



# District of the Pacific Update

## Champagnat Marist

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



### District Dates

Friday 23rd July: Marcellin Champagnat, Jean - Claude Colin and other newly ordained Priests pledged to form the Society of Mary.

Monday 26th July: New Zealand schools Term 3 begins.

Tuesday 27th July: New Zealand Marist Brothers Trust Board Meeting.

Saturday 31st July: Brothers sharing on Spirituality at Onslow



### Attached Reports:

Marist News from Rome 687

[Download Marist News—PDF](#)

Friday 23rd July 2021

### Brother Kevin Reporting from Christchurch

A happy southern Marist community for all the right reasons the South Island and Christchurch providing many of them – despite floods, fires, droughts, earthquakes and rebuilds.

With strong internal support, we have welcomed and reached out to many visitors, friends, relatives, former students, other religious, and assisted local needs, e.g., aged, sick and in prison.

Our closest contacts are Dan Dungey and his family; Catholic Cathedral College and all their activities especially REMAR.

Osmund, our Community Leader, is the most active, continuing the pattern best described by John Prendergast, a former Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Verdon College, Invercargill, when farewelling the Brothers after 113 years of FMS service:

“Brother Osmund, over the past several years has carved out a niche as a real identity around the College, as the real champion of anything to do with Verdon College, and as a living, breathing example of the qualities and attributes of the Marist Brothers”

We try to follow that example in the present context.

## Fourvière Pledge

23 July 1816

All for the greater glory of God and the greater honour of Mary, Mother of the Lord Jesus. We the undersigned, striving to work together for the greater glory of God and the honour of Mary, Mother of the Lord Jesus, assert and declare our sincere intention and firm will of consecrating ourselves at the first opportunity to founding the pious congregation of Mary-ists. That is why by the present act and our signatures, in so far as we can, we irrevocably dedicate ourselves and all our goods to the Society of the blessed Virgin.

We do this not childishly or lightly or for some human motive or the hope of material benefit, but seriously, maturely, having taken advice, having weighed everything before God, solely for the greater Glory of God and the honour of Mary, Mother of the Lord Jesus.

We pledge ourselves to accept all sufferings, trials, inconveniences, and if needs be, torture, because we can do all things in Christ Jesus who strengthens us and to whom we hereby promise fidelity in the bosom of our holy mother the Roman Catholic Church, cleaving with all our strength to its Supreme head the Roman Pontiff and to our most reverend bishop, the ordinary, that we may be good ministers of Jesus Christ, nourished by the words of faith and by the wholesome teaching which by his grace we have received. We trust that under the reign of our most Christian King, the friend of peace and religion, this institute will shortly come to light and we solemnly promise that we shall spend ourselves and all we have in saving souls in every way under the very august name of the Virgin Mary and with her help.

And may the holy and immaculate conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary be praised.

Amen



### Our Southern Marist Community



**Brother Kees reports on Brother Sam and his gardening activities in Fiji**



**Here's Brother Sam in his garden this morning**



## The Constitutions and Statutes

The Constitutions and Statutes were approved by the Holy See and made available to the whole Institute on 7 October 2020. They entered into force on 1 November 2020. The second document, *Wherever You Go: Rule of Life of the Brothers*, was approved on 2 January 2020 and made available in digital form. In the words of the Superior General, this document represents an “occasion to revitalize the gift of our vocation and to live according to the heart of Mary, as Champagnat wanted when he gave us her name.”

The newly-released version includes the latest revisions to the text and includes notes and other resources that were absent in the earlier versions.



The two volumes are inserted inside a case, decorated with drawings by the Brazilian artist Sergio Ceron, who also did the 4 illustrations for the Rule of Life. The main lines in the design are in gold and silver. In the words of the author, the design highlights how the documents fit within the plan of salvation through the hand of the Creator who comes down from heaven and gives his Spirit as fruit of the redemption.

The following of Christ through Baptism is represented by the cross drawn with baptismal waters; the presence of Mary with the child points to the Marist way of responding to God’s call through children and young people. A brother contemplates the mystery and observes the three vows, drawn like three stars. This scene leads to laypeople who together with the brothers become inheritors of and co-responsible for the Marist charism. Finally, there are five children and young people in a semi-circle representing the presence and diversity of expressions of the Marist charism in all five continents of the world.

## Brother Ernesto and Brother Carlos with Copies of the New Constitutions



## One of our Communities with Copies of the New Constitutions

Brother John, the District Leader, lead a prayer service yesterday with members of a community in Auckland to officially launch the Marist Brothers New Constitutions and the new Rule of Life Document "Where ever you go".

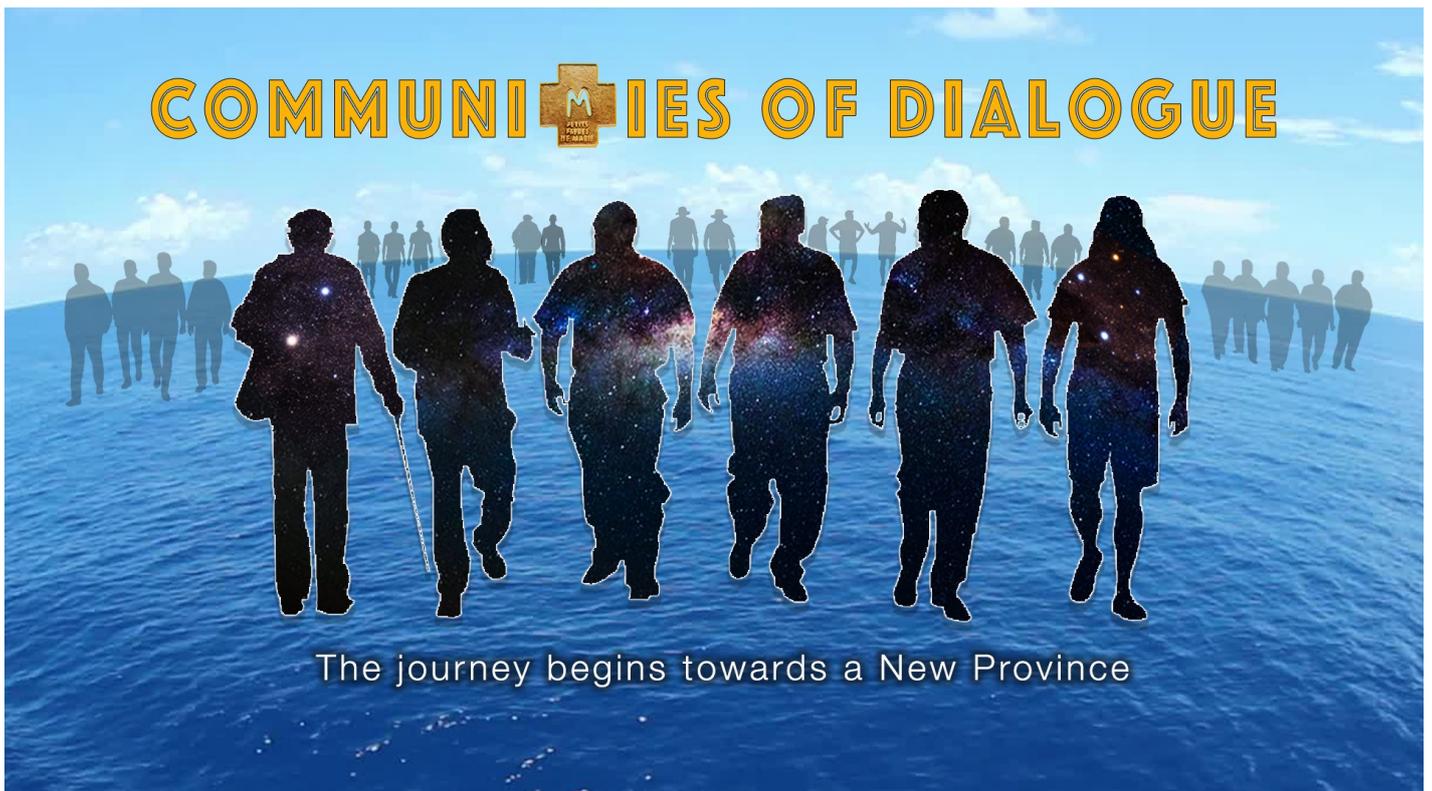
The documents from the Brothers headquarters in Rome will now be distributed to all Brothers of the District.



One of our Communities with their Copies of the New Constitutions



Communities of Dialogue Poster



## Muffin Talk



TITIPOUNAMU  
*Study & Joy*

Muffin Talk is a weekly radio programme with Beate.

Beate invites guests to the studio of Planet FM or for a Zoom recording.

Her interviews are on Spirituality, Faith, Religions, Bible Studies and positive news from the Community. Some interviews are introduced with a video clip on Youtube.

If you are in Auckland, you can listen to the programme on Fridays at 8.40am on Planet FM 104.6.

If you are not in Auckland or have missed the programme, you can tune in online at

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/category/resources/muffin-talk/>

## Homes of Light

CARING FOR LIFE.  
GENERATING  
NEW LIFE.

# Annual Retreat

11 October to 15 October

St Francis Retreat House

Hillsborough, Auckland

Details to follow later

## Brothers from some of the Communities across the Auckland Region visiting the Champagnat Marist Centre

Recently the Champagnat Marist Centre administration team hosted a simple morning tea for our Brothers from some of our Marist communities in the Auckland area . It was an important occasion for the new members of the CMC staff to meet up with the Brothers as well as the Brothers having the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the staff and to learn more about the services being offered at the administration Centre. Citizen, the director of Business Service welcomed the Brothers and he encouraged the Brothers to visit their Centre at any time. Such occasions are an opportunity to develop good relationships as well as a spirit of Marist family and partnership.

