

## Empowering people, building community

Radio BOSCO FM 89.9 celebrates its 4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

- Fr. Ambrose Pereira sdb

On the plains of Guadalcanal is Don Bosco Rural Training Centre, Teterere – a lush green land with a variety of vegetables and fruits. The centre has begun in 2003 and now has over 180 students from all around Guadalcanal and even from provinces across the seas. The centre also houses the 1<sup>st</sup> Solomon Islands Community Radio Station, Radio BOSCO FM 89.9. The Salesians, staff and students under the leadership of Fr. Dominic Kachira sdb planned a lively 4<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration that brought together over 600 youngsters for fun, games and song on 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2009.



The Thanksgiving Eucharist celebrated in the newly re dimensioned parish church was had the students from San Isidore centre, Aruligo. Highlighting the World communications Day message of the Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, ‘New Technologies, New Relationships: Promoting a culture of Respect, Dialogue and Friendship’ Fr. Ambrose Pereira sdb, stressed the use of the radio station to communication and keep in contact with the people.

At noon a volleyball and football knock-out tournament was organized. A choir competition broadcast live on air at 4pm saw the Savo lads win the specially 4th anniversary printed t-shirts. Val Stanley, CSP advisor gave away the prizes on the occasion. “Radio BOSCO is on its way to be a well established community Radio Station. After 4 years you now see your future more clearly”, said Cornelius Rathamana, SIBC General Manager. Several from the media were very positive about the programme and the effect it has had on its listeners.



“The radio station has been a big help in keeping in contact with the people up in the hills”, said Fr. Dominic Kachira, Rector and parish priest. “While the radio station is run by volunteers, we do hope that with students and teachers, the radio station will broadcast every day”, he said. He also gave away transistor

radios to the organizers of the programme.

Earlier a Media Seminar was held for 24 students at the Don Bosco House of Prayer. “You need to make use of this unique opportunity and let your voices be heard”, said Joe Vidki as he animated the students.

Radio BOSCO has been supported and funded by the Salesians of Don Bosco, WACC, SIGNIS and Catholic Communications Solomons.

### Comments:

“May you continue to inform, educate and entertain your good listeners as you move on in the World of Broadcasting” – Philomen Loe, SIBC Programs officer.

*Congratulations in Empowering people and building community as you share your stories, events, happenings, values and life through broadcasting. May the Lord continue to bless Radio BOSCO FM 89.9 in achieving your goals – Noelyn Wagapu, Wan FM*