



VOICE OF HOPE

FROM HOLY SPIRIT SEMINARY,

BOMANA, PORT MORESBY, PNG.

1ST YEAR

MAY - JUNE 2022

No 3





I was born on Wednesday, June 26, 1963, in Lańcut, a town in South-Eastern Poland, as the firstborn son of Jan and Zofia. My father is now 85 and my mother is 83; both of them are still active and in good mental, spiritual, and physical condition. They even attend the daily Eucharist at a local parish church, working at the home garden and living independently in their home with the two neighboring families of my two sisters. My father was a farmer during the summer and a tailor during the winter, and my mother since my birth was working in our village's local nationally recognized bank.

I spent my childhood in Handzlówka, a village 5 miles distant from my birth-hospital town. From my childhood I and my sisters were working to help our parents on the family farm, and after the school day coming to mom's bank and helping with money ordering or manual accounting.

In 1970 I started primary education at the local school and completed eight years as the best student and one of the few in 1978 who continued high secondary education and graduated from it in mechanics with the baccalaureate. Then in 1983 I started studying electrotechnics at the University in Krakow. There I attended a student chaplaincy church run by the Vincentian Fathers, and I became involved in their pastoral activities. After meeting and observing the Vincentians, I talked to one of them and decided to change my study from technical to philosophical and theological at Theological Institute of the Vincentian Fathers, and to join the Congregation as a seminarian. I graduated from the institute in 1991 and was ordained a priest.

My first parish where I was sent by my Vincentian provincial superior was in the beautiful tourist city of Zakopane in the Polish high Tatra Mountains. There, as assistant parish priest, I was celebrating liturgy, teaching religious education in a local primary school, and managing the parish pilgrim hostel. After 4 splendid years I was transferred to a newly erected parish in Krakow, where another priest and I were organizing all aspects of the parish life from the beginning and supervising the building progress of finishing the church and presbytery. It was really pioneering and exciting work. There I started the study of homiletics and rhetoric at Pontifical Theological Academy of Krakow and started preparing the thesis of licentiate with a known professor. My studies were interrupted because my provincial superior sent me to study the Science of Education at Salesian Pontifical University in Rome. I graduated there in 2000. After that, I was sent for some months to help in the pastoral work in our Vincentian parish in Brooklyn, NYC.

In December 2000 I came to a place near Krakow called Piekary and stayed there for nearly 13 years. My first assignment was to organize the Vincentian high school with a boarding school for the gifted youth from poor families. This school campus contained other buildings: a church, a gym, and an indoor swimming pool. It was founded by a very wealthy Swiss lady. After two years of preparation we started the education in 2002. The school had great success and became nationally recognized after some years.

During the same time I was teaching educational subjects at our Vincentian Theological Institute and preparing the doctoral thesis that I defended in 2007. The topic was connected with the history of the educational work of our Vincentian father on the threshold of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. In the school in Piekary we continued his work. In the last part of my work there, I tried to find out how to realize the goal of the past in the new school.



I was living peacefully and working as principal of the high school until April 2013, when one day on a screen of my computer appeared an email entitled “Request of the Superior General,” proposing that I become the rector of the seminary in the missionary country. This email changed my life when I was just 50. After a time of hesitation and prayer I made the decision to go to the mission in Papua New Guinea and become the rector of the inter-ocean seminary in Bomana near the capital of the country, Port Moresby. I am serving my ninth year. I am happy and satisfied to help the local young Church in the seminary and to help in the chapels of neighboring parishes pastorally.

Finally some words of my journey of faith. I was born in a traditional Catholic family, attending masses and other parish devotions from my childhood with my family. When I was in grade 1 I was caught by my parish priest for not coming for the religious education classes. Later I became a very zealous altar server attending also the daily masses. In grade 7 I was caught again by the same parish priests for not being careful with the incense and accused of putting the church on fire, and I was excluded from the group of altar servers. After some years of being far from the Church and God I was invited by the new parish priest and became the lector. As a child, I dreamed of becoming a priest, but later I forgot this idea. When I was in high school, I had two close friends who had the same plans. Being still undecided, I started the technical study where I met the Vincentians attending their pastoral activities for students, and after a year I decided to become a seminarian and then a priest. On my first mass memorial card I put this motto “Serve one another humbly in love” (Gal 5:13) and I try to put these words into practice.



Autobiographical sketch

Fr. Jacek Tendej CM

Bomana, Papua New Guinea

THE CHRISM MASS

By - Eugene Uluna – Ph1

On the 13th of April 2022 the Ach Diocese of Port Moresby had the Chrism Mass at St Joseph Catholic Parish Boroko. The main celebrant was the Arch bishop of Port Moresby his Eminence Sir John Cardinal Ribat MSC. The liturgy was led by the student of the Catholic Theological Institute Bomana (CTI).



The chrism mass is one of the most important event for the Catholic Church and for all priest, the religious and the diocesan it is a must that every priest in a particular diocese to attend the chrism mass because that's the time they renew their ordination promise. During the mass there are three oils bless; the oil of the sick, the chrism oil and the oil of the catechumens. These oils are then distributed to individuals' parishes, where they will be available for use during the year.

The chrism mass was the first time for me to attend the mass outside of the school campus. Siting on the right side together with my brother seminarians , I was really inspired to see many priest from different congregation both the religious and diocesan renewing their ordination promise, and that motivated me to be firm in this vocation so that one day, I will be concelebrant with the Bishop to renew my ordination promise.

After the mass we return back to the seminary and we had dinner.



STATION OF THE CROSS AND THE VENERATION

Station of the Cross and the Veneration 2022 the year of the Lord is a very special year in my personal calendar. It is mark with many good and bad events happening all around the globe. These events that happened helped me to reflect upon my personal experiences and personal encounters with my God. These experiences and encounters helps me to ask myself who am I and why am I still alive today despite of many problems, issues and disputes that I faced in life? Over all the situation of Covid -19 and Russian attacks on Ukrainians helps me to look beyond the suffering of the humanity and the whole creation of God and Holy Friday is the day in which helps me look at the cross not as a suffering tree, but as the tree of life a victorious tree. On the 25th Friday of April the sun broke out with a dal and dim sunlight in the morning. Though the morning was dim and dal it was brighten with Catholic Theological Institute (CTI) community



starting the day with the Stations of the Cross. It was a touching moment since the CTI Street is now again crowded after covid-19 was broke out in 2020. The Marienville Secondary School was combine with the surrounding neighbours together with the Brothers, Seminarians, lectures, formators and priests gathered to meditate on the passion and death of our Lord Jesus Christ. Seeing people praying and singing the Lenten songs makes me reflected on my personal journey of life especially my vocation journey since I first entered the seminary in 2016. Nevertheless, when faithful's came up to station seven something out of curiosity came out of my mind. I said to myself that's where I am now. That's is, station seven is the second falling of my Redeemer and now this is my seventh year also studying in the seminary studying to peruse priesthood. Though I have many falls and failures in my life, but yet God continue to raise me up and give me strength to continue my journey in life.





Furthermore, the readings during the veneration of cross challenges me to look deep into my life. The image of the denial of Peter helps me to examine myself and look deep into my vocation. As a seminarian aspiring to become a priest, Peter’s denial helps me to ask myself; Am I ready to serve Christ in the face of difficulties and trails? Am I ready to give myself totally to God by following Christ footsteps? Am I ready to abandon myself for the sake of the Good News? Am I ready to tell God, “not my will but let your will be done.” By asking these kind of questions, helps me to see my vocation journey in all four aspect of formation which are; human formation, spiritual formation, social formation and intellectual formation. Therefore to conclude, Good Friday helps me to reflect on my personal encounters with God. It helps me to see Cross not as a punishment and a suffering, but as a triumph victory over the worldly powers. The message of Good Friday teaches me to surrender my life to God and according to His will and be obedient to His calling as Christ Himself. Hence, despite my struggles and failure I mast not give up and give in to the temptations. I must be strong and use my failures and struggles as a stepping stone to preserver in journey of life.

Celebration of the Lords Passion . . .



JACK KESKALA

THE PASCHAL MYSTERY A LIGHT OF ETERNAL LIFE

When the Easter Vigil approached on Holy Saturday, some of us brothers accompanied with our Holy Spirit Seminary Spiritual Director, Fr. Amith CM to celebrate Easter Virgil at St. Francis of Assisi chapel at 9-mile in the *Holy name of Jesus Parish*, Bomana, Port Moresby. We left Seminary at 6:p.m drove toward the chapel with joyful hearts, since we have been hoped to celebrate our



Christ's Paschal Mystery. Upon arrival, faithful were already prepared and waited for the priest. Since then, one of the seminarians was started to introduce how we would start the Mass from outside by lighting-up the bond-fire and procession into the Church. However, it had happened that the PNG power was black-out and the place was dark and that remained us of the darkness of sin covered the universe before Christ conquered sin of darkness to bring us light of life into the world.

After moment, Fr. Amith CM started the Vigil Mass as he prayed and blessed the bond-fire which symbolised the Christ's glorious Resurrection. And then, he lighted-up the Easter Candle and pinned five pins into it. The Easter Candle is not representing or symbolising Jesus but it is Jesus Christ Himself undergone passion, death and resurrection brought eternal light into the world. The five pins pinned into the Easter Candle symbolised five wounds of our redeeming Lord. Thus, Fr. Amith CM lifted up the Easter Candle and in loud voice sang three times, "*The Light of Christ!*" and in respond we sang respectively "*Thanks Be to God!*" first from the bond-fire and second sang while procession toward the entrance into the Church and the third one was from the altar. There the Easter Vigil continued to the seven scripture readings from the Old Testament. After these readings, the music triumphed together with the Easter Bell rang as the song of Gloria started to sing, "*Gloria to God in the Highest,*" the darkness was disappeared the bright light shined to all corners of the Church, as everyone was amazingly smiled at one another, for we are united into one family of risen Christ. It was a feast of joy, love and reconciliation, peace and unity. St. Francis of Assisi chapel symbolised this unity when seeing faithful from different parts of PNG gathered together to celebrate the Mystery of Christ's





passion, death and resurrection. The Easter Bell kept on ringing signalled to all people that Christ has truly risen to life, therefore, passed the good news of Christ's resurrection to the families, streets, markets and roads and tell everyone that Christ has truly risen, the song of Gloria continued.

Then, Fr. Amith CM proceeded with the Gospel after hearing the first reading from St. Paul's letter to the Romans, as the Gospel was taken from St. Luke narrated Mary of Magdalen together with some

women went to the tomb in the early morning of first day of the week. In the homily, Fr. Amith CM shared "Mary Magdalena's love for Jesus was stronger than the weight of a huge stone, which was closed the tomb of Jesus." She did not mind how she would remove the huge stone. In physical sense, woman is weak to remove such huge stone. However, Mary's spiritual love for Jesus was stronger than the weight of the huge stone. Mary Magdalen loved Jesus much more than the huge stone lay on the tomb of Jesus. This is a lesson for us to reflect, how much we love Jesus in times of our earthly trials and temptations stopping us from having relationship with Jesus. Then, Fr. Amit continued to lead us to the renewal of our baptism. We recalled our moment of baptism when he asked; *"Do you reject Satan? Yes I do. Do you reject all empty promises of Satan? Yes I do! Do you believe in one true God? Yes I do!"*



After that, the celebration continued to the liturgy of Eucharist. The Body and Blood of our risen Lord nourished us in His feast of resurrection after He had spoken to us in His divine word. We



were nourished and renewed us to newness of life from our past failures and sinfulness. Father remarked as celebration of the feast of resurrection came to an end, "we are nourished and renewed from our former ways to newness of life in Christ Jesus". The good news of the eternal light of our Lord's glorious resurrection is penetrated in our inmost hearts; may we share the Easter Light with our families and communities in where we go.

Amazing celebration of Christ's resurrection concluded with the special solemn blessing.

This is a moment that Christ brought light of eternal life into the world from darkness of sin and death. Christ rose from the dead to lift up all mankind into one with God. The paschal mystery has annihilated the power of Satan and established an eternal covenant between God and mankind. This wonderful work of paschal mystery has established the whole sacrament of the Holy Catholic Church for the mankind to unite with God.



Thus, there is no difference between our entering into the sacrament of baptism and Christ's burial and resurrection from the grave. Christ went down into the tomb and rose from it into the glory of heaven. Our baptism to live in the Christian life is a sign of dying and rising with Christ to new life. It is a grateful moment that we can only imagine which unlike every ordinary event in our life. The sacrament of baptism has sanctified and cleansed us from our original sin and united us with God. We

Christians went down into the sacrament of baptism and rose into new life which is Christ's life. We can always recall that it is the great and consoling joy of our life as Christians. It was the moment that we entered into the light of God to be a member of the Christ's body, the Church. Now we are the adopted sons and daughters of God and take part in the Body and Blood of Christ at the celebration of the Eucharist, after being restored from our failures and mistakes through the sacrament of reconciliation.

Moreover, we are Christians called to be the witnesses of Christ's resurrection to bring light of life into the world. We as Christians try to imitate Christ's life by our actions and words may shine the Gospel of Christ in our everyday life. Jesus Christ our Redeemer and Saver who entered terrible death and glorious resurrection brought us healing and light of eternal life may always shine in our actions, words and deeds.

BY: SIMON YOUNGOPAE, CSMA,

THEOLOGY I.





BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION OF APRIL AND MAY





***HOMAGE PAID TO FR. RECTOR
FOR HIS 31ST ANNIVERSARY OF
ORDINATION***



**INVESTITURE OF THREE SEMINARIANS FROM THE DIOCESE OF KEVIENG
9TH APRIL, PRECEDED BY ARCHBISHOP ROCHUS JOSEPH TATAMAI,
ARCHBISHOP OF RABAU**



BY.

SAMUEL NOGLAI

RAPHAEL GOBI

FR. JOSEPH EMMANUEL AMITH C.M

- **THIRD YEAR THEOLOGY**
- **SECOND YEAR THEOLOGY**
- **SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR**