



Montfort Missionaries Inc– Papua New Guinea

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Dear Confreres Friends and Family:
 I wish you all a very happy Easter, may the Risen Lord accompany you on your journey. We really don't trust Jesus, we really don't believe that He is Alive, do we? Terrified and shocked disciples could not trust the words of Mary Magdalene, two disciples on their way back to Emmaus could not recognize the Lord, Thomas would not believe until he verified... some times I am like the disciples too, hard to trust, hard to believe. But this year's Easter celebration taught me a lesson, which helped me to see that Jesus is alive, and I need to trust Him, no matter what.

When needs arise in the Mission, Formation, Ministries... as persons responsible we seek help, from persons, organizations, congregation... when we don't get positive response, we get discouraged, we give up, we get angry and frustrated. But the Mission, Formation and our Ministries belong to the Lord. Persons, organizations and Congregation may not heed to my cry, but if my mission is the mission of the Lord, He should and He will heed to my cry. The conviction in the Resurrection of the Lord, conviction that Jesus is Alive, helped the disciples to preach, work miracles (Acts 3:6) and spread the Good News, and all the while Jesus was accompanying them (Mark 16:20).

I wish and pray that we can all be like St. Peter; trusting Jesus, who is alive, who is accompanying us in our mission, who is promising us great things if we trust Him.

May we recognize Jesus everyday in the breaking of the Bread and spread the excitement of recognizing Jesus with our fellow brothers and sisters.



Happy Easter!
 Fr. Rozario Menezes s.m.m

I saw that it was not that easy to follow the teachings of St. Montfort. It needs a life of prayer, commitment and sacrifice. Ever since i joined the Montfort Associates my faith has been strengthened.

I AM ALL YOURS

My name is Elias Eno Bare, and I am the Chairman of St. Martin De Porres Parish, Morata. The parish is taken care by the Montfort Missionaries. I joined the Montfort Associate since we started in Morata on 4th January 2016 under the guidance of Fr. Rozario Menezes, smm.

In our gatherings during 2016 and early part of 2017 and very especially in our 33 days preparation for Montfortian Consecration, which began on 28th February, 2017, I learnt about the Spirituality of St. Louis de Montfort. It led me to the Spirituality of Mother Mary because both of them go hand in hand. The Spirituality of St. Montfort helped me to be faithful and committed to my baptismal promises.

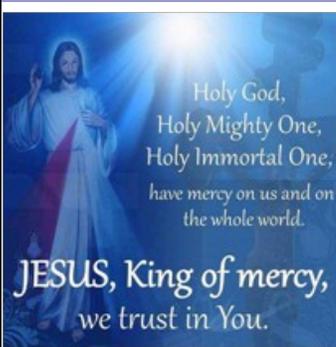
I have learnt an easiest way to reach Jesus through Mother Mary, as she is the shortest, safest, surest and simplest way to go to Him. It has made me bold in taking risks in following Jesus. As St. Montfort rightly says, "If I do not take risk for God I will not do anything great for him." I saw that being simple and humble was part of the life of Mother Mary and St. Montfort which I was very much inspired. It strengthened me with my work as a Parish Pastoral Council Chairman, Coordinator of St. Michael's Basic Christian Community and be more committed towards my family. I saw that it was not that easy to follow the teachings of St. Montfort. It needs a life of continuous prayer, commitment and sacrifice. Ever since I joined the Montfort Associates my faith has been strengthened. It also helped me to show more respect for others and reach out to the people in my community more freely and see what they need. The journey of 33 days strengthened my prayer life. It helped me also to see God as my Father, Mary as my mother and Jesus as my brother.

Many of the Montfort Associates expressed that the 33 days journey of preparation for Montfortian Consecration has helped them greatly. Mr. David Ikiye shared that it strengthened his relationship with Mother Mary especially he has become more faithful in his devotion to praying the rosary every day. Mr. Paul Markus said that when there is any problem in the family he has been more polite, patient and respectful toward them which was the effect of this spiritual journey with Mother Mary and St. Montfort. Mr. Vincent Puana expressed that it helped him to be more committed in the work of Divine Mercy Spiritual Group as its coordinator.

I am looking forward toward that day of consecration when I will give myself totally to Jesus through the hand of Mother Mary. I feel that more and more people should be encouraged to join Montfort Associates.



Mr. Elias Eno Bare is our parish chairman, he is also coordinating one of the Parish BCC. He is one of the Montfort Associates, and looking forward to making his Consecration.



MY 50 YEARS IN PNG!



Sr. Pierrette was one of the pioneer Daughters of Wisdom who came to PNG. After serving Daru-Kiunga Diocese for 50 years in different capacities, she left PNG for good in February 2017. Montfort Missionaries wish her all the success in her future ministry in Canada.

My heart is full of gratitude as I celebrate my 50 years in the Diocese of Daru-Kiunga.

It is in Boset Middle Fly, that I made my 1st steps as missionary. These were 8 challenging years. Everything was new, different from what I used to live, I had to learn how to communicate with the people, how to live without all the facilities I had in my country. I experienced loneliness, isolation, misunderstanding, but these years have prepared me for what I would have to live as a missionary in this remote Province of Papua New Guinea.



The Lord's close presence at every moment, comforted me always, gave me the support I needed through my sisters, our Montfortian family and all the people I have worked with. For 3 years I served as Education Secretary where I worked with so many young, dedicated, enthusiastic teachers and trained one of them to continue this work, as early as 1976.

I then join the mobile team to work with the Kiwai Island and Bamu people who have deeply touched my heart by their simplicity, their capacity to survive in very difficult conditions. They have taught me that we do not need so many things to live and be happy. I will never forget their joy to welcome us with dances all night and their big plates of crabs, prawns and sago. They showed me that we are never too poor to share the little we have with a welcoming heart.

Many times we have risked our lives on the stormy seas, we had to trust in divine Providence. The Lord was always there to calm the rough seas and always brought us back home safely.

I also have fond memories of my 4 years in Matkomnai, most of the time without a Parish Priest, these were years of growth when the people had to take more responsibility and become more active in the building of their local church. I thank the Lord for the committed people of Matkomnai Parish.

Jesus had a great predilection for the people with special needs. It has been such a blessing in my life to work for 16 years with people with disability. I admire their courage, their capacity to accept their condition with all the struggles they have to face day after day. Their joy, their smiles are my reward. I admire their parents, for their constant care in spite of the hardship they face every day and the staff of Callan Services in Kiunga, Daru and Ningerum, for their loving heart, for their dedication, their generous service, may they be blessed abundantly.



These last two years, I have worked as Bishop Gilles secretary and in the archives of the diocese, this has been a wonderful time when I have relived my 50 years as I re-read the history of this Diocese.

I thank the Lord for all my sisters, for their unconditional love and support. I have lived with most of the sisters who came to this Diocese since the very beginning, we have learned so much from each other. I pray that our Melanesian sisters will always remember their examples and continue the work that they have started.

Thank you Lord for Bishop Gerard and Bishop Gilles for being great models of what it means to be faithful, committed followers of Christ and good shepherds of the people entrusted to their care.

For my wonderful 50 years in PNG, Thank you Lord, Thank you Mother Mary, Thank you all the people of Daru-Kiunga Diocese.

MONTFORTIANS BLAZE IN MORATA

On 19th March, 2016, I joined our Montfort Missionaries Community in Port Moresby. Our community is comprised of Fr. Rozario Menezes, smm, our two Montfortian Candidates doing their Philosophy at Catholic Theological Institute, Bomana namely James Godfrey and Michael Hilton Kava. In the beginning of the month of October 2016, Fr. Lanto joined the community. Our two candidates James and Michael always admire that though we are from different countries but we keep away our differences and pray, live and work together. They appreciate the spirit of unity in diversity that they witness in the community. They say that it helps them to be more open and ready to pray, work as team and live together as a community which is one of the pillar of Montfortian Spirituality.



Apart from the daily spiritual activities, the candidates have classes on Montfortian Spirituality, Life of St. Louis Marie de Montfort, History of the Company of Mary and the Ratio. They are also accompanied by Fr. Rozario regularly on the weekends. During the weekends, they take active part in the parish activities very specially animating the Sunday School Children. They also have social exposure like working with the street children during their term breaks. These inputs, accompaniments and exposure helps them to better integrate what they learn along with their daily living.

Our community is located in St. Martin de Porres Parish, Morata. It is a settlement parish, comprising of 700-800 families. The population of our parish is a floating one as they are coming from different parts of Papua New Guinea in search of employment or for their tertiary studies or for better services. Major population of our parishioners struggle for their daily survival needs. Many of them earn their livelihood by making roadside sales of vegetables, ice-blocks, lollies, Beatle nut etc... The major population of our parish are from Highland Region of Papua New Guinea. The patron saint of our parish is St. Martin de Porres. He was called a bastard during his days. But he lived a very good life and the Church canonized him as a saint. So also people in our parish from Highland region are called rascals in Port Moresby and in other parts of the world. When I hear this word and remember our people I remember the Samaritans during the time of Jesus. But Jesus always had a heart for them and gave us beautiful examples of Good Samaritan and the Samaritan Woman. Our people in the parish are known so for their activities but they are opposite when it comes to the parish activities. They are very committed towards the Church activities and generous towards it. I remember the generosity of the widow in the gospel. I learnt from them the virtue of depending on the Providence as Fr. de Montfort did.

They have a strong devotion towards Mother Mary. They like to wear and pray rosary. Their long awaited desire came true in 2011, when Fr. Rozario took up this parish as a parish priest and built the grotto. Many people all throughout the day come and pray in front of the grotto of Mother Mary. Members of the Legion of Mary pray at the grotto before they could go out for their Apostolic work every Tuesday. Many other people do it everyday before or after the mass in the morning as they begin their day.

We also have 16 Montfort Associates whom we have been accompanying for the last two years. They meet every Monday to learn about Montfortian Spirituality. They are happy to learn about Montfortian Spirituality and live it out. Mr. David Ikiye one of the associate said, "The life and the spirituality of St. Louis de Montfort is challenging but life-giving." During the last three months they had the 33 days preparation to make their consecration to Jesus through the hands of Mary. Many of them were very committed in attending the sessions.

Morata settlement where our community and parish is situated was called as a NO-GO-ZONE five years ago. They did not have a priest for a very long time. In 2011, their prayers were responded when Fr. Rozario took up the parish. Mr. Luciano Tokai says, "Our many years of prayers and tears were responded by God by blessing us with a very good priest". They are happy to have Montfort Missionaries in the parish. The population for the Sunday Masses increases day by day. The visit of Fr. General and his council and other Montfortian Confreres from the International Community during their visit to PNG, Bishop Gilles Cote, smm and other Montfortian Confreres staying at Morata during their visit to Port Moresby and the two Montfortian Families meeting regularly in the parish has enriched the lives of the people. from the Mr. Vincent Puana one of our parishioner rightly says, "Montfort Missionaries are really a blessing to us and to the people of Morata at large."

Fr. Vinod D'Mello SMM

The patron saint of our parish is St. Martin de Porres. He was called a bastard during his days. But he lived a very good life and the Church canonized him as a saint. So also people in our parish from Highland region are called rascals in Port Moresby and in other parts of the world. When I hear this word and remember our people I remember the Samaritans during the time of Jesus. But Jesus always had a heart for them and gave us beautiful examples of Good Samaritan and the Samaritan Woman.



**THANK YOU, MERCI
TENK YU TRU**

Society of Montfort Missionaries, have their General Chapter from May 1, 2017 to May 20, 2017. We request you to keep us in your prayers. Pray that the Spirit of God fill our hearts and minds, so that all that we do and say may be inspired by God. We are called Company of Mary, may our beloved Mother accompany us and lead us to her Son Jesus.

Take risk for God

I am Michael Hilton Kava. This is my fourth year in formation as a candidate of Montfort Missionaries aspiring to become a Montfort Missionary. At present I am doing my second year Philosophy at Catholic Theological Institute, in Port Moresby the capital city of Papua New Guinea. I joined the Montfort Missionaries in 2014. I am from East New Britain Province of Papua New Guinea.

Before joining the Montfort Missionaries, I was working on the ship. I used to help the Captain and the first officer on the ship. We used to plot the maps together how to go to different places and I also used to help them to navigate the ship. I took care of the passengers and their cargoes on the ship. I also did the general upkeep on it.

I was inspired by my parish priest. He was an expatriate from Italy. He came when he was very young and spent most of his life in my village. He died in his 70's and was buried in my parish. His commitment towards the people in my village really inspired me. This brought to my mind a question: What made this priest to give life totally for the sake of my village people?

All this was in my mind, until Fr. Rozario came to Rabaul and gave vocation talk in my parish. Fr. Rozario came to my village to meet Victor Gamela, a friend of mine. He had expressed to Fr. Rozario his desire to become a Montfort Missionary. I went to meet my friend. After listening to their conversation, I expressed my desire to become priest. Fr. Rozario asked me to submit my documents. I did it along with my friend, Victor. We were asked to come to Kiunga in the month of February 2014. I made my way to Kiunga to join Montfort Missionaries but my friend made his way to University of Goroka for his higher studies for a different vocation in life.

Staying with Montfort Missionaries for the last 3 years, I feel that they are part of my family. They help me to open up myself. I learn a lot from them. They help me to discern my vocation to become a Montfort Missionary. The thought within my mind about why my expatriate parish priest who gave his life for the sake of my village people was being clarified. I also have the same experience in Kiunga and in Port Moresby. All the Montfort Missionaries were expatriates. They had left their country and come to Western Province and Port Moresby to give their service to the people living in remote and poor parts of Papua New Guinea.

During these three years, I also learnt about my founder St. Louis de Montfort. I am very much touched by his ardent desire to work among the poor both materially and spiritually.

I used to hate sudden changes taking place in my life. But after reading and listening to the life and spirituality of St. Louis de Montfort, History of the Company of Mary, Ratio and other talks and retreats on his spirituality, how he had to face challenges and changes in his life which he never expected, made me to overcome my hatred towards changes in life. He found deeper joy in the challenges and changes which took place in his life. He concluded saying, "If I do not take risk for God I will not do anything great for him".

I also like his way of travelling thousands of kilometers on foot from one place to another in order to bring the Good News to the people. I always related it to the work that I did before, of bringing Good News to the people on the ship by bringing them safely to their destinations.

We don't have a local Montfort Missionary yet. Hence, I am happy to join them and be a pioneer to take the risk for God and do great things for Him and his people.

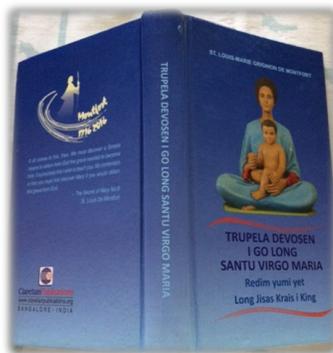
Michael Hilton Kava



TOKSAVE (Information)

TRUE DEVOTION

Good news.... Good news.... True Devotion to Mary is translated and printed in Tok Pidgin (PNG language). The book will be launched by our outgoing Superior General Fr. Santino during the General Chapter, May 2017. The SMM PNG delegation would like to thank all those who supported and encouraged us to complete this task.



We have first PNG Montfort (A statue and not a priest) carved by one of our parishioners (Mr. John Kambu) When I told him that "the statue does not look like St. Louis De Montfort" he said " if Montfort were to be born in PNG, he would have looked like this statue." !!!

The statue will be blessed and installed in the parish by Cardinal John, when the Montfort Associates make their consecration on June 4, 2017. Please pray for our Associates...