



Journey of Faith: A Missionary Trip to Karandu with Bishop Siby Mathew

April,28-30/2024

In the heart of the remote village of Karandu, a remarkable event unfolded as a missionary group, led by Bishop Matheu Siby, Deacon Paterson, Sister Matia, and myself, embarked on a spiritual journey to sub parish Peter belong Rome's parish. The vibrant welcome we received from the local community was bustling, with traditional dances and songs that resonated with the tribal heritage of the people.

The path to Karandu was a testament to our commitment, as we traversed a large river, wading through waters that at times reached our chests. This physical journey mirrored the spiritual path of the villagers, whose isolation did not diminish their fervent desire to live out their faith in God.



Over the course of three days, we prepared the faithful for the reception of the sacraments—a testament to their deep-rooted faith and eagerness to practice their beliefs. The sacraments administered included Baptism for 40 adults and children, First Confession and Holy Communion for 58 individuals, Confirmation for 78, and the Holy Matrimony for 23 couples.

The experience was enlightening, offering profound insights into pastoral care. Bishop Siby's diligent, careful, and loving approach to tending to his flock, and his unity with the Lord, served as a powerful lesson in ministry.

Upon leaving Karandu, we returned to Rome to offer a funeral Mass for a Katekis who had passed away three days prior. The community had patiently awaited the Bishop's return to honor the departed soul.











This mission trip to Karandu was a humbling and enriching experience, reminding us of the universal call to serve and the joy found in the hearts of those who, despite geographical barriers, hold an unwavering passion for their faith.

