

## **Walking Together - A Shared Missionary Experience**

**PORT MORESBY, Papua New Guinea** - One of the most intimate opportunities inscribed in the heart of every Montfortian missionary, those among others who work together in PNG, is the authentic sharing of missionary life. This was keenly felt on Friday, December 16, 2022, as part of an Entity Assembly in Port Moresby. Every missionary who works in this country known especially as the homeland of a certain species of "bird of paradise", has had the opportunity to express what he had in his heart filled with simplicity and brotherly love.

A missionary working in Daru said: "With people, I find happiness". Yet another replied: "I like this mission; it corresponds to my dream". A young missionary working alone in a rural parish testified: "This is my life, to be Montfortian, to know how to take risks and to be happy with simple people". A missionary who works in the field of formation added: "We must ignite a missionary fire in our candidates, a love for the mother of God which is one of the important elements of the renewal of the Church and which deserves to be loved more and more". A missionary who works in the administration of a diocese concluded: "I live the mission here in harmony with the motto of my ordination; she quotes the words of the Virgin Mary: "I am the servant of God..."".

Solidarity with people, a true heritage of the limitless saint that is Montfort, was embodied in the lives of these missionaries. Their life is a constant 'going outside', posing a life full of risks: while interesting, the missions here are also full of challenges. These missionaries also have their arms open to welcome those who come to them seeking direction and enlightenment in life. All of them, with the faithful they serve, walk together, in the footsteps of the poor apostles.