



# District of the Pacific Update

## Champagnat Marist

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



### District Dates

First Professions on 11<sup>th</sup> September: Brother Karalo at Lomeri, Serua, Fiji.  
Brother Melchor Nowelle at Mulivai, Apia, Samoa.  
Sunday 12th September: Feast Day of the Holy Name of Mary.  
Sunday 26th September: Daylight Saving/Summer time begins—clock “Spring forward” one hour.



### Attached Reports:

Marist News from Rome 694

[Download Marist News—PDF](#)

Friday 10th September 2021

### Brothers Gather for Zoom Meeting

On Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> September about fifty Brothers came together for a Zoom meeting to discuss Marist Spirituality and Ecology. After a prayer led by Brother Anitelea, we watched a video-clip organised by Brother Sean Sammon to launch the topic, our discussion was facilitated by Brother Christopher.

The Brothers then split into small groups to discuss where Mary came into their lives as they progressed through their life. During this time, they also viewed a video “What is Spirituality”.

Following this the combined group began a discussion on “Care for Mother Earth”. This began with a Powerpoint presentation by Brother Christopher. The Brothers then split into groups to discuss where Marist Spirituality came into Eco spirituality in our lives today. Their findings and views were then shared by the full group.

We finished the morning by discussing the Lomeri Project and the possibilities about it and then finished the morning with a final prayer.



## Sacred Heart College News

### Winter sports

Spare a thought for our Marist Men engaged in winter sports for the school. I feel especially for those boys in Year 13 whose final two years in the College has led to two incomplete seasons.

My sincere thanks to the coaches, managers, parents and volunteers who contribute so much.



A special mention to our Premier winter sports teams who have been training and preparing since October last year. We know how much representing Sacred Heart at the highest level means for you and your families. We thank you for your courage and heart for our school and your example has not been wasted. It has inspired many of our younger Marist Men to dream and also reach for the same level of sporting excellence, passion and enjoyment.

### Special Character A time for Reflection “Ephphatha” - “Be Opened”

Perspective is a very important gift, especially when we experience our life given to us by God. A life to be lived to the full. The catch to this is to see our lives according to what God sees, not what we want to see. Our perspective can often be narrowed by our biases, prejudices and our own sinfulness.

A first step in a spiritual journey is to allow ourselves to experience freedom as God’s children and then to be open to a world of service, prayer, liturgy (especially Mass) and community. It is the step into the Mystery of God, where mystery is not about knowing everything, but having the opportunity of relating more. One perspective is finite, the other infinite. One closed. One open.

The Gospel this Sunday has the call “Ephphatha” - “be opened.” As that call opened the silent man’s speech and his hearing, may our hearts be opened by the infinite love that puts all life into a wondrous perspective.

May you, your families and friends be kept safe under the watchful care of our Blessed Mother Mary.

Father Stephen

### A Reminder - Thank You All

Sunday 12th September: Feast Day of the Holy Name of Mary.

Most Holy Name



Sacred Heart College  
AUCKLAND

## St Paul's College News



RC is a known term associated with the Roman Catholic Church. Perhaps less known these days.

While RC has a particular religious meaning, the letters could equally be associated with the education and raising of young men.

**R=Resilience**

**C=Courage**

**Resilience** – the ability to recover quickly after an unexpected change in circumstances or a failure with a particular project or goal.

**Courage** – the strength to venture forward without fear and in the face of difficulties.

These two words are cousins of each other.

Unfortunately, in the education space we seem to only hear words like responsive, adapting, confidence, etc instead of the strong qualities that are implied in the words **resilience** and **courage**.

The recent educational gazette, which comments on almost everything educational in NZ, has zero(0) mention of these two words.

And yet we all know that our ability to withstand the restrictions of lockdown depends on our resilience and our courage.

Parents, we need to teach our young men how to get over the setbacks of life. Don't let them play the victim card. The failure of the game is not the referee's fault.

Parents, we need the example of your personal courage at this time to rub off onto your sons. Just as you as parents have had to step up, your sons need to be reminded about stepping up with courage and resilience. Shifting responsibility to an unseen virus or unseen government is futile.

Playing games to midnight and then sleeping in until 10.00 are soft options.

Pretending to study using a device is simply that – pretence.

Studying at the end of a computer is hard work and requires structure and mental toughness. It requires **courage**.

Our College motto:

**Confortare Esto Vir**

asks us to

**"Take Courage and Be A Man"**

It is such a relevant college motto for young men.

Their future lives will be unstoppable if **resilience** and **courage** are their foundational life qualities.



St Paul's College  
CONFORTARE ESTO VIR