Rongo Diocese, Diocesan Bishop and Acting Arch- ++Bishop Rev. Nathan Ingen. ABCD is a way forward for ACPNG. The Evangelist/Catechist are the foundation of our Church. I felt it is appropriate way in doing the business of the Church is to empower our Evangelist. Not top down but Bottom up approach. Transformation of the Mission and Evangelism work through Asset Based Community Development.

By Update and pictures by Mathew Kuraiwae, Lower Jimi, Jiwaka.





## PROVINCIAL COUNCIL MEETING



Left picture shows PC members during morning service at DBTI Emmaus Chapel. Right picture is during PC meeting .

The Covid 19 pandemic from 2019 – 2021 has impacted the church activities both positively and negatively. The Provincial Council (PC) meeting could not be held since 2018, however, the Provincial Council was successfully held this year in the month of November 2022.

With the presence of our Chancellor, Sir Bernard Sakora, Provincial Registrar Mr. Copland Raurela, Director Finance Mr. James Raurela, Bishop Jeffery Drivers, Provincial Council Members and Board of Trustee Member Mr. Francis Kaupa, the Provincial Council meeting was a great success as very important decisions were made and resolutions were passed to move the church forward into the future.

Both the Administration and the Episcopal administration functioning adequately and I highly commend the staff of ANO in the six-year period for their dedication, commitment and unfailing servant leadership and stewardship working as a unit and in true spirited team work. They have indeed delivered the services through life power of seasons and storm changes that brought up crisis and challenges in different forms, shape and sizes in last three years but as a team we faced them together with courage and resilience with God's power and strength driven by our weekly morning prayer devotion which was our strength and stay for ANO and ACPNG as whole.

Thank you all for your continued prayers and support together as we journey on as ACPNG in our three fold ministries and Mission for God's Church and Mission in the year 2023.

### **THANKSGIVING, CONFIRMATION & LAUNCHING OF THE DECADE EVANGELISM AT ALL SOULS PARISH, LAE**



On the 6th of November 2022, All Souls Anglican Church, Lae had a successful celebration that commemorated All Souls day thanksgiving celebration, Confirmation of 20 children and the launching of the Decade of Evangelism.

The celebrations was celebrated by Acting Archbishop Nathan Igen.

A church assistant was also commissioned and later the launching of ACPNG decade of evangelism and stewardship program for next five years approved by the provincial Council meeting recently held in Port Moresby.





# ACPNG MOTHERS UNION UPDATE



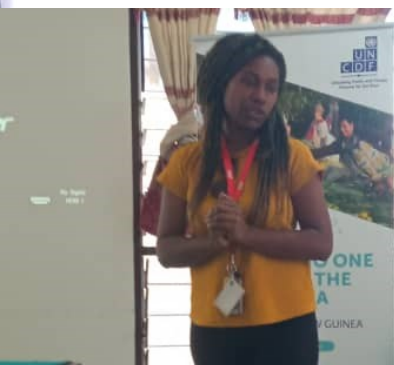
The Provincial Mothers' Union had its extraordinary Council Meeting from the 17th-21st October, 2022 at St John's Anglican Cathedral - Downtown Port Moresby.

The meeting was quite different from the previous meetings held. The meeting was attended by the Past Provincial Mothers' Union Presidents, Maureen Ambo, Emma Iaura, and Deborah Iagoro. They contributed ideas towards PNG MU history, MU Structure and Strategic Planning.

Provincial MU President Mrs Rose Sitae recommended that the MU Strategic Plans for PNG MU be endorsed soon in the next council meeting. The Strategic Plans was spearheaded by Jean Parkop a congregation member of St John's Parish. She was appointed as the Technical Advisor to the Provincial Mothers' Union, simultaneously Philip Ika was admitted as an MU member by Fr Theophilus Garibo St John's Rector. Again, Philip Ika was appointed by the Council as Provincial Mothers' Union Project Officer. Congratulations Jean and Philip on your responsibilities in the MU circle.



During the PMU meeting , financial literacy training and Literacy project discussion also took place.



Presenters from Westpac, UNCDF and SME IT gave financial insights to MU members.



Discussion by MU Members on Literacy Project under Mothers Union.

*Story and pictures by Dorothy Siep, ACPNG MU*



## ACPNG Partners Meeting



The Overseas partners meeting was a successful three days meeting with our Anglican Church partners from the Anglican Church of Australia and New Zealand . The meeting was attended by archbishop Geoff Smith and Bishop Cameron Vernables. Bishop Andrew Hedge from Waiapu Diocese, Anglican Church of Aotearoa, Polynesia and New Zealand.

Port Moresby Diocese warmly welcomed the church partners along with the three ACPNG Bishops; Acting Archbishop Nathen Ingen, Bishop Lindsley Ihove and Bishop Reginald Makele and Chancellor Sir Bernard Sakora, Director Finance Mr. James Raula. Acting General Secretary Mr. Dennis Kabekabe and Thelma Guni.

ACPNG is ever so grateful for their time, friendship, praying and fellowship together. Listening sharing and telling stories of challenges in doing God's work and mission in Australia, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea. How best to effectively partner in addressing common areas that needs economic, social and skilled personal support.

Thank ABM- AID Australia in providing the funds to facilitate the Partners meeting and ANO staff for support and logistics.

Brief update by Dennis Kabekabe, Acting GS

## HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS DAY

***Commemorating 16 Days Activisms on Elimination of Violence against Women and Human rights***



The Civil Society Organisations Forum held as part of commemorating the 16 days Activism in PNG, UN Women in partnership with the Consultative Implementation and Monitoring Council (CIMC) committees for Family Sexual Violence organized a Forum at Hilton Hotel in Port Moresby.

The event brought together Civil Societies and Faith Based Organization ( Anglican Church of PNG, Evangelical Church, Catholic, Salvation and SDA) and Women Human Right Defenders to dialogue with Government, Development Partners , Donor agencies , private sectors and academia.

Brief story and update by Annsli Kabekabe,



## Pacific Young Leaders Summit

It was an honour representing Anglicare PNG Inc and the Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea at the Australia Emerging Leaders Summit in Canberra from the 26th-29th November, 2022.

The event was hosted by Micah Australia purposely to create an avenue for Young Pacific Leaders (below the age of 35 years) to learn from each other on the current issues like youth unemployment, climate change and education that are affecting their island countries and to advocate for their people in diplomatic spaces.

I was blessed to have been nominated by ACPNG's Acting General Secretary Mr. Dennis. Kabekabe to represent Anglicare PNG Inc and ACPNG at the Summit. Humongous appreciation to the Australian Board of Mission for sponsoring my trip. Many thanks to Tim from ABM-AID for accompanying me in my first Summit ever, and ABM staff for their hospitality when in Sydney.

Story and Pictures by Cassandra Opiari.



Tim from ABM and Cassandra from APNG



Young Leaders from e Pasifika who attended the Summit



Anglican Overseas Aid CEO, Jo Knight, Anglicare—CPP DRR officer, Cassandra Opiari and Anglican Diocese of Polynesia, Karen De-laivoni.



Young leaders and President Sue Lines



# *Merry Christmas & Happy New Year !*



**THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA WOULD LIKE TO WISH ALL ANGLICANS THROUGHOUT PAPUA NEW GUINEA AND THE ENTIRE ANGLICAN COMMUNION A BLESSED ADVENT SEASON AND HAPPY PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR !**

**MAY THE HOLY & BLESSED SEASON OF ADVENT BRING PEACE, JOY , HAPPINESS & WARMTH IN YOUR HEART & HOMES AS WE COMMEMORATE THE BIRTH OF JESUS AND WELCOMING GOD INTO OUR LIVES EVERYDAY.**





# PRAYERS & THANSGINGVING FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

Date: 29th November – 5th December 2022

Theme: *Your Redemption is Near at Hand*

Give thanks for: The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Penance)

Pray for : Our Archbishop, General Secretary, and all ANO staff

The Church of Bangladesh

Date: 6th –12th December

Theme: *The Salvation of God*

Give thanks for: The fulfilment of the Old Testament prophecies

Pray for : Our Bishops, Diocesan Secretaries and staff

The Anglican Church of Bermuda

Date: 13th –19th December

Theme: *Rejoice! The Lord is Near!*

Give thanks for: The limitless love of God

Pray for : Our National and Diocesan Health Secretaries

The Episcopal Anglican Church of Brazil

Date: 20th – 26th December

Theme: *The Promised Saviour*

Give thanks for: The prayers of Mary and Joseph

Pray for : Our National and Diocesan Education Secretaries

The Anglican Church of Burundi



## UPCOMING SAINTS AND HOLY DAYS IN DECEMBER

- 3rd -Francis Xavier, priest, (1506-1552 )
- 6th -Nicholas, bishop, died about 350)
- 7th -Ambrose, bishop and doctor (339-397)
- 8th -The Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- 13th -Lucy, virgin and martyr (died about 304)
- 14th -John of the Cross, priest and doctor (1542-1591)
- 26th -ST STEPHEN, DEACON & FIRST MARTYR
- 27th -ST JOHN, APOSTLE & EVANGELIST

28th -HOLY INNOCENTS