



Voice of Hope

FROM HOLY SPIRIT SEMINARY,

BOMANA, PORT MORESBY, PNG.

1ST YEAR

JUNE - JULY 2022

No 4



LOVE IS INVENTIVE TO INFINITY — ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Make Rome Your Home ~ Cardinal John Ribat



Journey through Faith

We departed PNG on the 4th of July, 2022 and arrived in Rome on the 6th of July, 2022. It took us 32 hours to travel and the journey was awesome and enjoyable because we had a bit of glimpse of Changi International Airport in Singapore and Hamad International Airport in Doha while waiting from our flights. We enjoyed our Flight with Qatar Airlines because of their outstanding service. When we arrived in Fiumicino International Airport, in Rome, we were fetched by the Vice-Rector Fr. Joby KUNNATHETTU from India. The distance from Fiumicino Airport to Pontifical College Urban is 28km which is 54mins drive. We were greeted upon arrival in the

college by the Rector Fr. Armando NUGNES and made our way straight to our rooms to leave our belongings and then we went from supper. After dinner we retired to rest.

The following day, we begin Italian language course straight away. The course was very challenging but we know that we can manage it because our brothers like Rev: Deacon Connie MOMORAMBI, Late: Fredrick SEBIE and Thomas POSUL were able to learn the language and spoke it. When we saw that, it gave us the hope that we can do it because our brothers have done it. All we need is to put more effort and time in learning the language. After a month and a week we can now understand a bit of Italian when our formators speak to us. All we need is commitment in our studies with patience and perseverance.

Thank you very much, for reading our article and God bless you all!

Grazie mille per aver letto il nostro articolo e Dio vi benedica tutti! (Italian)



Seminarian: OPEAE Philip
Pontifical College Urban, Rome.



Dear my brothers and sister;

I am Seminarian Sojo Sotero Hubert from Daru-Kiunga Diocese and currently I am doing second year Theology in the Catholic Theological Institute, Bomana. It gives me much pleasure and a great opportunity to share some of the experiences as the outgoing Secretary of the Holy Spirit Seminary.

When I first entered the Holy Spirit Seminary in the beginning of this Year, I was elected as a Secretary. At first, I was a bit nervous and lacked confidence to express myself to the brothers. I doubted myself because the atmosphere here in Holy Spirit Seminary seemed new to me. At the same time, I did not know most of the brothers who came from the other Dioceses of Papua New Guinea. But through the help of the Holy Spirit, I was able to mingle with the brothers and openly exchanged things with them.

It was my great experience when I took up the position as a secretary then I became one SRC executive of Holy Spirit Seminary. It was quite a difficult task as I could imagine but things went well with me. It was a challenging task because during the Seminary Council Meetings, I had to listen attentively and note every detail of the agendas discussed which was later presented to the formators for their feedbacks. Besides, I did some of the necessary things in the Seminary as the usual work of Secretary which I felt that it was too much for me to handle.

However, the secretary job is one of the excellent responsibilities that I could recommend my successor to carry on. It has helped me to be a good listener, identify and address the issues confidently, and also enriched my vocation. In other words, at least it helped me to develop very constructive essays and other academic writings. All in all, I have learnt many good things during my tenure as the secretary of Holy Spirit Seminary.

Finally, I would like to thank the brothers who have entrusted me with such leadership for the past few months making sure that all the issues and concerns have been addressed mutually to satisfy both parties. On the same note, your words of encouragement and challenges helped me a lot to value my leadership role as secretary. Besides, I would like to thank our newly elected SRC executives for taking up the post especially the new Secretary. I hope it would be a great experience for you to lead us through these remaining months. God bless you all. This is what I stand for *“Always discover and experience new things in life, whether it is too hard to handle, just break the brick and discover what is on the other side!”*



SOJO SOTERO HUBERT
(The outgoing Secretary-HSS)



How Music does help me in my Vocation?

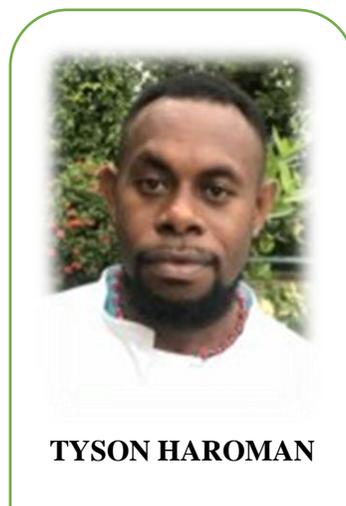
Music is an arrangement of sounds produced by instrument that produce an effect. It is an art of arrangement or making of sounds. These sounds that produced by music give many effects that one may be inspired. In other words it gives inspiration to a person by making him or her being part of the rhythm that is played and the song that is sung.

What makes me inspired when involving in music, is the accompaniment of lyrics that is written and sung. The lyrics that is sung when it involves the contribution of instruments enlightens my desire to keep on listening to that particular music and the lyrics. The sound that is produced by the instruments gives more meaning to the lyrics that is sung. This is because when a particular music is heard a person not only listens to the type of lyrics that is sung but he or she makes judgment on the sounds that is produced by music, and it gives him or her enlightenment when he or she listens.

Music also gives information to a person especially in the type of lyrics written or on how meaningfully the inspirational words are written. I as a seminarian view that the music is one of key components of formation that helps me to realize who I am in my formation and in my vocation. Music in liturgy has a great taste of time and talents that enrich my vocation to priesthood. This is because the lyrics and words are written somewhat gives light and transformation when it is sung prayerfully and meditatively. The music in the liturgy and the words written are composed to elevate the heavenly liturgy with the participatory actions of priests, people, saints and angels during the Eucharistic Celebration.

When I join the choir during the liturgy then only I am reminded of prayers as St. Augustine expresses in one of his famous quotes, “A prayer is equivalent to two hymns”. It is not only me but others will experience the similar sentiments during the liturgy. Just imagine a liturgy without the music then it looks as if there were not beautiful flowers in the entire planet. This type of participation helps me to realize my vocation not only being part of the seminary but it also enables me to look seriously into the depth of a special call to priesthood.

The music has inspired me when I contemplate on the message it conveys through the written lyrics. It can only become just an ordinary sound without lyrics but we have a huge task to add different flavours so that it can produce a good taste of melody. This eventually attracts me to listen to the lyrics that are liturgical hymns because both message and the type of music informs me of God and the heavenly liturgy. When I am putting myself in words sung in the liturgical music sometimes it speaks about my life and this leads me into discovering how God calls me in a unique life in the seminary. Therefore, music is the arrangement of sounds that produced effects. These effects can be heard, listened and affected person desirably. In liturgy, the music is transforming one’s life because the lyrics and the words written and the type of sound given speaks volumes and brings inspirations to individuals in different ways.



Catholic Theological Institute Day

The CTI Day was celebrated with the solemn liturgy and the display of the unique diversity of cultural dances and lyrics. The Institution is run under the banner of the Catholic Bishops Conferences of Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands. This occasion annually falls on the first of July. The celebration involved four Regions of Papua New Guinea, namely; the Highlands Region, Southern Region, Momasa Region, and New Guinea Islands Region. These four regional groups displayed their cultures in various performances such as dancing, singing, and in different styles that reflected their cultural identities. It was very encouraging to witness the Seminarians

share their cultures and to understand each other by integrating the Gospel values according to the cultural context of the people we represent.



On the 1st of July, 2022 we started the program with the Holy Mass. His Lordship Bishop Paul Sundu of Kundiawa Diocese was the main celebrant. This followed by the Singai Lecture that Father Dr. Clement, the Rector of Good Shepherd Seminary was the keynote speaker who highlighted some key socio-economic issues that had been identified in his doctoral thesis. The chain of event colorfully continued with the cultural exposition which drew massive crowds from far and wide who really enjoyed watching our brothers from different Regions displayed their cultural attires with much energy and pride.

It was a wonderful experience for me to be part of the occasion. Some insights that inspired me during celebration were; a Melanesian identity, unity diversity, promotion of vocation through various cultures for the Local Church and taking pride of various cultures that we represent.



The Melanesians are uniquely adorned by our own Cultures. Different societies have their unique cultural practices but what makes us a unique is the sense of unity, sharing, and relate to one another. These are the few attributes that brought us together to make the day a significant and celebratory.



The next key aspect is the *Cultural Unity*. As it has been already mentioned that some of the common values are the spirit of fraternity, cultural diversity and the International communities those are coexisting in the Catholic Theological Institute. Both the laity and religious communities added much admiration to the celebratory event. No one was left without food and drink during the celebration. The benefactors, parents, family members and the entire participants were well fed with the variety of food and beverages. Most of them made good comments about our celebration and satisfactorily it was well commended that we should continue that in the years ahead.

Fundamentally, the occasion also reflected our identity that is our cultural heritage and the people we represent. Therefore, I should commend our magnificent cultural attires provided the glimpse of our National Unity in diversity of more than 800 languages plus 1000 tribes, ethnicities, customs. Finally, the CTI symbolizes the body of Christ that we can all work together to evangelize and catechize our Christian communities throughout Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands. The expatriate missionaries have done so much which we should appreciate them by continuing the work of Christ on the Earth. Except few of them are still working among of local clergy and religious but some have decided to buried on our soils . Not long we will not see them around. Therefore it's our time to carry on what the Early Missionaries have done for our people. All in all, CTI Celebration day brings joy, peace, unity among all the cultures and most importantly it helped us to tolerate and appreciate each other in more mature way.



Holiday Experience and My Vocation

I am Kawagle Douglas, the diocesan seminarian of Kundiawa Diocese. It was my first holiday experience since the last seven years in seminary program that I really enjoyed myself. I had experienced and learnt many things that motivated my vocation to priesthood but I would like to share only two specific experiences.



First of all, the people paid respect and were so eager to accommodate the seminarians in their homes by providing the warmth and best hospitality. I was with the family of Angelo who is the President of Legion of Mary. The family protected me from the drunkards and any other unwanted social activities because they knew that I was a seminarian who was assigned to their care. They made me feel welcomed at home to spend my holiday with them.

I was surprised to learn that they had taken care of my Bishop Paul Sundu when he was on holiday during his seminary days. They told me that, “Bishop Paul Sundu was a role mode of seminarian and we knew that he would make it to priesthood.” They also said that they were proud of him and in need of such priest in our parish.

Having said that, I came to learnt that the people really wanted to support their priest especially one who dedicated fully dedicated to his pastoral work in the parish. They have that much zeal to look after the seminarians who will later become priests to serve the people of God.

However, I also faced one of the pastoral challenges and that was the relationship between the Parish Priest and the Christian community that was entrusted to him. They were not in good terms like the priest isolated himself completely from the people. That experience I believe is worth sharing which can help all of us in our pastoral approach.

The parish priest of that particular parish has neglected and abandoned his people completely. The people recognized him as their enemy because he suspended all the lay church leaders especially Parish Pastoral Councils (PPC) because they must have questioned on the use money (parish donation) from the parliamentarian for improvement of the parish but he would say, “I am the boss.”

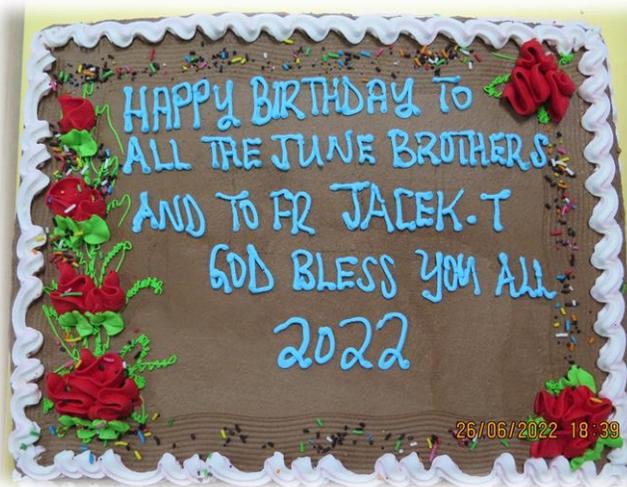
They also considered him as unfaithful and too stubborn in his pastoral duties. The parish priest is nicknamed “*Mangi Moresby*” because he appears in the parish only during the weekends and the week days he always busy in Moresby and it is not clear to the people why he does that suspiciously. He goes back to that parish only on Saturday evening and soon after the Sunday’s Mass, he returns to out for business again. The first Sunday of the holiday week, we celebrated *Bible-Lotu* because there were no blessed hosts left in the tabernacle.

It is always quite unhealthy to talk about priest’s behavior but it is important for us the future priests to learn from the current pastoral situation so that we can develop what is good and avoid negative. The Christian community has challenged me to be aware of the real pastoral situation

when I become a priest in the future. They shared that experience so that I should share this with the fellow seminarians.

In spite of that I really enjoyed more fun and food with the family who made sure that I would have a memorable experience from their parish. The holiday spent was wonderful and I would very much love to return to the same parish community if I am given another weeks of holiday. The people were eager to accommodate seminarians and taking good care of them because they need priest as they were crying for a good priest who is pastorally-oriented to administer the sacraments.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION - JUNE





My Work as Sacristan

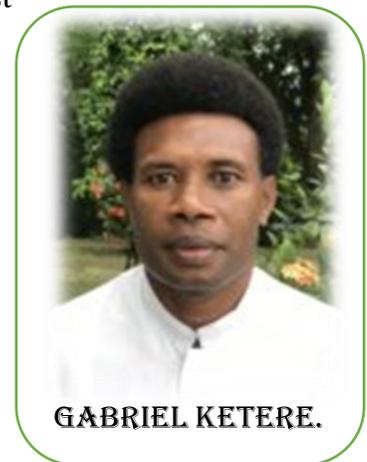
As part of the formation to priesthood, the Holy Spirit Seminary encourages the seminarians to develop leadership for the future various pastoral activities. In doing so, the Seminary assigns us to different areas of responsibilities at least for the first six months. Some areas are small that only requires one or two people to be put in-charge while some are areas of responsibility is big that needs more than four seminarians to look after. And one of them is a Sacristan.

Being a Sacristan is like a mother in the kitchen who is preparing meals for the entire family. How she prepares meals is similar to what I perform as a Sacristan in preparing for the Eucharistic Celebration. Mother makes sure that the family must have something on the table. She does it regularly in the morning and in the evening. Not only that, but also that what she prepares can satisfy everybody. And she does it with great commitment and zeal. Just for the family to have something on the table. I carry out my duty in the Sacristy in a similar manner. If I do not perform my duty properly then surely there will not be a proper Eucharistic Celebration. Just like a mother, I would prepare something to ensure that the family has the food served every meal that illustration connects well with the seminary community who heavily rely on my chapel service as the chief sacristan. For instance, if I do not prepare the Chapel, altar, credence table and other necessary sacred objects or items pertaining to my duty, then that can lead to unnecessary stress or it can cause disturbances, inconveniences during the Holy Mass.

So I personally feel responsible for the humble service it may look but a noble duty as a sacristan. It is of paramount importance that taking care of sacristy and its organization is a great reverence. Additionally, I make sure that the Chapel is cleaned, both inside and outside that includes the preparation of the altar and the credence table for the Mass. I value that as a great privilege by cleaning the Chapel, especially at the sanctuary where God is ever present. Frequently, when I visit the Chapel for duty or devotion then I find it as the source of my strength. Most importantly, Christ is ever present in the tabernacle which I am drawn closer to Him who nourishes my soul with His own body and blood. Therefore, I should encourage brother seminarians to acknowledge the presence of Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacraments who knows our personal needs and worries before we reveal them in secrets or publicly.

Furthermore, it helps me to develop a great zeal and enthusiasm to foster whatever responsibility assigned to me before we look into other huge areas of pastoral responsibility. It requires a lot of sacrifice, time, commitment, dedication and patience, especially, when it comes to the solemn feasts like Easter and other Solemnities. It helps me to develop the habit of waking up in the early morning before everybody else to follow up with the chapel preparations. Sometimes I am so tired and placed at the point of giving up, but then who else will perform if I ignore my assigned duty.

Furthermore, it helps me to see the relationship between my work and Christ himself in the Eucharist. There is a great connection between both. Christ sacrificing himself to save humanity, and the sacrifice of my time as a Sacristan, in preparing the Chapel, altar and the credence table for this great miracle or sacrifice to happen to humanity. My work is of paramount importance, especially preparation of bread and wine, the very species which God uses to come physically into our bodies. Finally, it is a formation of the heart to be pastorally active in order to persist so that our zeal for priesthood becomes more meaningful to the people we will be entrusted to serve. It gives me much joy to ennoble the grace of God I receive each day through my encounter with Jesus in the chapel can enlighten my spiritual growth and maturity so that my humble service can inspire others to appreciate whatever responsibility is offered to them.



GABRIEL KETERE.

I thank Bro. Samuel Noglai and Bro. Raphael Gobi, who dedicate their time and efforts taken in the first semester and made the "VOICE OF HOPE" The New Bulletin, to be a successful one. May God bless them...

-Fr. Amith CM

Celebration of Blessed Peter Torot



Holiday in Waima Village

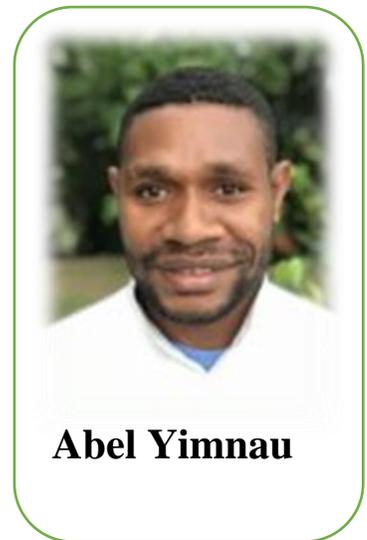
It was a wonderful experience for me during the first semester break at Waima Parish in Catholic Bereina Diocese. Before I left Holy Spirit Seminary I had asked some of the brothers who were going to travel with me had gone there before. But their responses were simply, No! At that moment a fear crept into my mind to decide whether I should stay back or follow the brothers. Since, we were all new Waima village that we all agree to take up the challenges that may come our way. We hope that we would reach that place so it happened that through God's protection and guidance, we finally reached our destination.

As soon as we arrived there, people were very welcoming and so hospitable that we experienced that love of Christ through their gestures. They welcomed us with great enthusiasm and brought

us to their respective homes. They just made us feel at home by providing all the necessities that they could offer within their capacities. The next morning after the brief orientation, we were scheduled to roam freely to various places like schools, mission station, and other sites as well. For me, I had an opportunity to visit St. Michael's Primary School and taught some basic Catechism and also Vocation talks. What I saw was like many of the young men and women had completed grades 8, 10 and some even grade 12 who might to be inspired to discern either religious or priesthood vocations. It was sad situation that most of these youths just lived in the village aimlessly who needed both moral and spiritual supports. So I thought it was a need for them to have some people to motivate them to make some good choices in life.

Although, many face all kinds of challenges in life but there was a beacon of hope so that they felt inspired with our presence among them. Furthermore, I as a seminarian am obliged to talk to the different people in different cultures just as I would do to my people at home.

Hence, what impresses me is that tireless work of the Early Missionaries who evangelized the native people to become the true Disciples of Christ. As a result, most of them are Catholics who witness others in their devotional prayers, sacraments and liturgical celebrations. What also surprises me is that they recite the prayers and hymns in own mother tongue. This is what the Holy Mother Church encourages us in the light of 'inculturation' of Gospel with the existing culture to understand the Paschal Mystery of Christ. It is very encouraging to witness them good deeds they practice daily and also challenges my pastoral life. The community prayers and other social activities bring them together to maintain their relationships. At the same time I learn some positive aspects of their culture in regard to the faith and moral principles. Above all, I would like to thank the Most Holy Trinity for their guidance and protection and also my Formators for having given me this opportunity to go and spend my holiday with new friends and family members. After two weeks of pastoral encounters with the people of Waima Village we finally returned to resume term two academic formation.



The First Anniversary of the Episcopal Consecration of Bishop Paul Sundu

*On 03rd July 2022, on the feast day of St. Thomas Apostle, we the formators and the seminarians of the Holy Spirit Seminary and the Laity, had the blessing to have **The Most Reverend Bishop Paul Sundu** to celebrate his **first Episcopal anniversary** with us, where he preceded the Holy Eucharist, prayed and blessed every one of us, it was really a great day for every one of us...*



Done by-

Bro. Matthew Timbalu – TH2 (Archdiocese of Port Moresby)

Bro. Peter Koit – PH1 (Congregation of the Mission)

Fr. Joseph Emmanuvel Amith C.M.