



# District of the Pacific Update

## Champagnat Marist

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



### District Dates

Friday 24th September: Marist Anniversary 1836—Father Jean-Claude Colin was elected Superior General of the Society of Mary. 20 Marist Fathers made Vows in the Society of Mary. Marcellin Champagnat preached the occasional Homily.

Sunday 26th September: Daylight Saving/ Summer time begins—clock “Spring forward” one hour.

Tuesday 28th September: New Zealand Marist Brothers Trust Board meet.



#### Attached Reports:

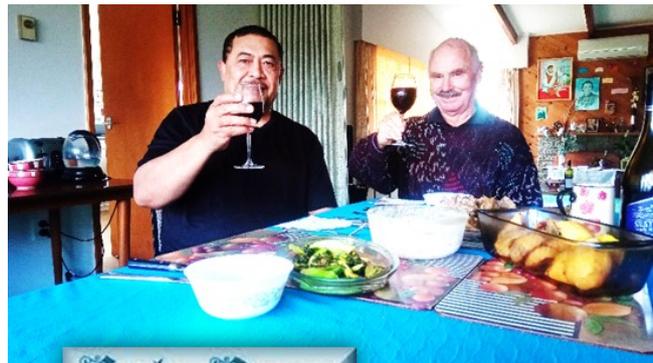
Marist News from Rome 696

[Download Marist News—PDF](#)

Friday 24th September 2021

## MID-NORTH COMMUNITY, KAIKOHE

In the mid-north community, we celebrated the Feast Day of the Holy Name of Mary and the anniversaries of Professions



### CONGRATULATIONS and our thanks to the newest members of our Marist Brothers



**Brother Karalo (Fijian) at Lomeri Pacific Novitiate Fiji**



**Brother Nowelle (Filipino) at Marist Mulivai, Samoa**



**"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith" (2 Timothy 4:7)**

I learnt these words from St Paul – in Latin – many years ago...in Year 11 to be exact! They have been guiding stance for me ever since.

They are still appropriate today.

+ Five weeks of intense lockdown

+ Five weeks of missing friends

+ Five weeks of zoom

+ Five weeks of distance learning

And more!

And yet the lesson of life is simply to keep going...today and tomorrow.

My congratulations to parents who have managed to keep their families together at this time of constraint. Keeping a structure and home routine is difficult. Heroic.

Well done to our young men who have turned up every day for their daily lessons...without grumble despite all the obstacles of home learning.

And gratitude to all our teachers who have had all the in person contact removed...and kept going.

Fighting the good fight, finishing the course and keeping faith in the mission of learning...very appropriate in September 2021.

And so our direction is about looking forward to being back in person at school.

We have started whole school daily zoom assemblies at the usual assembly time of 8.40. This is to encourage every boy to have a sense of the whole and to reinstate the daily connection.

When level 2 comes, we want every boy back in person to the usual school routines.

When we are back, we aim to make the college as safe as possible for all boys and staff.

+ 98% of the teachers and support staff have been vaccinated or are booked to be vaccinated.

+ Masks will be encouraged in class.

+ Masks will be compulsory on public transport.

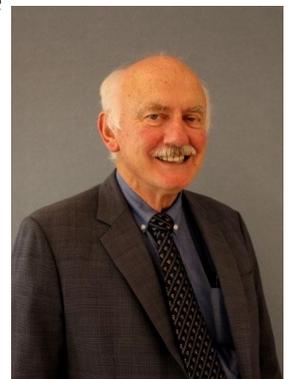
+ The usual protocols of health will be observed.

Keeping the faith is difficult. But as we know life is difficult.

Keep going today...tomorrow...

In His Peace

**K.F. FOUHY HEADMASTER**





## Special Character A time for Reflection

Tiaki mo te Whenua - Care for Creation

Pope Francis asks for our prayers for a specific intention each month. As a Catholic school, we are invited to answer his request and join with many people worldwide in praying for this intention, which for September is prayer for an environmentally sustainable lifestyle. In last week's newsletter this was raised in part of the Pope's call for 'Care for Creation'.

Many are unaware that in 2015, Pope Francis wrote an ecological encyclical, *Laudato Si'*, on the Care of our Common Home (2015). The Pope reminds us of the need for good habits in looking after the planet.

#211. He wrote *"...Only by cultivating sound virtues will people be able to make a selfless ecological commitment...There is a nobility in the duty to care for creation through little daily actions, and it is wonderful how education can bring about real changes in lifestyle. Education in environmental responsibility can encourage ways of acting which directly and significantly affect the world around us."*

He recently added, *"It makes me very happy to see that young people have the courage to undertake projects for environmental and social improvement, since the two go together. Let us take advantage of their example and reflect on our lifestyle, especially during these moments of health, social and environmental crisis... Let us pray that we all will make courageous choices, the choices necessary for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, taking inspiration from them who are resolutely committed to this. And they aren't foolish, because they are committed to their own future. This is why they want to change what they will inherit at a time when we will no longer be here."*

*Laudato Si'* is compelling and very readable. Perhaps in lockdown, during this Social Justice week deemed by the Church, and in Māori Language week a part of this nation, which focuses on all things Māori and of which creation, hanga, is central, you could visit the Vatican website and reflect on Pope Francis' encyclical calling us to be guardians, kaitiaki of creation. It is worthy of our time, effort and attention.

Pope Francis' Letter, *Laudato Si'* is very readable.



**I conclude with the following proverb/whakatauki:**

***He aha te mea nui o te ao? He tangata, he tangata, he tangata.***

***What is the most important thing on this earth? It is people, it is people, it is people.***