

BIBLE MONTH 2020

Blessed Peter ToRot

Patron Saint
of Papua New Guinea



IN THIS YEAR
2020 WE ARE
CELEBRATING
25 YEARS
SINCE THE
BEATIFICATION
OF BLESSED
PETER TOROT,
SO WE WANT
TO THINK
AND REFLECT
ON THE
SACRAMENT OF
MARRIAGE

INTRODUCTION

Dear children:

In this year 2020, we are celebrating the 25th anniversary of the beatification of Blessed Peter toRot. this word "Blessed" means that

Holy Mother Church will make him a saint one day. For this we can rejoice and thank God because one of our own "wantok" will become a saint like all the other saints in heaven!

In this Bible Month, we would like to talk about two things: first, the sacrament of Marriage, for which Peter toRot was martyred to give witness; secondly, we would like to talk about Blessed Peter toRot and his example.



WHAT IS THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE?

The sacrament of Marriage is a sacrament that Jesus Himself instituted. We know that the seven sacraments of the Catholic Church were willed by Christ Himself, and He instituted all of them.

The sacrament of Marriage is made by one man and one woman, who are blessed by God, so that they can become one family. God Himself blesses their union and gives them all the graces to be faithful until death. The goal of this sacrament is to live together and raise a holy family.

Now we will talk a little about the history of this sacrament...



HISTORY OF THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE



At the beginning of the Bible, we have the story of creation. The Bible tells us that God created the sun, the moon, the heavens and the earth, with all the things that are in them. He filled the earth with many nice things, like mountains, the seas, trees, animals and a lot of food. Now when God finished creating, He decided to create man. He created us so that we can know Him, love Him and follow His word. He also put man

in charge of all creation, so that man can cultivate and take care of everything.

The story of the creation of man is like this: first, God created the first man, whose name was Adam. God was very pleased with him because he was greater than anything He had made before. But God saw that Adam was alone and felt sorry for him, since it was not good for man to be alone. So the Bible tells us: *“The Lord God also said: ‘It is not good for the man to be alone. Let us make a helper for him similar to himself.’”* And so the Lord God sent a deep sleep upon Adam. And when he was fast asleep, he took one of his ribs,

and he completed it with flesh for it. And the Lord God built up the rib, which he took from

clinging to his wife; and the two shall be as one flesh.” (Gen 2:18-24)

Adam, into a woman. And he led her to Adam. And Adam said: “Now this is bone from my bones, and flesh from my flesh. This one shall be called woman, because she was taken from man.” For this reason, a man shall leave behind his father and mother, and he shall

Then God said to them: “Increase and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it.” (Gen 1:28) **Adam took Eve as his wife, and God rejoiced over them and blessed them.** Shortly after, God blessed them with children, and they became the first family on earth.



THE STORY
OF ADAM AND
EVE TEACHES
US THAT GOD
CREATED THE
SACRAMENT OF
MARRIAGE SO
THAT ALL MEN
AND WOMEN
CAN BECOME
ONE NICE
FAMILY!

JESUS AND MARY REJOICE OVER ALL MARRIED COUPLES

Jesus and Mary love all families, and they rejoice over all married couples that become families! In the Gospel of John, we read about Jesus' first miracle. This story goes thus: Jesus



and his mother Mary and his disciples went to one wedding feast in Cana of Galilee. During the feast, while they were eating, they ran out of wine, but they were still thirsty. Mary saw this and felt sorry for the couple, and she asked Jesus to help them. The Gospel says: ***“Now in that place, there were six stone water jars, for the purification ritual of the Jews, containing two or three measures each. Jesus said to them, “Fill the water jars with water.” And they filled them to the very top. And Jesus said to them, “Now draw from it, and carry it to the chief steward of the feast.” And they took it to him. Then,***



when the chief steward had tasted the water made into wine, since he did not know where it was from, for only the servants who had drawn the water knew.” (2:6-9)

This was the first miracle that Jesus did, and He did to help a newly married couple!

This story shows us that Jesus and Mary help all married men and women,

and they rejoice when a man takes a woman as his wife to become one family! It also shows us that Jesus and Mary are always ready to help those families who are in trouble, and we should always ask for their help and protection.

The Holy Family is the model of all families and is ready to help our family become holy!

6 PIECES OF ADVICE FOR CHILDREN

Dear children,

If God does not call you to become a priest or a sister, one day you will probably get married, like your father and mother. God Himself has put the desire to have a family within our hearts. One day you will also desire to find a spouse and have a family. Now we would like to give you some advice to help you to make a good decision.

1- First of all, you should friend doesn't respect you, pray and ask God to help you or if he or she hurts you or find a good spouse. speaks badly to you, these

2- You must judge well bad actions show that the the actions of your friend. If he two of you would not get or she truly follows Jesus, he or along well. So it's better if she will be a good spouse for you leave him or her as soon as possible. you. But if he or she does not

follow Jesus, he or she would **4-** Always live purely, not be a good spouse. because this is very pleasing to

3- You must Jesus. Also this will help you understand this well: if your make a good family.

5- Always go to you marry your boyfriend or
Confession and receive Holy girlfriend, you should know
Communion because these two that he or she will become
sacraments give us grace and the father or mother of your
strengthen us to follow Jesus children, and you will be with
and observe his commands. him or her for the rest of your

6- Don't forget that life, as Jesus said: "**What God**
you and your spouse will *has joined together, no man*
be together until death. If *can separate.*"



THE LIFE STORY OF BLESSED PETER TOROT



Peter ToRot was born in the year 1912 in Rakunai. When Peter was still a small child, his father taught him to be a good boy. In the year 1930, Peter went to study to become a catechist, under the request of his parish priest. In the year 1933, he finished his studies and became a catechist, and the bishop appointed him to work in his own village of Rakunai.

In 1936, Peter married Paula la Varpit, and God blessed them with 3 children. Paula was a good woman and listened to her husband. The two of them were happy together and were a good example for all the families in the village.

In the year 1942, the Japanese army invaded Papua New Guinea and put all the missionaries in prison for being



Catholic. When the Japanese came to imprison the pastor of Rakunai, he asked Peter to take his place and look after the parish. Peter dedicated himself fully to God and worked hard to strengthen the faith of the people. He visited the sick and prepared the people for the sacraments.



Peter worked to strengthen the Catholics to follow the commandments and avoid the sin of having many wives. When the Japanese heard that Peter worked against them, they were very angry with him! But Peter was not afraid of them **because he knew that we must only follow**

He himself baptized many children and witnessed many marriages within his village.

God's word and not break His commandments.

The Japanese didn't believe in God, so they did not respect the sacrament of Marriage. They would take 2 or 3 wives, which is wrong in the eyes of God and goes against His commandments. Many people in the village followed their bad examples.

Soon after the Japanese came to take Peter to prison. One day his mother came to visit him, and Peter said: **"Mother, I'm ready to die. I'm not afraid. I don't want to betray Jesus."**

On the day that he died, he said to his mother: "One Japanese told me that a doctor



will come and give me some medicine, which is strange

because I'm not sick. I think it could be a trick." On this very day, a doctor came to give him a shot, which had poison. The poison did not work quickly, so Peter died slowly. When he died, a policeman went to Rakunai to announce: "Your catechist is dead." His family and friends took his body and buried him in his own village.

**THE LIFE AND DEATH OF
PETER TOROT TEACHES US
THAT THE SACRAMENT OF
MARRIAGE IS HOLY, AND NO
ONE CAN DESTROY IT! WE
SHOULD ALSO BE READY TO
GIVE UP OUR LIFE, AND WE
SHOULD DO ALL WE CAN TO
AVOID SIN!**



LCI Goroka
Biblical commission