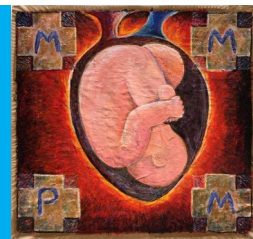




District of the Pacific Update

Champagnat Marist

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



District Dates

Monday 12th October: Term 4 begins for New Zealand Schools.

Tuesday 13th October: District Council & NZMBTB combined meeting.

Wednesday 14th October: Members of NZMBTB meet School Governance and management leaders

Wednesday 14th October: Champagnat Marist Board Formation Workshop.

Thursday 15th October: College Companies Directors Meet.

Saturday 17th October: National Election Day Aotearoa New Zealand

Attached Reports:

Marist News from Rome 647

[Download Marist News - PDF](#)



9th October 2020

Brother Barry reporting on their Retreat in Kiribati



Recent events here in Kiribati include launching out over last weekend into our first Ecological Retreat initiated by our Stewardship Team as one of our priorities, and very much in accord with our District Chapter calls. Participating in it were 18 people coming from the Stewardship team, the Brothers and invited teachers from our St Louis High School and three Champagnat Marist Pre-schools.

Barry led off Friday evening with a presentation integrating the powerful calls of Pope Francis in *“Laudato Si”* into the urgent Cry of our Mother Earth and the Cry of the poor who suffer so much from climate change realities. Next day we were blessed with presentations by two local women who are both personally and professionally fully engaged in Kiribati climate change realities. It was a powerful wake up call for all involved on our need to become more actively involved climate change action and in integrating this message into our educational priorities.

The next evening, at the request of the St Louis staff, we commenced here at La Valla our second *“Substance Abuse”* Retreat for 24 senior students from St Louis who have issues to contend with in relation to easily available local alcohol and drugs. Brother Amberoti took most responsibility in leading this three-day retreat with the assistance of invited local experts in these areas.

Brother Donald's 60th Jubilee Celebration with his Community





Catholic Worker Communities: Love in Action

Ramos House*

Brother Kevin reporting on his working with the Youth in Lower Hutt (Part 2)

The community are developing their own processes of incorporation that includes one-to-one conversations, trial periods, as well as longer commitments in a flexible discernment process. As a mixed community, they are awake to the dynamic of exclusive relationships and address that issue with sound common sense. They have regular prayer which can be quite early in the morning because of work commitments; on Wednesday evenings they go off to Berrigan House for a liturgy or the Eucharist in alternate weeks. Covid has shut down their participation in the parish where, for Level 2, seats are alternately roped off and restricted to 100.

They very much appreciate the support the brothers have given, through the work of Citizen. Locally, they also appreciate Brother Douglas's continued support. I am excited for them, especially given that the core group members are not older than twenty-five. I am reminded of our own beginnings in 1817. At the stage we are now, with our increasing bureaucracy, I am left with a lot of 'what if?' questions... What imagination and bold risk-taking could do ... *Kev fms*



*The back garden –
lupins to prepare for spring planting*

***Ramos House:** The house gets its name from the family name of the housekeeper and her daughter who, along with five other Salvadoran Jesuits were martyred in 1989. The only survivor was John Sobrino who was out of the country at the time.

Mr Terry Horne Reports on Marist Brothers' Work Overseas



Attached is a report from Dr Simon Walters, who for the last eight years has been running Marist Coaching Programmes in the Philippines and Samoa. This year at the request of Brother Sam and Dan Dungey plans are being made to take the Programme to the Marist world in Fiji. The Programme was the inspiration of the late Brother Brian Wanden and has the financial and moral support of an appreciative group of St Paul's College Old Boys. Cheers from Terry



[Simon's report.pdf](#) (click here to get Dr Simon's full report)



Brother Fergus Investiture Brother Kees Reports from Fiji

I accompanied Fergus to State House today, where he was awarded the 50th Anniversary of Independence Commemorative medal at a special investiture ceremony.

Regards from Kees



2020 Jubilarians

Champagnat Marists – District of the Pacific

Kiribati, Fiji, Samoa, American Samoa, Aotearoa New Zealand

Our grateful thanks and appreciation to these men for so many years of loyal and faithful service in Mary's and Marcellin's names.



60 Years
Brother Bryan



70 Years
Brother Michael



75 years
Brother Fidelis



70 Years
Brother Richard



60 Years
Brother Donald

2020 Jubilarians Celebration held at the Franciscan Friary in Auckland

2020 Jubilarians Liturgy in the Franciscan Friary Chapel



Led By Brother Samisoni, all the Brothers gathered in the beautiful Franciscan Chapel to celebrate the Jubilees. After the opening hymn, Mo Maria, was sung Brother John welcomed everyone to the celebrations. Then special Jubilee candles were blessed and given to the Jubilarians and along special engraved plaques. Brother Richard did the first Reading



from Isiah and Brother Donald did the Gospel Reading from St Matthew. Brother Bryan led the Jubilarians in a special prayer of thanksgiving followed by a prayer by each of the Jubilarians who then renewed their Vows together. This was followed by all the Brothers in the Chapel renewing their vows. After more prayers the liturgy concluded by sing the hymn "Glory to God". Everyone then proceeded to the Dining room to continue the celebration of the Jubilees over lunch.



Jubilee Lunch in the Franciscan Friary Dining Room



Brother Gerard was the Master of Ceremonies and welcome everyone to the special lunch and also made a special welcome to Brother David who was celebrating his birthday that day. After everyone was seated Grace was said and drinks were served. Brother Colin then paid tribute to Brother Fidelis who was not able to be present for the occasion. Brother Colin paid tribute to Brother Fidelis down through the 75 Years Brother Fidelis travelled through his Marist life. Brother Fidelis sent a written reply which was read out by Brother Colin. Following this Entrée was served.



Brother John then paid tributes to Brother Michael and Brother Richard on their 70 Years of Marist Life.



Brother Richard then replied to this for himself and then on behalf of Brother Michael. After Brother Richard had finished the main course of the meal was served



Following the main course Brother Kevin then paid tribute to Brothers Bryan and Donald celebrating their 60th Jubilee and their 60 years of Marist Life. Brother Bryan followed with his thanks followed by Brother Donald.



Following on from this was the cutting of the Jubilee Cake which all the Jubilarians took part in.

