



Liberos

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My dear confreres, family and friends. I send you greetings on behalf of all the Montfort missionaries working in PNG. It is always a joy to share our stories with you.

We just celebrated the closing of our tercentenary celebration marking the death of our founder Father de Montfort. It was an opportunity for the Montfortian family not only to celebrate joyfully this great event but also through the

celebrations spread the precious Spirituality of Father De Montfort. Our closing celebrations made head lines on the local news papers, it created an interest among the people to join Montfort Associates and Friends of Wisdom. At Morata in Port Moresby as part of the preparation for the celebration, Fr. Vinod



Tercentenary Celebration

St. Louis Marie De Montfort

1716 - 2016



Montfort Missionaries Inc Morata Papua New Guinea

D'mello organized a day of recollection for the members of the Montfort Associates and Friends of Wisdom who are preparing to make their Consecration to Jesus through the hands of Mary.

People of St. Martin de Porres parish, took initiative of inviting people from other parishes to celebrate with the Montfortian family.

There is a growing interest among the people of Archdiocese of Port Moresby, to learn more about the Marian Spirituality, we are doing

our best to reach out to as many parishes as possible so that our spirituality is lived in a more meaningful way.

We thank God for the gift of our founder Father de Montfort to us as well as to the Church at large, we pray through his intercession for the grace of becoming vagabond Missionaries, reaching out to all those whom the Lord has entrusted to us.

Happy feast day to you all.

Rozario Menezes s.m.m

We thank God for the gift of our founder Father de Montfort to us as well as to the Church at large, we pray through his intercession for the grace of becoming vagabond Missionaries, reaching out to all those whom the Lord has entrusted to us.

Dancers from the Highlands Region of PNG, Mount Hagan.

They are Montfort Associates, preparing to make their Consecration to Jesus through Mary.



Preparing for the Mission– Journeying from Minor Seminary to Major Seminary

“Be filled with excitements and confidence to begin the day, always be who you are, in public or individual. Be yourself, your identity, do your best make use of available time; clear your mind and spirit, be always guided by light and humbleness. aspects of

Michael Kava is one of the two seminarians doing his philosophy at CTI, he comes from Rabaul, and has been with us for three years. Very talented young man with lot of enthusiasm. We wish him all the best in his years of formation.



Hi, my name is Michael Hilton Kava, I am preparing to be a Montfort Missionary. Last year I was at St. Fidelis minor seminary; it was my stepping stone to reach the cauldron of wonders, challenges and opportunities. This year I am doing my philosophy at Catholic Theological Institute along with James Godfrey who is also preparing to be a Montfort Missionary.

My first day in the classroom at Catholic Theological Institute was engorged with smiles; I could see a long road ahead of me, a journey which will surely bring lot of experiences, I am ready to face the challenges and keep smiling. I feel privileged to be part of the Montfortian family.

During the school week we reside at the Divine Word College, since travelling from our house at Morata is difficult because of the lack of transport to and from the college, during the weekends and Holidays we stay with the community and engage ourselves in learning the Montfortian Spirituality, and human formation. During the orientation week at the college, I was inspired by what one of the SVD priest said “Be always who you are, in public or individual. Be yourself, your identity, do your best, make use of available time; clear your mind and spirit, be always guided by light and humility. Be original as you are and you will be creative in all aspects of your life.”

I am grateful to my community and Missionaries who work hard to prepare us for the Mission ahead of us, the time and energy they spend on us is not wasted but certainly will mould us to be what Montfort wants of us. I ask you to please pray for us that we may walk in the footsteps of Father de Montfort.
Michael Hiton Kava

Missionary means being a “Namu” and “Sobo”

I'm one of them: the younger ones call me "Namu" which means big brother,
The elderly men call me "sobo" meaning small brother
While the couples and the mothers call me son.



I arrived in PNG on 31st of August, 2013. After 4 months being accompanied in Kiunga, I was sent to Daru. That time I felt as if I was thrown in a place where I did not know anything, confrere who was there had gone for patrol, so had to struggle to get my way through. I was relying a lot on my Parish Team for help.

The first thing I did was to visit people, to go where they are and talk to them in order to get an idea about who they are. I visited also community leaders to build up good relationship and asked them to collaborate. It was important to understand their culture, so i asked them to teach me. All through the year 2014, I spent learning their culture, language as well as, learning to work with them. After one year, I felt confident enough to be part of their community, and to work among the people. Now I feel one of

them: The younger ones call me "Namu" which means big brother, the elderly men call me "sobo" meaning small brother, while the couples and the mothers call me son. They are part of my life, we chat and we laugh together; we discuss and argue too, but at the end we solve our differences in a Melanesian way.

Am I making them Christian? I think mostly they were Christians before me except those newly converted who increase the number of our community. The truth is they are making me a Melanesian. Well, I hope we all grow together as true "Melanesian Christians"...having Christian values in our heart but dealing with Melanesian way: coming together, talking about issues, making peace...that’s what we call here, “gutpela sindaun.”
Fr. Doris smm



Missionary in the Paradise

I came to Tabubil in September 2009. There was no parish priest for one year due to the lack of the priests in the diocese. At the beginning, I was bit nervous as it was an international community. Most of the parishioners were from different provinces of PNG and other parts of the world, they worked for gold and copper mine. Many local people were isolated from the parish centre due to geographical situation and very challenging environment with lots of rain and lots of high mountains. It was hard to visit them as i had to climb the mountains and cross many rivers, walk for long hours on slippery foot paths to visit them. There are no roads. Most of the time, they stay at the side of Tabubil town. Since the time of my arrival, I did many patrols at least 3 times a year. I taught sacraments, basic catechism and Bible. I also built churches and gave awareness of how to plant rice and make fish ponds for their daily sustenance. After three years as i looked back, I was amazed to see the result of all my hard work. Many people experienced changes in their lives. Many people have seen the fruits of what I taught them and they were very happy to see different kinds of rice and fish and other vegetables from their own gardens. Lots of the people were back home and did agricultural project with the support of the village planning committees who gave some money to sustain the project.

During my 6 years in the parish I did simple pastoral work like teaching, visiting and walking with the people in good time as well as during the challenging times. And also teach them how to face all the challenges of life in faith. What made a difference during my time as a parish priest was that, I was able to build churches and parish halls in each village with the full support of village people and the parish.

Our Lady of Star Mountains is the name of the parish. As a Montfort Missionary, many appreciated my ministry because of the simplicity of life, humility and availability. I believe the Spirit of Mary and Montfort made difference in the lives of the people.

On February 2016, I left the parish and moved to a new parish called St. Joseph's parish in a place called Balimo. Balimo has many lakes filled with water lilies and lots of fish. My arrival there was welcomed by millions of mosquitoes, but I was happy to see many young people as well as old always busy doing their own work.

Fr. Mateus was the parish priest before me, he has worked hard, especially teaching people agriculture, by doing so he has become well known in and around Balimo. All that I need to do is to continue the good work that he started. Currently, I am trying to finish the church and pastoral centre which Fr. Mateus started. Youths and local carpenters are helping me to complete the work. Blessing of the new Church will take place on May 22, 2016. Bishop Gilles and Fr. Rozario along with other missionaries will be present for this occasion.

Its 3 months since I am in this parish. Already I have experienced so many good things, at the same time i have to make lot of adjustments to my way of doing pastoral work. I met so many smiling people around. They greet me in their own way. So I am aware that I am not on the mountain top of Tabubil but living on the lagoons and lakes of Gogodala, the biggest tribe of the Western Province of PNG. My mission is to be hopeful, knowing that there will be challenges as i continue on. I have survived 15 years in Daru-Kiunga Diocese, I am sure i can continue the good work knowing that "for God nothing is impossible." and as St. Montfort says, "If you don't take risk for God you won't do anything great for him."

Please accompany me in your prayers as i continue my mission here in Balimo PNG. AWAPA (In Gogodala language means WISHING YOU ALL THE BEST.)



On February 2016, I left the parish and transferred to a new parish called St. Joseph, at Balimo. Balimo has many lakes full of water lilies and of course lots of fish as well. My arrival there was welcomed by millions of mosquitoes. But I am happy to see the young and old around the corner are always busy doing their own work.



Fr. Alois_smm

Tercentenary celebrations in Kiunga

On 1st of May 2016 St. Gerard Cathedral Parish celebrated the 300th anniversary of the death of St. Louis Marie Grignion de Montfort. For over a week, every day, there were many people in the church preparing themselves for that important event. Some were practising the singing for the Eucharist, others were practising their dances, others were preparing the Triduum to be held during the three evenings before the celebration. The young people were very much involved in the preparation and the celebration.

During the Triduum we had praise and worship, sharing on the Spirituality of St. Montfort, sharing on vocations and a documentary (DVD) on the life of Montfort. The three evenings were well attended. On the Saturday evening the church was full with people.

We could see that the people love Montfort. They do so because of the Montfortian missionaries from our three Family Congregations who have come to bring the Good News and establish the Church in this so remote and under developed part of the country.

The Sunday Eucharist was preceded with the praying of the rosary following the way taught by Montfort and with the participation of many people, each one representing one Our Father or Hail Mary. After each decade they were putting some flowers in a small cup forming one set of rosary beads. It was very prayerful. Then we had four dances: for the entrance, to bring the Bible, for the offertory and at the end of the Eucharist. Practically all the songs that were chosen were with a Montfortian flavour or had been composed by missionaries such as brother Gilles.



In the afternoon from 2.00pm until 5.30pm we had entertainment outside the church. It started with two traditional dances and was followed by different groups. All throughout the celebrations there was a remarkable spirit of joy and gratefulness. In the evaluation, one thing that was mentioned often was the good participation of so many people.

The theme for our celebration was OPEN TO JESUS CHRIST. A prayer guide for this celebration was prepared by the parish team

and sent to the people in all the villages. During the Sunday Eucharist we also kept a short moment of silence to think about our people living far away and would like to be with us. And we prayed for them.

Bp. Gilles s.m.m



New Formation Community at Morata, Port Moresby

- February 2016, we started the new formation community at Morata, Port Moresby. At present we have two candidates James Godfrey and Michael Kava, doing their Philosophy. Fr. Vinod D'mello the delegation bursar is the new formator for SMM in PNG. Since he came back from his holidays he has been the member of the community at Morata. He also assists at the parish and the member of the Archdiocesan Pastoral Team. We wish Fr. Vinod all the best in his ministry.

- We also have two more candidates doing their minor seminary studies at St. Fidelis seminary in Madang. Both of them are doing their first year.

- We are happy to know that two of our Confreres from India will be joining the mission in PNG soon, presently they are preparing for their ordination, we congratulate them and appreciate very much their decision to join the PNG mission. Welcome, dear friends, we are waiting for you. We assure you our prayers for the success of your Ordination. Distance and cost prevents us from being present at your Ordination but we will be very much present with you and your family on this very important day of your life. CONGRATULATIONS and God bless.

