

NOTICES

Retirement



Catechist Paul Bichin retired on 31st December 2003.

A Prayer of Praise And Thanksgiving

For New Life

Eternal God, whose greatness and majesty are beyond the reach of our highest thoughts, and yet who art within the heart of each one of us, we lift our voices in praise and adoration to thee. No interest of our lives escapes thy notice. No joy is foreign to thy understanding. No thought or motive is unknown to thee. Our lives stand before thee as open books. So, today we lay bare our hearts and minds asking that thou wilt cleanse them with thy goodness.

Into thy presence we come, conscious of our sins and shortcomings. So much have we done which we ought not to have done, and so much have we left undone that we ought to have done, that there is little health in us. But we come not as those who have no hope, nor as those who can only drown in their sins, for in thee do we find new life and forgiveness, new chances and beginnings. Take us as we are and transform us, we pray, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

By Dr. Wallace Fridy
(Everyday Prayer : 1956)

NOTICE

The next issue of the Diocesan News is due end of December 2004. Please send in your reports and photographs to:

**THE EDITOR,
DIOCESAN NEWS,
DIOCESAN REGISTRY,
P. O. BOX 347, 93704 KUCHING,
SARAWAK, MALAYSIA.**

Closing date: 20th November, 2004

Quiz 17

Answers: All quotations are from NIV (unless otherwise mentioned)

No	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Ans.	D	C	A	E	B	C	B	D	C	A	E	B	E	D	A
Ref	2 S a m 1 5 : 5: 6 - 9	E x 2: 1 5 : 8 2 3- 2 8	Ju d g 8 2 3- 2 8	2 S a m 1 5 : 1 1 : 1 5	K i n g 1 1 : 7 - 8	C o s 5 : 8	A m o s 5 : 8	P r o 1 5 : 2 9	P r o 1 6 : 2 4	P r o 1 8 : 2 2	2 T i m o 2 : 1 6	1 P e t 3 : 1 7		X 9 : Y 7 2 & 1 2 7	J o h n 4 : 2 6

STOP PRESS

1. The OneVoice fest, a prayer movement organised by ADYC, was held on 21-23 August 2004 in Sibul.
2. St. Helen's Church, Serian was consecrated on 22nd August 2004.
3. The Diocesan Annual Retreat, conducted by The Revd. Dr. Wilfred John Samuel was held from 7th to 11th September, in Kuching.

More details in the next Quarter. Ed.

Ordination

Mr. Kho Thong Meng was ordained Deacon on 4th July 2004 at St. Thomas's Cathedral, Kuching.

He obtained his Master of Divinity in May 2004 from Trinity Theological College, Singapore and was posted to the Cathedral Parish effective from 5th June, 2004. Previously, he was an architect, holding BA in Architectural Studies from Singapore and B. Arch from Australia. He is married to Ms. Chen Chin Chin and blessed with one son, aged five.

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Sarawak & Brunei Diocesan News

Message *from the Bishop*

Dear Friends,

Greetings of Peace to you.

I begin this message with the greetings of peace. At the beginning of the ministry of sacrament at the Liturgy we exchange the "kiss of peace". The celebrant introduces the "kiss of peace" with the words: "Christ is our peace. He has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross. We meet in his name and share his peace". Then he says: "The peace of the Lord be always with you" and the people reply "And also with you". He then says: "Let us offer one another a sign of peace", and we all exchange a sign of peace.

The "kiss of peace" is a sign of our love and unity with each other and in Christ. Done in the right spirit, it has a deep spiritual meaning. On the evening of that great Sunday, the day of His resurrection from the dead, our Lord greeted His disciples in the Upper Room with the words: "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, I am sending you" (John 20:21). St. Paul greeted the readers of his letters with the words "Grace and peace".

The practice of "kiss of peace" at the Eucharistic Liturgy was first mentioned by St. Justin Martyr, who lived during the period AD100 - 165 (approx.), in his book 'The Apologies for the Christians'. It is very probable that "kiss of peace" at the Eucharistic Liturgy was practised during the Apostolic period itself because, we read, for example, "Greet one another with a holy kiss" (Romans 16:16) and "Peace to all of you who are in Christ" (1 Peter 5:14).

The practice of the "kiss of peace" is done differently in different cultures. Here in our Diocese we practise the simple, shaking of hands. During the Eucharistic Liturgy, the celebrant "kisses" the deacon, then the deacon the sub-deacon and then the sub-deacon delivers the "kiss" to the Clergy and others in the choir and the rest of the congregation. The use of the "kiss of peace" was at one time confined to the High Mass; but nowadays the liturgy has been designed in such a way as to allow the "kiss of peace" to be done during any celebration of the Eucharist.

When Paul wrote "Greet one another with a holy kiss", he meant much more than merely the formal exchanging of

the "kiss of peace". It was meant to show love, support and prayers especially in those difficult days in the early Church. And I often wonder myself whether or not we really mean it when we say to each other "The peace of the Lord be with you". We note that it takes place after the prayer of the humble access, and in some Liturgy, after the confession. In other words, the "kiss of peace" comes at the time when we are about to enter into the most sacred moment of the Eucharistic Liturgy - the consecration of the bread and the wine. It symbolises the coming together of the members of the body of Christ, joining in the communion, putting aside our differences and be reconciled with one another.

If all of us take the act of the "kiss of peace" seriously, it can mean much more than mere actions of shaking hands. When Peter wrote "Peace to all of you who are in Christ", he meant that all should experience the "peace of God which passes understanding which keep our hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God" - (the words of the blessing at Mass).

We should all be at peace with one another because we are members of the Body of Christ, the Church. We are to love one another as Christ has loved us, and should work for the common good. In the words of St. Paul: "Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people especially to those who belong to the family of believers" (Galatians 6:10).

Let us then remember that the next time we deliver the "kiss of peace" to the other person during the Eucharistic Liturgy, we should do it with sincerity, wishing nothing but real peace for the other person.

With every good wish.

Yours sincerely,

+ Made Katib

Rt. Revd. Datuk Made Katib

* All Scripture quotations are from the NIV Bible

Diocesan Women's Fellowship Board

The Women's Fellowship celebrates Patronal Day

The first Sunday in July has been designated by the Diocese as the Diocesan Women's Fellowship (DWF) Day. It is celebrated by the Women's Fellowship to commemorate the visit of their Patron Saint Mary to her cousin Elizabeth.

Kuching: The celebration of the Day was hosted by the WF of St. James's, Quop on 3rd July 2004. The church was packed with women from many churches and chapels for the special Service at which Bishop Bolly Lapok delivered a sermon. The DWF's President, Ms. Mitty Chai also addressed the women. After the service, the participants enjoyed fellowship over dinner and presentations.

Engkilili: The WF of St. Michael's, Engkilili celebrated the Day on 11th July 2004 with a church Service at 8.30am followed by a fund-raising lunch in the Parish Hall. The Patron of the lunch was YB Jawah Gerang. The DWF's executive committee members and WF members of Engkilili, Lubok Antu, Debak and Betong were present.

Sibu: The WF of St. John's Sibu celebrated the Day with a fund-raising dinner on 31st July 2004. Apart from having fellowship, the dinner was aimed at raising funds for the forthcoming 15th Biennial DWF Assembly in 2005, which Sibu will be hosting. Bishop Made and the DWF's executive committee members were also present. WF members from Seria, Lutong, Miri, Bintulu, Betong, Debak and Kuching also came to support the function.

Lubok Antu: The WF of St. Philip's, Lubok Antu celebrated the Day on 7th August 2004 with a fund-raising lunch at the mini stadium, Lubok Antu. YB Dublin Unting was the Patron for the function. Also present were the DWF's executive committee members. The lunch was also to raise funds for church activities. At the function, Canon Chimbie



WF members from Miri presenting an item at the dinner in Sibu.



YB Jawah Gerang cutting the cake at the dinner in Engkilili.

Bunsi who spoke on behalf of Bishop Bolly Lapok, stressed the importance of the Women's Ministry. The DWF's President also addressed the congregation, which included those from as far as Saratok, Debak, Betong, Engkilili, Sri Aman, Batu Lintang Undop, Melugu, Bayai and Sabu. †

Reported by: Ms. Mitty Chai
President



The DWF's Day Service at St. James's Church, Quop.

QUIZ NO. 17

KNOW YOUR BIBLE:

TEST YOURSELF and LEARN

As we read in the early books of OT, Israelites had to deal with many different tribes. Even after they were led into and given the promised land, the conquest of the land was not complete, in the sense the people originally living there, the local tribes, were not all expelled. (Judges 3: 1-7). Here are five questions regarding their contact with such tribes.

Answer Qns 1,2,3,4 &5 by choosing from A,B,C,D & E which follow:

- Qn1 What tribe occupied the site of Jerusalem before the Israelites took over?
 Qn 2 What tribe did Moses live among when he fled Egypt for the first time?
 Qn 3 What tribe was known for wearing gold earrings?
 Qn 4 To which tribe did Uriah belong? (Uriah was Bathsheba's husband, whom David sent to death to cover his adultery with her.)
 Qn 5 Name of the tribe for whose detestable god Molech, Solomon built a place of worship on a hill east of Jerusalem.
 A Ishmaelites ; B Ammonites ;
 C Midianites ; D Jebusites ; E Hittites

During the OT times the first day of each month was considered a holy day for Israelites and marked by special sacrifices (Num 28:11-15). It was to be announced with the blowing of trumpets (Num 10:10; Ps 81:3). The new moon followed by the appearance of the crescent moon, marked the beginning of the month for them (Isa 47:13).

- Qn 6 However the expression new moon appears only once in the NT. In which Book in NT do we read the expression New Moon?
 A Mathew B Luke C Colossians
 D 1 James E Revelations
- Qn 7 The Book of Job mentions constellations by their names: He is the Maker of the Bear and Orion the Pleiades and the constellations of the south. (Job 9:9; also Job 38: 31,32)
 In how many other Books of the Bible are the constellations named?
 A 0 B 1 C 2 D 3 E 5

In Qns 8,9,10, 11 &12 complete the verses by selecting

from A,B,C,D & E below:

- Qn 8 : The LORD is far from the wicked (.....)
 Qn 9 : (.....) and healing to the bones.
 Qn 10 : (.....) but delights in airing his own opinions.
 Qn 11: (.....) who indulge in it will become more and more ungodly.
 Qn 12: It is better, if it is God's will, to suffer (.....)
 A: A fool finds no pleasure in understanding
 B: for doing good than for doing evil.
 C: Pleasant words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul
 D: but he hears the prayer of the righteous.
 E: Avoid godless chatter, because those
- Qn 13 Psalm 150 starts and ends with the word Hallelujah (meaning: praise the Lord), the Hebrew word used to express joy, praise, and thanksgiving. In the Psalms where the word is used it usually appears at the beginning or end of the Psalm. Probably, the word was a standardized call to worship in the Temple.
 Who was the author of Psalm 150?
 A David B Solomon C Asaph
 D Ethan E author not known
- Qn 14: Of the 150 Psalms, 73 (or may be 75) were written by David; the authors of about 51 are not known.
 The number of psalms credited to Moses (X) and Solomon (Y) are:
 A (0,1) B (0,2) C (2,1),
 D (1,2), E (none of the above)
- Qn 15 Then Jesus declared, "I who speak to you am he." The listener - you in the above verse- is the first person to whom our Lord himself revealed that he was the Messiah, the anointed one, for whom the world was eagerly waiting. Who was that you?
 A The Samaritan Woman ;
 B Abigail ;
 C Mary Magdalene;
 D Martha;
 E The woman caught in the act of adultery and brought to Jesus in the temple.

(For the answers, please see page 16)

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;
 in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.
 Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and shun evil.
 This will bring health to your body and nourishment to your bones. Prov 3:5-8

OBITUARY

Catechist Benjamin Saden

Catechist Benjamin Saden, passed away peacefully on the 10th June 2004, at the age of 71, at his residence in Kampong Duras, Kuching.

In the late 50s, he was among those selected to join a big group of people to teach in the Anglican Mission Schools in the State. Like many of his colleagues, however, his teaching status was temporary and so terminated after a time. He had to return to his village to work as a labourer at the Agriculture Dept. in Semenggok.

Benjamin, son of late Catechist Saden, having shown his devotion to the work of the church was licensed by Bishop Nicholas Allenby on the 22nd October 1965 to assist at St Alban's Church, Duras as a Lay Reader. Sunday after Sunday, he was in the church. In 1972, he was accepted for training at the House of the Epiphany under Bishop Peter Howes. On completion of the training, he was licensed on the 17th December 1972, to serve as one of the catechists in the Diocese.

Before Christmas the same year, he was posted to Tatau. His second posting was to Engkilili. Both at Tatau and Engkilili he mixed well with people, young and old. His humble knowledge of the need to blend the positive elements of the culture with his good and solid training he had under Bishop Howes made him capable of reaching out to the various long

houses, bringing the Good News of the Lord to the kampong folk. His task was mostly in the front line of evangelism, covering potential and new areas. In various areas he prepared candidates for confirmation. As a Catechist he had done much and contributed much for the good cause of the Church.



Having served 20 years, he retired in 1990 at the age of 57. He returned to Duras with his family. At Duras, even though retired, he still helped with the church work, especially at the time of the old St Alban's Church, for 11 years. He was also listed by The Bible Society of Malaysia as one of the Test-Readers of the Biatah 'Simanya Bauh'. At the new St Alban's Church, he continued to attend services for 3 years, all the time sitting among the congregation in such humility.

He was laid to rest at the Cemetery of St Alban's Church, Duras. He left behind his dear wife Caroline Sidan, seven sons, two daughters and five grandchildren.

May he rest in peace and rise in Glory. Amen. †

By Revd Gregory Chambers Saden

• from Page 13

2001, despite her failing health, she was always seen around at Church functions to give her moral support. The Clergy definitely miss her motherly presence at their annual Retreat as she laboured to serve them the meals.

The funeral service was held at the Cathedral on 26th June 2004 in the presence of a large number of people from many parts of Sarawak. In fact the Cathedral was overflowing with mourners that morning.

She is survived by her three sons Ian, Mark and John and their families.

Indeed, more than anything else, Serika Ferguson shall be remembered for her steadfastness and unrelenting attitude against the many challenges in her life.

May she rest in peace and rise in glory. †

Compiled from information supplied by Ms. Mitty Chai and articles from the Unity Magazine of the Cathedral - Ed.

Who
is wise and
understanding among you?
Let him show it by his good life,
by deeds done in the humility that
comes from wisdom. But if you harbor
bitter envy and selfish ambition in your
hearts, do not boast about it or deny the
truth. Such "wisdom" does not come down
from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, of the
devil. For where you have envy and selfish
ambition, there you find disorder and every evil
practice.

But the wisdom that comes from heaven is
first of all pure; then peace-loving,
considerate, submissive, full of mercy and
good fruit, impartial and sincere.
Peacemakers who sow in peace raise
a harvest of righteousness.
(James 3:13-18).

From the Parish of St. Columba, Miri

The Women's Fellowship

From 2 July to 4 July 2004, the Women's Fellowship of St. Columba's Church, Miri hosted a seminar for the Women's Fellowship of the Northern Archdeaconry, at the Petronas Games Village, Miri. Participants from Bintulu to Limbang including those from Bandar Seri Begawan attended.

The theme was 'Strong Apostles of Jesus' taken from Colossians 3:12 - "Therefore as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience" (NIV).

The speaker was Deaconess Datin Dulcie Abraham from St. Mary's Cathedral, Kuala Lumpur, Diocese of West Malaysia who shared on the following topics: 'Called to Apostleship; Apostleship as Experience; Who Am I - The Tree of My Life and A Strong Apostle of our Time'.

She emphasised that as women of the Diocese, they should not be afraid and feel that they are not good enough, not important enough and that the church does not seek out women as Jesus did. The message in Matthew 28:10 "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me" is also ours today. The examples set by the women in the Bible who remembered, recognised and responded to Jesus should be closely followed by all women in the Diocese today.

On 4 July 2004 at 8.45 a.m., a Dedication Service



WF members from Miri at the Seminar.

was held to mark the Diocesan WF's Patronal Day. Ms. Mitty Chai spoke during the service with regard to the roles played by the women in helping the churches throughout the Diocese. She emphasised that the respect, support and assistance rendered to the Church authorities in various ways by the members of the WFs was crucial and must continue with dedication and enthusiasm.

Amongst other activities organised were (1) on 25 July 2004, members from St. Boniface's, Mamut joined the participants at St. Columba's for the monthly food sale in aid of St. Boniface's; (2) A group of 13 members travelled to Sibu and attended the fund-raising dinner, organised by the WF there on 31 July, for the 15th Biennial Assembly to be held in May 2005. †

Reported by: Ms. Linda Julak
Secretary, Women's Fellowship, Miri

From the Parish of St. Paul, Bunuk

Confirmation Service:

The Church of St. Paul, Bunuk held the Confirmation Service on the 17th of July. Rt. Revd Datuk Made Katib conducted the Service and celebrated the Holy Communion which followed.

A total of 222 candidates were confirmed that day. The choirs of St. Augustine's Church, Mambong and St. Edmund's Chapel, Tabuan Rabak were in attendance during the auspicious occasion as the Church welcomed the newly confirmed members.

Easter Celebration

The Easter Celebration organised annually by the Hymnal Ministry Committee to share the good news of the Risen Christ was held this year at St. Gile's Chapel, Git on 25.4.2004.

The choir groups from the parishes of St. John's Tae, St. Philip's Padawan, St. James's Quop and St. Thomas's Cathedral (6.45a.m. Service) participated in the Service. The choirs from the Cathedral and St.

John's rendered a presentation each during the Service.

The Parish Choir

The Parish choir together with choirs from St. Augustine's Church, Mambong, St. Patrick's Chapel, Semadang, St. John's Chapel, Punau, St. Edmund's Chapel, Tabuan Rabak and St. Clement's Chapel, Tibayan Patung attended the Joint Choir Sunday Services at St. John's Church, Punau on 28.3.2004 and St. George's Chapel, Bawang on 20.6.2004.

The joint choir services were organised by the Hymnal Ministry Committee to enable the members to share their singing capabilities and knowledge in spreading the Good News through singing. It is held at least three times a year and the venue changes from one chapel to another within the area of jurisdiction of the Parish. The latest was at St. Gregory's Chapel, Giam on 10.9.2004. †

Reported by: Mr. Davis Herould Awell
Hon. Secretary of PCC

Gereja St. Boniface Mamut Bemoa Baru



Gambar gereja ke udah digaga baru

Gereja St. Boniface's Mamut siti ari gereja ti ditumbuh Gulih niang Bishop Howes leboh iya ke gawa ba menoa Sarawak. Ke tanda pengerindu ka gereja Tuhan lalu enggau ati ti bebendar deka ngingat ka pengawa niang Bishop Howes, nya ti ngasoh bala orang Kristian ti diau ngelinggi gereja nya semampai ngintu iya enggau manah. Laban endor gereja tu ti jaoh ari nengeri nya alai di kumbai 'Gereja Dalam Babas' ti ngasoh iya amat unik skali.

Di kena ngintu lalu ngemanah ka gereja tu, maioh tulong bisi di beri kaban ke datai Brunei enggau kaban ari parish bukai ti ba Diosis tu. Tulong ari bala kita ti datai tu amat beguna bendar, tang taja pia kami ti bempu enggau ngena gereja enggai nyadi selalu ngarap ke pemeru kita. Nya kebuah bala raban Gerempong Indu Mamut lalu berunding ngadu ka siti pengawa, dikena ngulih ke belanja ke gereja. Siti ari pengawa nya, di gaga kena ka 25/7/2004 (Hari Minggu), olih bala raban sida indu enggau di bantu/di saup ari bala Gerempong Indu St. Columba's enggau Good Shepherd Lutong bisi ngator pengawa bejual ba Gereja St. Columba, lalu betuai ke Ms. Agnes Umping Radin (Chairlady St. Boniface's Church, Mamut). Penemu tu di cadang leboh maia Baum Besai Gerempong Indu Diosis ba Miri apin lama ti udah. Utai ke bisi dijual maia nya baka sayur babas ke agi mata enggau ke udah mansau, utai ti digaga ari pengelandik jari baka timpa-raga, jejagan, chapan enggau maioh utai bukai. Pengawa tu mujor lalu amat ngemuas ka ati, laban amat ngemuas ke ati laban sida olih ngumpul mata duit penyampau RM1,752.40. Gerempong Indu Mamut meri besai trima kasih ngagai samoa ti udah bebendar gawa pia mega ti udah nulong sida enggau mata duit (donations).

Tuju bala Gerempong Indu begiga ka duit tu nya awak ke bisi dikena ngadu ka gereja St. Boniface's Mamut. Duit ke olih ari pengawa bejual nya, dikena bebeli ke ramu, cat, tiles enggau perengka bukai ti di guna. Nya alai kena 18-19 August, 2004, Tr. Baie ak. Suka enggau Mr. Radin Bundong bisi ngulu ka bala ba pengawa kereja kungsi (gotong-royong). Lebih kurang 100 iko tuboh ke datai ari Rh. Misoon, Ng Salu, sida diau ba rumah kadiri ba jalai Miri-Bintulu, tang tebal agi sida ti datai ari Rh. Baie empu bisi datai meri tulong.

Nyadi pegawa maia nya ngecat ba dalam enggau ari luar gereja lalu bala sida ke indu pen kiroh amat nyendia ke pemakai ke bala ke bisi datai. Tu ti ngasoh pengawa tu mujor bender di kereja. Padri ke diau mendam ba gereja nya Fr. Arundi pan bisi enggau ngulu ka pengawa gotong-royong nya.



Ngecat dalam gereja

Dua hari beturut bala ngechat lalu nembu ka iya tang agi maioh utai bukai deka di kereja ba gereja nya awak ka manah agi baka veranda gereja-deka di pasang dek, dinding ti ba vestry deka ditukar laban di empa sampuk, altar deka di pasang 'tile' enggau P. A. system ti baru deka dibeli mega.



Bala sida ke indu nyendia ke pemakai ka bala maioh

Fr. Arundi ti ngari ka Fr. Rentap ti nyadi 'Priest-in-Charge' meri besai trima kasih ngagai samoa orang Kristian ti udah nulong maia gotong-royong lalu besampi awak ka maioh agi orang datai nulong meri mata duit, pengelandik jari, penemu enggau pengering diri.

Kena ngujong, awak ka tiap iko orang Kristian semampai seati ngemansang ka gereja St. Boniface lalu ngemansang ke pengarap diri, awak ka gereja nya terus bemoa baru.

Awak ka gereja Tuhan semampai baru. †

Di sedia ka ulih:

Ms. Gading ak. Degom, Secretary AWF
Ms. Agnes Umping Radin, Chairlady AWF

OBITUARIES

Deacon Sim Swee Chiang

Deacon Sim Swee Chiang died peacefully on 2nd June at 12.55 a.m. at Timberland Medical Centre, after a short illness, at the age of 88. Even in his very frail physical state on his death bed, this man of prayer still managed to pray for those around him - a testimony of his abiding faith and trust in Jesus Christ, his Lord and Saviour. The funeral was held on the afternoon of the 4th of June.



Born in Kuching on 25 July 1916, the hard working and intelligent youngster received his education at St Thomas's School. After he left school, he served under the Brooke Rule, the Japanese Administration during the World War II, the British Colonial Government and the Malaysian Government for thirty five years and six months. During those years, he served in various departments: Resident & District Office, Mixed Local Authority of Mukah, Batu Lintang Teachers' Training College and the Sarawak Medical Department. He retired in July 1971. In recognition of his loyal service to the Government, he was awarded the National Award of PPN (Pingat Pangkuan Negara) in 1970 by His Majesty the Yang di-Pertuan Agong of Malaysia.

His life-long service to the Lord and the Church began during his school days when he served as a Server at the Cathedral. In the 1960s, he also served as the People's Warden at the Cathedral. He was licensed as a sub-deacon in 1970 and ordained Deacon in 1977. He served non-stipendiary in the Cathedral until quite recently when his advanced age and physical frailty made it difficult for him to serve at the Altar during the Solemn Liturgy. Nevertheless, he continued to come on Sundays and often had to escort his ailing wife to the Chinese Service. He was instrumental in founding and leading the Lintang Park Prayer Group. He was also active in the Anglican Seniors' Fellowship.

He was a member of the first group of Pilgrims from our Diocese to tour the Holy Land in 2001. He was blessed with the rare opportunity to assist in the two Holy Communion Services held during that trip, first at St. George's Cathedral and then at Christ's Church, the only two Anglican Churches in Jerusalem.

Even though he was a person of small stature, Deacon Sim was full of energy and gifted with a big and generous heart. He was always friendly, helpful and gentle. His services to God and the Church had been tremendous.

We thank God for his life, services and friendship. While we extend our deepest sympathy and condolence to his wife, children and other family members, we rejoice in the thought that Deacon Sim is now at home with his Lord and Master.

May he rest in peace and rise in glory. †

By The Very Revd Dean Aeries Sumping Jingan

Mrs Serika Ferguson nee Serika ak Apat

Mrs Serika Ferguson nee Serika ak Apat, the former President of the Diocesan Women's Fellowship Board (DWFB) was called to be with the Lord on 23rd June 2004. She was appointed by the Bishop of Kuching as President in 1991, a post she held for ten years until May 2001. She was also a member of the Women's Fellowship of the Cathedral and was its Chairlady in the 1970's



Through the DWF, she travelled the whole length and breadth of Sarawak and Brunei. The Ministry endeared her to the women in the Diocese, particularly those from the rural areas.

Born on 16th May 1937 to an Iban farming couple, Serika was the youngest of eight siblings. As the youngest, she had the benefit of being the only one in the family who had the opportunity to go to school. In fact, she was one of the very few from the upper Undup area to have had such an opportunity at that time. She went to St. Luke's Primary School, Simanggang, some twenty miles from her longhouse at Entebar. During those days, it took a full day to walk the distance; today it takes a mere twenty minutes of driving.

She barely completed her Primary 4 at St. Luke's Primary School when she was selected to work as an Assistant Nurse at the Simanggang General Hospital. While working at the hospital she met her future husband, Mr. H.A.L. Ferguson, a young British Administrator, posted to Simanggang as an assistant District Officer under the British Colonial government. They were married in Kuching, in the Cathedral on 21st June 1958.

However, her husband passed away in 1968 after a long battle with cancer, leaving Serika with the enormous task of looking after her young and growing children, three boys aged 3 to 9. It was a difficult period for the young widow. But by God's grace, she was able to send all the three boys to further their studies in the United Kingdom. Since then she had the freedom to serve the community and devote time to do welfare and social works. Among the welfare bodies she was involved in were the Society for the Blind and the Sarawak Federation of Women's Institute (SWFI). For her work in the SFWI, she was awarded the Ahli Bintang Sarawak (ABS) by the Sarawak State Government on the occasion of the TYT's birthday in September 1988. Through her involvement with the SFWI, she travelled to many countries such as New Zealand, Indonesia, Canada, China and South Africa and of course UK, a second home to her.

After retiring from the Presidency of DWF in

• please see Page 14

A Pocket Guide to the Anglican Church

By: Ronald H. Lloyd

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DISREGARD OF THE CREEDS

However, from time to time movements or sects have sprung up which disregard the Creeds and bend the Scriptures to their own distorted viewpoints, and claim to have a monopoly of the truth. This has happened on such a wide scale in America that one could worship with a different sect on all three hundred and sixty five days of the year!

Let us consider just two of these American sects, which have crept across the Atlantic and see how hopelessly out of touch they are with what we can call the main stream Christianity.

'The Unification Church' otherwise known as 'The Moonies'

Moonies take their name from the founder of their sect, Sun Myung Moon, who was born in Korea in 1920 and now lives, surrounded by great wealth, in the United States of America. Moon claims to have had a vision when he was sixteen, in which Jesus Christ appeared to him, and asked him to complete the work Jesus had come on earth to do, but which had been cut short by the crucifixion. In 1945 Moon claims to have had another vision in which Jesus Christ bowed down to him and hailed him as his superior. No doubt, as a result of these visions, Moon claims to have the ability of uniquely interpreting the Scriptures and consequently making the absurd statement in a speech he delivered in New Orleans, on 28 October 1973 when he said:

'There can be no doubt that John the Baptist was a man of failure. He was directly responsible for the crucifixion of Jesus Christ.'

This and much else in his teaching contradict the mainstream teaching of worldwide Christianity as enshrined in the Creeds.

The followers of Sun Myung Moon are extremely active in their attempts to win converts to their sect. Often times, on their initial approach they camouflage their true identity by saying that they belong to 'The Unification Church', 'The Holy Spirit Association' or to 'The House Church Association' or to 'The United Family Enterprises'. It is only later,

after a relationship has been established that they reveal their true identity. The Moonies call this method 'Heavenly deception'. Christians should be constantly on guard when approached by such people.

The Jehovah's Witnesses

The founder of this sect was a shopkeeper called Charles Taze Russell who was born in Pittsburgh in 1852. He was a 'normal' enough Christian up to the age of twenty when he decided to start his own movement. He was an eloquent speaker and a prolific writer and soon built up a following.

Russell taught that the second though secret coming of Jesus had occurred in 1872 and that the end of the world would occur in 1914. This did not happen! So his followers have postponed the date until 1984. In 1984 Gabriel will blow his trumpet and the Battle of Armageddon will begin when the hosts of God will do battle with the hosts of Satan. The battle will be won by God. Satan and his followers will be dismissed and the 144,000 faithful Jehovah's Witnesses will be taken up into heaven, there to rule with Christ over an earth, which will be inhabited by people of good will.

The Jehovah's Witnesses have no love for the Church, Catholic or Protestant; they even believe that the Church is under the supervision and the control of the Devil, and form a part of his visible organization, and therefore constitutes the anti-Christ. Their chief task seems to be knocking on people's doors and trying to persuade people to buy their pamphlets published by the 'Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society'. They are very familiar with certain texts from the Bible and use them to establish their beliefs. But do not be impressed, read St. Matthew 4 vv. 1-11 or St. Luke 4 vv. 1-13 and you will see that the Devil himself was able to quote the Scriptures!

The teachings of this sect do not accord with the teaching of the Church, and cannot in any way stand up to the scrutiny of the Creeds. †

To be continued in the next quarter

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He mocks proud mockers but gives grace to the humble.

The wise inherit honor, but fools he holds up to shame. Prov 3:34-35

From the Parish of St. Francis, Lundu

Starting from April, the Parish of St. Francis had a series of activities. We thank God for the devoted commitment of our members in bringing the members of the Parish together, thus strengthening the fellowship among them.

Here are the main events held:

Easter Dinner

The Easter Dinner 2004 was organised on Saturday, 17th April 2004 at the Chinese community hall, Lundu. There were more than 350 parishioners and well-wishers who joined in the celebration. It was organised to celebrate and to renew our hope in the Risen Christ. Rt. Revd. Bolly Lapok and his wife joined in the celebration. Also present was YB Encik Ranum ak. Mina.

The next day, Bishop Bolly celebrated Mass and preached in the church.



The Easter dinner in Lundu

Telematch and Seminar

The Women's Fellowship of St. Richard's Chapel at Kpg. Sebiris celebrated the WF's Day on 3rd July 2004. They organised a telematch among the members in the morning. A seminar was held in the afternoon. The priest-in-charge was the speaker. He spoke on 'the role of women in the Church' and 'the responsibility of women in the Church'. The Holy Communion Service followed the seminar.

More than 40 members attended the seminar. WF members from St. Francis's Church and St. John's Chapel, Kpg. Tebero were also present.



WF members of St Richard, Kpg Sebiris

Church Sale

The Committee of Christ Church, Kpg. Stunggang organised the annual church sale on 3rd July 2004 at the church compound. Among the things sold were jungle produce, seafood, handicrafts, food and drinks. There was also a blowpipe competition.

Buffet Dinner

The WF of St. Lawrence's Chapel, Kg. Senibong organised a fund-raising buffet dinner on the 10th July 2004 at the Kampung community hall. Most of the WF members of the parish joined in the dinner.

Parish Sale 2004

The annual parish sale was organised on 7th August 2004 at the church compound. It is an event to raise funds for church activities. YB En. Ranun ak. Mina was invited to officiate the opening of the sale. The response was very good, many parishioners came to patronise the stalls selling handicrafts, vegetables, food and drinks. More than RM8,000/- was raised.

The Parish is indebted to the members of the various committees for the hard work they had put in. We are confident that they will continue to offer their dedicated services to the Church.

May God bless them all. †

Reported by: Revd. Jose Jol Endru
Priest-in-charge

* A little girl was talking to her teacher about whales. The teacher said it was physically impossible for a whale to swallow a human because even though it was a very large mammal its throat was very small. The little girl stated that Jonah was swallowed by a whale. Irritated, the teacher reiterated that a whale could not swallow a human; it was physically impossible. The little girl said, "When I get to heaven I will ask Jonah". The teacher asked, "What if Jonah went to hell?" The little girl replied, "Then you ask him". (Do not Argue with Kids - From the Internet).

CATHEDRAL NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

A joint seminar at Suri Tengah, Debak

A joint seminar organised by the Parish of St. Thomas's Cathedral and the Parish of St. Christopher's, Debak was held at a newly constructed concrete longhouse of Rumah Peter Ambu, Suri Tengah, Debak from 14th to 16th May 2004. There were thirty-four delegates from the Cathedral Parish who journeyed to Suri Tengah in a convoy of seven vehicles including the Parish van.



Participants of the joint seminar at Suri Tengah.

The seminar with the theme: "Ninga sereta arap ka Berita Manah" (To hear and believe the Good News) was attended by about two hundred participants comprising a few Lay Readers, PCC members and those from the various longhouses in the Parish of St. Christopher. The Revd Dennis Gimang conducted it, in which he delivered five addresses altogether. The topics of the addresses were, Petara, Adat Iban ditinjau ari pengarang Kristian, Perang Roh, Besembiang, and Begawai enggau Kristus. Each address was followed by testimonies shared by two delegates from the Cathedral parish. At the end of the fifth address, there was a question and answer session in which Canon Matthew Raban and Fr. Dennis answered a number of questions pertaining mainly to cultural and religious matters.



The children of Suri Tengah.

The children had a separate programme organised by the Sunday School teachers who were also from Kuching. Prizes were given to the children who did well in the colouring contest and Bible test.

A well-known dukun (bomoh) in that longhouse was converted to Christianity. In the past this dukun had a peculiar behaviour towards either the priests or Christians. But after his conversion he has become a totally different man. He even followed the Kuching group to Debak town after the Holy Communion on Sunday 17th May before they departed for Kuching, to see them off. We praise the Lord for His blessing on this man and making him see the Light.

We are very thankful to Cikgu Tom and his wife for being a very hospitable host. We also would like to thank Ms. Agnes Pirak and her husband Mr. Godwin Jawie for their understanding and service in preparing our sumptuous meals with the help of some ladies throughout the seminar. They served happily and quietly behind the scene. We would like to thank Mr. Leonard Martin for his financial support. Last but not least, we would like to convey our appreciation to Canon Matthew Raban and his PCC members for inviting us to organise that first ever joint seminar with them.

Above all we thank God for a very successful seminar. †

Reported by: Revd. Dennis Gimang
Asst. Priest

"..... the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole person, sets the whole course of his life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell. All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and creatures of the sea are being tamed and have been tamed by man, but no man can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison". (James 3: 5 -8).

Yes, Man by his own strength cannot tame his tongue! But if he surrenders himself to God, He will take charge of the rein and put His controlling bit in the man's mouth and prevent him from setting himself on fire.

From Past Issues ...

(Kuching Diocesan News 2-1964)

Something for history

A noteworthy event has taken place since our last issue and it seems right that a record should be made of it. Added to that, there is something very inspiring about it and it gives some idea of the kind of hard work that goes on behind the scenes of a diocese like this – often unnoticed and unsuspected.

In 1912 the British and Foreign Bible Society printed the Four Gospels and Acts in Biatah Land Dayak (one of the four Land Dayak dialects). Before the last war there were about thirty copies left and these were destroyed during the Japanese occupation. In any case the time had come to do something about it for as Archdeacon Howes says, 'By 1941 there was as much difference between the Dayak of 1912 and 1941 as there is between Elizabethan English and English of the present day.'

But somehow 1941/2 seemed an impossible time to think of such things. However, that is the first part of the thrilling nature of the story. During the occupation years Archdeacon Howes with other Europeans was interned under conditions that most people would have found anything but conducive to translation work. All that he had was his copy of the 1912 translation of the Gospels and Acts. Using odd scraps of paper he began on the 10th August 1942 to put his into present day Dayak. After the war, Canon SiMigaat went through it to check it, and this is the basis of the present translation of the Gospels and Acts.

When it became obvious that the war was going to last a long time, Archdeacon Howes started on a translation of the Epistles which had never been done before. Again this was done on odd scraps of paper, which from time to time were sealed in bottles and buried under one of the huts to be dug up again when the war was over. By the end of the war, perhaps half of the Epistles had been done. That so much was done is remarkable for several reasons not least because of the shortage of paper. He only had what came wrapped round the rations at the end of each work.

Archdeacon Howes adds: 'Many had a hand in this work, beginning with Mrs. Ang who, disguised as a fisherwoman, threw a Biatah vocabulary over the barbed wire surrounding Padungan internment camp. Later, when the war was over, Canon SiMigaat re-revised the Four Gospels, while Catechist Saden and Catechist Reuben, read and re-read the Epistles over several years, marking passages which they did not understand or phrases which did not run true to Dayak idiom. Finally, the British and Foreign Bible Society got to work on the text and with infinite patience H.K. Moulton, the Assistant Translations Secretary, pointed out this passage and that in which the Greek said one thing but the Biatah obviously another.

Now it is done – just twenty years, four months and four days from the start of revision. Deo Gratias †

During the Old Testament times horses and chariots were power symbols; kings and those in authority tended to depend more on these power sources and forget God! They were warned, punished when necessary and given the chance to repent and return to Him; if they did they were received back and blessed.

In this new millenium, weapons for war, the modern "horses" and "chariots", are much more powerful and destructive! All around the world we see atrocities committed by those who put their trust in those sophisticated horses and chariots of their own creation. It is sad but true that unless there is a total change of heart - a stop to putting the trust in these weapons of war - and people follow the "Man" who was born in Bethlehem to shed his blood on Calvary, nobody can predict where mankind is heading or how soon everything will be swept away from the face of the earth. (As warned by Zephaniah in the days of Josiah, King of Judah: "I will sweep away everything from the face of the earth," declares the LORD. Zeph. 1 v 2).

Do not withhold good from those who deserve it, when it is in your power to act.
Do not say to your neighbor, "Come back later; I'll give it tomorrow"--
when you now have it with you. Prov 3:27-28

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dijamu makai ba rumah TR Neli ak Nipa. Badu makai nya bala team ari Kuching dibai ngagai sebuah rumah (Lumpu ak Kedit) ti alai sida diasoh besambiang serta nunu pengaroh laban sida dia deka masok Kristian.

Seminar berengkah pukul 4.00 lemai ba St. Peter's Chapel. Seminar tu berambai ka genteran jako "Mansang Terus Dalam Kristus". Aku bejako ka 3 bengkah pekara: Pengrindu Allah Taala dalam Kristus; Tuju Allah Taala ba Pengidup Kitai; enggau Nyadi Murid Tuhan Jesus. Seminar abis kira pukul 10.00 malam nya. Bala ti datai ngulu seminar tu kira semak 200 iko lalu maioh bala duduk ari luar chapel. Bala datai ari samoa kampong ti semak nya lalu bisi mega datai ari Sebuyau enggau Entanggor. Lemai nya bala makai begulai ba balai gempuru lalu pemakai disedia ka bala Gerempung Indu.

Pagi siti, Hari Minggu, 8hb Ogos 2004 aku mela sambiang Mass serta meri jako ajar lalu bala ti bisi datai nyambut kira 150 iko. Maia sambiang nya aku mega ngemasok ka 5 iko bala nyadi Katikumin. Badu sambiang bala team ari Kuching lalu besambiang ka bala ti mansang ka moa serta minta di sambiang ka. Udah lepas ngirup, Sub-deacon Benjamin ngulu ka team baru ngagai

sebuah rumah (Martin ak Chin Meng), ti alai sida diasoh sambiang serta nunu pengaroh mega.

Tu terubah aku nemuai ka Bajong lalu ati aku puas bendar meda pengeransing bala ti datai ngagai seminar enggau sambiang Mass serta mega pengeregas enggau pemanah ator bala layreaders ti mekoh chapel nya. Chapel tu pan udah manah bendar diadu ka bala Kristian dia - udah di pasang tile, bisi kipas lalu PA system (FM) pan ngemuas ka ati mega. Pantun kami mega disempulang enggau music ari organ ti dimain olih Layreader Martin Bichin.

Kami pulai ka Kuching udah badu merarau. Leboh kami datai di Pendam lalu leboh samoa bag bala kami dibantai ka ari perau, dia aku nemu bag aku dua iti nadai enggau bag bala bukai. Kami duai Katherine lalu nikal baru ka Sebangon lalu nemu bag aku nya agi tinggal ba luan van ti nganjong kami. Bag nya enda ingat bantai ka kuli king ngagai perau, tinggal kami ti tembu ingga meli ketam enggau ikan masin. Bala sida nundi aku, "Nyangka sida agi ngasoh nuan nemuai ka Bajong baru, nya kebuah ningal ka bag nuan!" Aku arap ka bala team kami agi olih nemuai ka Bajong baru apin apus ujung taun tu. †

By The Very Revd Dean Aeries Sumping Jinan

News in Brief

Guest Preacher From USA

The Revd. Dr. Cyrus Lam, the Director General of Gospel Operation International based in California, USA, was the Guest Preacher at the 6.45 a.m. Service on July 4th. On the same day at the 10 a.m. Service, he was at the commissioning of the first missionary couple, Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Chai of the Chinese Speaking Congregation. They will be serving among the Mandarin speaking group and teaching at the Chinese Seminary in Korea, under the auspices of the above organisation.

Dr. Lam was in Kuching to conduct the Mission Seminar for the Cathedral CSC. He gave very challenging and inspiring messages encouraging the congregation to fulfill God's commission.

BB Car Wash Project

The First Kuching Company, The Boys' Brigade, held a car wash fundraising project for three days on 26th to 28th August from 8.00a.m. - 5.00p.m. at the Cathedral car park, to raise funds for their Company's development, programmes, uniform/awards and support to National development.

Advisor y Medical Clinic

The Healing Ministry, led by its Chairman Datuk Dr. S. Hardin, held a packed-house Advisory Medical Clinic at St. Paul's Church at Siol Kandis on Sunday, 1st August. Also in attendance was Dr. Henry Rantai. Prior to this, the Church was full during the Holy Communion Service.

Servers' Enrolment Ser vice

The Servers' Guild held their Enrolment Service

during the Evensong cum Holy Communion Service at the Cathedral on 15th August after having had their Retreat the previous day.

Greetings from former Principal

Mrs. Kathleen Peach, wife of the late Revd. S. J. E. Peach, has, through Mrs. Shirley De Costa nee Mowe, conveyed her warmest greetings to members of the Cathedral and especially to the Marians.



Mrs. Peach, now 92 years old, was the Principal of St. Mary's School from February 1951 to March 1955 while the late Revd. Peach was ministering at the Cathedral. She is now residing at 2, Woodbury Avenue, Wells, Somerset BA5 2XN England.

Mrs. Shirley Mowe-De Costa an ex-Marian is now residing in Kajang, Selangor. †

(Adapted from the Unity Magazine by Mr. Edmund Ang)



Pastor Erick Sudharma

A Bahasa seminar at the Cathedral

The Mission and Evangelism Committee of the Cathedral, once again had the privilege to organise a Bahasa seminar, just less than a year after the previous seminar. It was held from 15th July to

17th July 2004 in the parish hall and was very well attended. But once again the participants from other parishes and other denominations around Kuching outnumbered those from the Cathedral.

The speaker was Pastor Erick Sudharma, who until recently was a Director of the Inter-Varsity Students' Fellowship in Bandung. He is currently a full-time Minister at Gereja Kristen Immanuel Hossana, a Presbyterian Church in the same city in Indonesia.

The theme for the seminar was "Remain in Christ" in which Pak Erick delivered five addresses based on the following topics: Knowing the "Food" of Christ (John 4:31-34), Holding on to the Word of Christ (John 8: 30-36), Remain in Christ (John 15:1-8), Being one with Christ (John 17:20-23) and Loving Christ (John 21:15-23).

In his addresses, he brought in a number of thoughts regarding the importance of believing, adhering to and obeying the Word of God. Only by doing so can one continue to remain in Christ. The Word of God does not only help us to discover the origin and reason for our existence but more so helps us to know how we should make use of our life to its fullness by doing God's will on earth and to say 'no' to sin. He boldly reiterated that to believe in Christ alone is inadequate to make a person Christian.

A Christian ought to live, and if necessary, be prepared to die for Christ. He challenged the participants to hold fast on to the Word of God whatever the cost. However, in doing so, no doubt, there are risks. But the risks are worth taking when we are convinced not by our emotional experience but by our faith in the promise of the One who has overcome the world and has promised to be with us even until the end of time. Pastor Erick highlighted that life does not only consist of 'breath and career'. Life is not about holding fast on to the world. It is about holding fast on to Jesus who is the Author of life. Success in this world cannot be measured by money, power, fame, property and status but by our willingness to serve God and to stand firm until the end. He referred to Acts 7:56 where Jesus stood up to welcome, and salute St. Stephen who was about to enter heaven after holding fast on to his faith in Jesus right to the end. What a wonderful way of leaving this world! That is what to "Remain in Christ" means.

(Acts 7:55-56 reads: But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.")

At the end of the seminar, the Very Revd. Dean Aeries commended Pastor Erick for his very clear and biblical teaching that was able to enlighten the participants with the meanings of biblical words in their original tongue and said, "not even the clergy here could do any better". Those parishioners who could understand either Bahasa Malaysia or Indonesia but did not join the seminar had indeed missed the good and solid teaching by Pastor Erick. He blended very well with many timely issues ranging from individual, family, society and church. The Dean and a great number of the participants recommended that the speaker be invited again in the near future.

The Music Ministries of the Cathedral, St. Basil's Church and St. Faith's Church rendered Praise and Worship songs during the sessions. †

Reported by: Revd. Dennis Gimang
Asst. Priest

Seminar di St. Peter's Chapel, Bajong

Kena 7hb Ogos 2004, aku ngulu ka raban (team) 12 iko ari St. Thomas's Cathedral nemuai ngagai St. Peter's Chapel, Bajong di Parish Simunjan. Penemuai tu di-ator olih bala ari Lian Hua House Group ti betuai ka Sub-deacon Benjamin Ugay serta dibantu olih Katherine Nata ti endang berasal ari Bajong.

Ari Kuching kami ngena jalai darat mansa Asa Jaya ngagai pasar Pendam ba nanga Batang Sadong (pejalai lebih 1 jam). Ari nya kami ngena speed boat (80 hp) ka pasar Sebangon sepengelama 10 minit, laban tasik ti nadai begelumbang. Ari pasar Sebangon kami di-ambi ngena van ngagai Kpg. Bajong, ti alai bala kami diau ba rumah Layreader Nicholas Nata. Tenggang hari nya kami



Bala kristian Anglika ba Chapel St. Peter, Bajong

ANGLICAN COMMUNITY NEWS

In June the Director brought some youths from St. James's, Quop to St. Peter's Church in Saratok for the youth seminar from the 18th to 20th June. She spoke for three sessions, with a talentime on Saturday evening. The youths displayed their creativity by using "self improvised" instruments with tins, bottles etc. The treasure hunt later made the youths run around the compound searching for clues. The weekend seminar ended with crafts and prize giving, after the Sunday Service.



Listening to the Word of God at the Youth Seminar in Saratok

The Director then went with a few youth from CSC, Cathedral, St. Basil, Batu Kawa and St. James's Quop to Kampong Sadir, Padawan. Children stories, craft works, games and singing were organised. During the opening session, adults included, the movie "Passion of Christ" was played, using LCD projector on a big white cloth screen at the longhouse verandah. The Director explained and clarified at certain points of the movie to make sure the audience could understand what they saw. The next day, they had contests for the Sunday School children as usual and ended with prize giving for the best team.



The children praising God at the Sunday morning worship at Kampong Sadir

From the 25th to 28th of June, the Sunday School Teachers Training was organised, including a Leaders' Seminar for two evenings at St. Thomas's Church Bintulu. The Sunday School teachers had a good time at the training, learning the kid songs, actions, learning to plan the lessons step by step, trying out all the crafts, doing practical teaching and had a good time playing games! The teachers were like little children screaming and cheering for their own team.



Sunday School teachers enjoying a game in Bintulu

From the 16th to 18th of July, Florence, together with Augustine Law went to Sarikei and Bintangor. She spoke for two sessions at night, a youth seminar in the morning and Sunday school teachers' training in the afternoon. She also preached at Bintangor on Sunday morning.



Youths at the youth seminar in Sarikei

CATIONS CENTRE TURES

On the first week of August, Florence with a few youths from CSC, Cathedral and Quop ventured into Kampung Rejai, also in Padawan for a Children Ministry. It was a challenging journey by foot over hills/valleys and a bamboo bridge with lots of red ants. It took seven hours to reach the Kampung. After resting, they had a worship session praising and giving thanks to God. At 6:30pm they started the children ministry. All the tiredness of the journey was gone when the team members saw the children running toward the church for the activities. There were over 90 of them !! The children enjoyed singing and listened attentively as Florence shared the Word of God. They were very responsive and disciplined. She taught them about God's creation, Zaccheus and also Jonah and the whale. The children did the craft very creatively. Where else can you find children who decorated the paper plates with pitcher plants displaying the



Children singing and praying to the Heavenly Father at Kampung Rejai

amazing creation of God ??!! Just listening to the children screaming, squeaking and cheering for the teams at the games session and seeing them praising God and praying is rewarding already. The "long suffering walk" is nothing, compared to what we can offer the children. The Headmaster of the local school was present and complimented Florence and her team, "You are a blessing to the children." Will they come back to this kampung again? With no hesitation, a resounding YES !!



The children of Kpg. Rejai

School chaplaincy to SMK Tae, SMK Siburan, SMK Penrissen, SMB St. Mary and SMK Serian still goes on in between all the seminars and visits to kampungs. ACC will be organising the annual ACC camp from the 3rd to 6th of December this year in Kuching. We pray that the clergy will encourage the youths to attend this camp. The theme for the camp is "Ku tetap cinta Yesus" (I will surely love Jesus). Registration forms will be distributed to the various parishes and schools soon. †

Students at SMK Tae playing a team work game



Reported by: Ms Florence Jee, Director