



Liberos

November, 2013

Volume 2 Issue 2

Joy to the world the Lord has come.....

My dear confreres and friends:



Inside this issue:

<i>Editorial</i>	1
<i>House for SMM</i>	1
<i>My first impression</i>	2
<i>Dancing Doris</i>	3
<i>Journey</i>	3
<i>News Updates</i>	4

A song by an anonymous choir of celebrating angels, which we find in Luke 2:10. "Glory to God. We come to proclaim Good News to you, tidings of great joy to be shared by the whole people." This message of joy from heaven delivered on the night of Christ's birth is echoed at Christmas celebration everywhere: the glitter of festive atmosphere and the decorative lights of the Christmas trees, the exchange of gifts as an expression of goodwill and friendship, the greetings that wish other people happiness, the prayers that express longing for peace, the treasured texts that tell of a light that shines for the human race, all help to reveal the Christmas message of joy.

We rejoice, because on this night, "the Word became flesh" (Jn 1:14) It is that Word which is a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path and if we take this light out of our communities, the last glimmer of hope is gone. We rejoice because on this night, "the goodness and love of God appeared" (Tit 3:4) on earth. It is that goodness of God which is equal only to His greatness and it is that love of God which is more delightful to us than all our earthly enjoyments. We rejoice because on this night, "the light and glory of God" was made visible. (Heb 1:3) on this earth in Jesus.

The Joy that we experience during this season is the joy only Christ can give



The Joy that we experience during this season is the joy only Christ can give. This is what Isaiah foretold: " You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing" (Is 9:3) Without Jesus it is hard to sing "joy to the world" because without Jesus our world is lifeless.

Let us prepare to invite Jesus in our life and bring forth same Jesus to everyone in our communities. On behalf of all the confreres of the General delegation of Papua New Guinea, i wish you all a very meaningful and fruitful advent and a Joy filled Christmas.

Rozario Menezes s.m.m

Thanks to the Canadian confreres, finally, we have a home to call our own...

Official blessing and opening of the house will take place on March 24, 2014. Fr. Claude Sigouin Provincial of the Vice Province of Canada will grace the occasion and bless the house.

You are all most welcome to witness this historic moment for the Montfort Missionaries in PNG.

This was the wisdom house of the Daughters of Wisdom, which was bought by the Montfort Missionaries with the financial help from the vice province of Canada. General delegation of PNG express our heartfelt thanks for the generosity of the Canadian confreres, on whose footsteps we still try to walk. May God bless your generous hearts.



Thanks for your thoughtfulness towards the missionaries working presently in PNG.

MY FIRST IMPRESSION, WITH A HOPEFUL FUTURE



I was surprised about the Pastoral Plan of the Diocese of Daru-Kiunga. All things are already written and the pastoral team also knows the plan.... Wow!!!

Frs. Lanto and Doris are our two new confreres from Madagascar. They joined the PNG delegation after a year long wait in Philippines to obtain the travel documents. Fr. Lanto is appointed as the assistant parish priest and the administrator of St. Louis Marie De Montfort parish, Daru and Kiwai Islands, and Fr. Doris is appointed as the assistant parish priest at St. Michael's parish Bamu. We wish them the best in their new ministry as missionaries in PNG.

I would like to share with you about my experience in PNG. When I arrived at the airport in Port Moresby, my first impression was I felt that I am in my own country. The landscape and people in PNG are like in my country especially in the east coast of Madagascar.

Fr. Rozario looked after us at Morata in Port Moresby. He welcomed us as confreres not as guests and this welcome is the same from all the confreres in PNG; at Port Moresby, Kiunga and Tabubil as well.

I am still having problems with the English language because the accent is different. We have the habit to listen Philipino accent and sometimes (we) I make effort to understand some words. I think, I'll improve little by little my understanding of the accents of the others.

I was surprised of the Pastoral Plan of the Diocese of Daru-Kiunga. All things are already written and the pastoral team also knows the plan. With my few experiences as a priest in Madagascar or in the Philippines, we have pastoral plans but the elder priest advice us to adjust it in the situation that exists in each parish. Fortunately, I still have confreres to help me as to what will I do in each case. They are helpful.

With regards to health, the weather is sometimes too hot and I feel heavy and lazy to go out or to read a book. It is difficult to oblige my body to work during day time and I work only in the morning or in the evening. For the water, we use boiled water for drinking. Food is okay for me because we eat rice three times a day here like in my country. Hence, I don't have problem about it.

My only problem is communication with my family. Sometimes I used to go to St. Gabriel Technical Secondary School to check my email as there was quiet a lot of text and pictures in my emails. But now as it is not possible, so I have to use my cell phone on which I have limited internet access.

My community life with my confreres is okay. We already had one meeting with all members in Wisdom house to know the organization of the community and the roles of each members.

I try to have a good relationship with my neighbors. I play basketball with them every Sunday evening because this is their break time when I can play with them.

Hence, I feel joyful and I want to deepen my experience of mission in PNG.

? *Fr. Lanto Ramiandrisoa, smm*

It is with sadness that we received the news about the resignation of Fr. George Madore as a General assistant and councilor. In his capacity as a member of the general team and person responsible for the delegation of PNG, he did a lot by way of journeying with our confreres in PNG. his advice, his help, his prayers and more over his accompaniment meant a lot to us. We miss him, but we are certain that he will continue to help us in what ever way possible. As his last word (as you can see him in the picture) he left us with a warning! **“ behave! You boys!!! Or else watch out!!!”**

Fr. George, tenk yu tru long olgeta samting yu bin makim long mipela hia long PNG. no ken lus tigting long mipela, lukim yu bihain....Bikpela i ken blesim yu nau na oltaim...

Confreres from PNG.



DANCE WITH JOY

It is already one year that I felt Madagascar, to join the Montfortian Mission here in PNG. Leaving my country for a mission as a young priest (one year in priesthood), I was on fire. I left my country with a wish: "I want to change the world." But I got stuck in the Philippines for almost one year because of the long process of travel documents. That long waiting made my fire cold, I almost lost my zeal. But I said to myself, I must be patient...

Arriving in Port Moresby, Capital of PNG, on 31st August and here in Daru-Kiunga Diocese on 4th September, I met people who are calm and quite, nobody is in a hurry. Papuan are a smiling and dancing people.

Taking time to think about that experience I realize that before changing the world, it is the world who changed me. Looking at the people, I understood that life is a matter of dance, the dance of joy. Papuans teach me that I need to enjoy and dance instead of running here and there. Whole creation is a "dancing arena", the Holy Spirit assures the music. By wanting to run, I almost danced faster than the music. I committed a sin of young age" (*péché de la jeunesse*). Now, it is time to start again. The music is on, I am invited to enjoy, to dance. Dance with the rhythm of the Holy Spirit. Dancing with the same music, following the

same rhythm with the people in Diocese of Daru-Kiunga, I am ready to start my mission in the foot steps of the poor apostles.

? Fr. Doris Tombaosa smm

JOURNEY....

Becoming a missionary in other countries involve a lot of journeys. Though physical movement is very evident, it is also the journey of the heart. Traveling is not new for me. Even before entering religious life, I have gone through a lot of traveling as a family due to the

kind of work my father had. Adventure is one of the most exciting elements in every movement that I learned. Exploring new places, having new acquaintances are just some of the good things worth remembering. However, risk is also part and parcel of every journey beside the pain of separation with all the relationships behind. Moreover, traveling then is always with my parents. The experience is like a family tour; everyone is still part of the journey. My journey from the Philippines to Papua New Guinea is more of personal one though I am with other confreres. More than anything else, I have to take of myself. Sifting all my

things is not always easy. As if the process is like a discernment. One could just imagine that after fourteen years in the religious profession and with many different local assignments, I need to reduce all my things into thirty kilograms. Though I was not very successful in this regard, I realized concretely the term priority. At one point, I was asking myself on what are the necessary things to bring on my final journey. As a first timer in mission work outside the country, I feel that there is a need to account everything, even the smallest details of what I own, as if trying to keep a personal record of the most important treasure in life. There was that moment of seemingly endless saying goodbyes with loved ones before the flight. This experience leads me to glimpse that it is not really easy to let go. Moreover, letting go is an avoidable consequence in searching for a deeper meaning to life.....



I met people who are calm and quite, nobody is in a hurry. Papuan are a smiling and dancing people.



Fr. Roy is a confrere from Philippines, he joined the PNG delegation in August this year. At present he is the member of Kiunga community, and works at St. Brigid's Parish for the time being. He will be accompanying our candidates from next year and at the same time will help at the parish at part time basis. We thank the Philippines delegation for lending us Fr. Roy for the work of formation. We pray that his journey will be smooth and may God bless him for all that he does.
We pray for his family who are suffering due to the effects of destruction caused by the typhoon.

.....We arrived at Port Moresby about 5 o'clock in the morning, two hours ahead from the Philippines. There was a bit of adjustment in the immigration office. It seems that every nationality has its own protocol. Confreres from Madagascar made it easier to go out than myself. Later, I found out the reason that some Filipinos and Chinese Nationals in the past were not honest in the declaration of their baggages. Looking around the place though a bit dark, I noticed that as if I travelled back ten years or twenty years ago in the Philippines. Almost like saying, "there is not much life around".

Father Rozario, our delegation superior made us feel at home with his presence. The next three days were more of short acquaintances with the community around the parish where we stayed. People are typically warm and welcoming. There was joy in my heart experiencing how the community during the Sunday mass welcomed us. Smiles, extending of hand and other gestures are among the many ways that made us more comfortable with the community.

After three days, we fly to Kiunga, the place of our mission. *Pulling of the finger* as a gesture of welcome was the first thing we need to be accustomed with. It was very interesting to note that regardless of age and sex, people are doing it. A simple gesture that helps me recognize of everyone's desire to be connected. There was as if an endless welcome to all of us, headed by the bishop himself, my SMM confreres, some religious sisters, and some parishioners from St. Brigid parish, whom I will be assigned to work. Kiunga is like a big family. Everyone is as if journeying in one direction in the way bishop oriented us. Concept of being a Church though not something new is still different when everyone is conscious of trying to live it out not as individual but as a community. This is one of the factors that are very hopeful in this diocese.

Living in our community, *Wisdom House* is not a big adjustment for some of the confreres are known to me back in the Philippines. It is always the feeling of being at home that makes me comfortable in every place. My confreres in a sense are very successful in this regard. Community life is a mysterious thing sometimes, but I believe it is grace, a sacred space where any new comer could breathe fresh air of life. I know there is much to learn in this new environment. Though it is full of challenges, I always believe that there is something greater reality here. As Montfortian, it is always our life-dynamics, to risk in love for the greater glory of God.

Fr. Roy Milliano smm



We are looking forward for the visit of Fr. General and Fr. Dwi. We are excited to know that they will be with us during the month of March 2014, which coincides with the opening and blessing of our house. Fathers you are most welcome

News update;

1. we are delighted to have our three confreres who joined the PNG delegation in August. Frs. Doris and Lanto from Madagascar and Fr. Roy from Philippines. We wish them fruitful ministry here in PNG.
2. We are grateful to Canadian confreres for their financial assistance to buy the house in Kiunga, because of their generosity we have a house to call our own.
3. Fr. Claude will be in PNG to preach a retreat for the diocesan clergy of Daru-Kiunga which will take place in March 2014, at the same time he will officiate the opening and blessing of our new home.
4. We are delighted to learn that Fr. Santino and Fr. Dwi will be in PNG for their pastoral visit which coincides with the blessing of the house, they will also visit the places where Montfort Missionaries work.
5. St. Martin de Porres parish in Port Moresby, celebrated the annual feast day. The parish for the first time was privileged to have three bishops concelebrating at the Eucharistic celebration, on the occasion the parish had the privilege of having a new church bell blessed by Rev Bishop Gilles Cote s.m.m.
6. We are excited to hear that another missionary is joining us shortly, Fr. Lorensius Ola from Indonesia. We thank the Indonesian Province for their generous support in bringing the Good News to the people of Papua New Guinea.
7. We are expecting 4 new candidates for 2014, our first candidate James Jaffrey will be joining the minor seminary in Madang, we wish him all the best. Please continue to pray that the Lord may call many to join to walk in the foot steps of Father de Montfort.