



## District of the Pacific Update

### Champagnat Marist

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



#### District Dates

Friday, December 11th: District

Council Meeting (ZOOM)

Tuesday, December 15th: Founda-  
tion Day of the District of the Pacific,  
2013

Thursday 17th December: College  
Companies Directors meet.

#### **Attached Reports:**

Marist News from Rome 656

[Download Marist News - PDF](#)



**11th December 2020**



#### **Special Character Reflection from Sacred Heart College**

This weekend is the first week of Advent and the beginning of a new liturgical year for the Church. Advent is a time of waiting, the word finds its origins in Latin meaning “to come,” as we are waiting for the coming of Jesus. There are many ways to wait, many ways to expect. As Marists we look to Mary as the person who models this expectant wait. She who waited for nine months pregnant no doubt with excitement and worry about what was going to happen. She would have wondered what His voice, His eyes, His smile and personality would all be like. Mary would have had to wait with expectation to find all this out. Yet she would have also had to prepare herself for her new responsibilities of becoming a mother.

As we prepare for the coming of Jesus, we should be asking ourselves how are we preparing our homes, our families and ourselves for His arrival? There are a few simple ways we can prepare by reading the story of Jesus’ birth (see Luke Chapter 1 and 2), put up an Advent calendar, prepare a nativity scene or simply set aside a short time to pray with our families each night.

In the Heart of St Marcellin -  
**Steve Dooley, Principal**



#### **St Paul’s College Recognises**

#### **Brother Colin’s Contribution to the College**

Brother Colin receiving a recognition award from the College for his long-term services to St Pauls College.

#### **Brother Ieremia Reports from Fiji**

Living in a community will always bring happiness and new learnings. we are very lucky to have our older people here with us. As a community we share our experiences around the table and also we share more stories around the Tanoa. During this holiday we have planned to look after the work especially on our big ground. but the accompaniment with Brother Fergus still going on and for our spiritual direction, I have an appointment with Sister Torika (SM) and Brother Ienraku is with Sister Tenise at the Nazareth prayer center. These are some of the things we have been doing so far.

Vinaka and regards from Ieremia



## English course 2020—Brother Ieremia and Brother Ienraku report

Brothers Ieremia and Ienraku are two newly professed IKiribati Brothers who are living with Brothers Kees and Fergus in Suva. Due to Covid 19, the first part of the post - novitiate program is now held in Fiji.

On the twenty first of August we applied for an undergraduate program at USP. The name of the course is Preliminary English B (LLP15). When the School starts both of us went to the same campus at Laucala USP. Also, we had the same venue for our lecture and tutorial. What we have discovered, was a big difference mainly about the highest standard of teaching and other programs of the USP. The programs offered us a very tough time to stay focused on our studies. As we continue to share our experiences and ask one another for help when help is needed, this maintains us in a good relationship same as what we get also from our community. In school we make friends with students. It is one way of developing our spoken language skills. Every Wednesday we normally attend the Catholic Mass service led by the Marist Priests at the School compound.



## Brother Douglas reports From St John's College, Hamilton



St John's College

I was invited to attend last week the occasion to mark the farewell to three teachers who began at St John's about the same time as I did, in the mid-eighties. - Brian Sparrow, Kevin Frewen and John Bull. Brian is deeply imbued with the Marist charism and has presented on many occasions at the Champagnat in the Pacific gatherings, speaking about the role of the charism in our Marist schools. When he began his "address" it could have been a Marist Brother speaking, so rich in charism realities and their importance in the school scene today. St John's isn't just a Catholic school. It is a Marist school, in which the 5 Pillars need to play a very significant role. He was on fire! Kevin shared stories from his time as a Marist Brother before coming to St John's. All three men have played significant roles at the college and will be sorely missed. Ill health prevented Principal Shane Tong from attending but he spoke by video link and he also affirmed the Marist contribution of the three, aware as he is of the Marist character of St John's. At least they leave the college with good hands at the tiller.

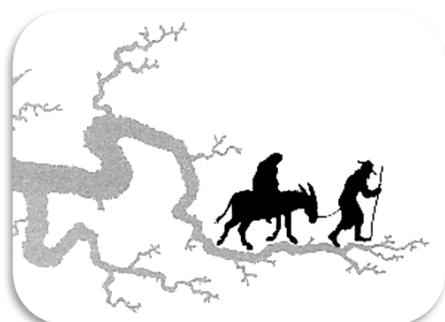
## With Gratitude To Our Marist Educators in Aotearoa New Zealand, Fiji, Kiribati and Samoa.

Another Academic Year has Come to an End. 2020 was a special year. Covid 19 presented us with a reality that challenges us to find new ways of being and of doing things. We are faced with the reality of asking new questions as the old questions do not seem to provide adequate answers. Yet, each of our Schools came through this challenging time with flying colours.

Congratulations to all our School Principals for your inspiring leadership. Thank you to all our Marist teachers and staff for a work well done. Thank you to the chairs and members of our School Boards of Trustees. Thank you to the chair and directors of our Proprietor Companies, our Marist Educational Boards. On behalf of the Marist Brothers ... Thank You for your selfless contribution in fulfilling St Marcellin's Champagnat's Dream ... "To Make Jesus Christ Know and Loved" to all but especially to young people.

Kia ora! Vinaka saka! Ko rab'a! Faafetai Tele Lava!

Brother John, District Leader



*Christmas Blessings  
and Peace to you all*

