



District of the Pacific Update

Champagnat Marist

Kia Ora, Greetings, Ni sa bula vinaka, Kam na mauri, Talofa Lava



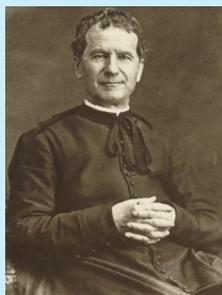
Current News Items

31st January 2020

St John Bosco

The founder of the Salesians of Don **Bosco** was St. **John Bosco** (Don **Bosco**), a young priest who focused his concern on the orphaned and homeless child labourers he encountered in Turin, Italy.

Grant then to me, I implore you, your perpetual help in all my necessities, in every sorrow, and especially in all my temptations. I ask for your unceasing help for all who are now suffering. Help the weak, cure the sick, convert sinners. Grant through your intercessions many vocations to the religious life.



Brother Joseph McDermott's Wonderful Farewell



On Wednesday 22nd January a large group of family, Brothers and friends of Brother Joe gathered at the Church of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart in Epsom to begin the farewell of our beloved Joe. Brother John Hazelman, the District of the Pacific Leader welcomed everyone. During the afternoon people had

a chance to express their thoughts and appreciation of their experiences of living and working with Brother Joe. After the vigil many people gathered at Onslow Avenue for afternoon tea and a continuation of sharing their memories of Joe.

On Thursday the Funeral Mass was celebrated by Father Ezio Blazoni and the Church was filled with family, Brothers and friends who had come to bid their farewell to a loyal and faithful friend. Everyone was welcomed by Brother John Hazelman and Brother Bryan Stanaway delivered a very fitting reflection on Brothers Joe's life and work. After Mass people then gathered at Waikaraka Cemetery for Joe's interment. After that many retired to Onslow Avenue for lunch and a further chance to catch up with each other. It was great to see so many Ex-Brothers at both gatherings and to catch up with what they are up to these days.

One of the things that amazed many of us was the group up the front of the Church using sign language, especially a leading member, that signed everything that was spoken during Mass. This group were there, no doubt, to honour Joe who spent many years teaching people how to use this amazing skill in communicating with others. Well done, Joe!

District Dates

Tuesday 28th January: Term One begins for most New Zealand Schools.

Tuesday 4th February: "Teachers New to Marist Schools Course" run by Mr. Dan Dungey at Sacred Heart College.

Wednesday 5th February: 10.00am - 1.00pm Wellness morning.

Thursday 6th February: Waitangi Day (Public Holiday).

Extra - Attached Reports:

A Report from Brother Luke:
Ola a tados

Contacts for Our District Leader





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Marist Champagnat Institute celebrates its 21st Birthday on Saturday 25th January Brother Kees van der Weert Reports from Fiji



The Marist Champagnat Institute celebrated its 21st birthday on Saturday 25th January. The Photo shows founding staff members, Fergus and Kees, along with Naisa Cama Toko (current Principal), Sister Kalala SM (also joined the staff in 2000), Mrs Fenella David (Marist Champagnat Institute 2002 - 2012) and Mrs Renu Kishore (Head of the Child Care Tertiary class.)

The day was enjoyed by representatives from the former students, former staff, current students and staff and many friends of the Marist Champagnat Institute.

Our special thanks and congratulations go to Brother Fergus and Brother Kees, our very loyal Brothers, who were founding members of this great school. They have given their hearts and souls towards this project over twenty-one years both through good times and through difficult ones. Our continued appreciation to you both.

Fiji Marist Old Boys' Association Honours Brother Joseph

Brother Kees Reports From Fiji



"The Marist Old Boys Association in Nausori organized a framed photo of Brother Joseph to be placed beside the altar at our Sunday Parish Mass. Beside the photo was a small Fiji Flag.

A senior Marist Old Boy took up a wreath as part of the offertory procession.

Our Parish Priest paid tribute to Brother Joseph as the former Director of Catholic Education and Principal of Corpus Christi College during his sermon.

After Mass the Marist Old Boys had a bowl with Brother Luke Fong's Father's Photo - remembering Brother Luke's new posting to Brazil."

