

# District of the Pacific Update



Friday 03<sup>rd</sup> June  
2022

## BRAZIL NEWS

### Greetings from Tabatinga by Br Luke

This year Mario (layman from Chile) and Br Nilvo (Brazil) left the Lavalla 200 community here in Tabatinga. Mayra (lay woman from Mexico) and I continue to live here in the community. This month a married couple, Marcio (Brazil) and his wife Laura (Mexico) joined the community. Now, there are four of us making up the Lavalla 200 community in this region, 3 lay Marists and myself. Marcio and Laura have had a lot of experience working as missionaries in Africa and Mexico. As for me, I am looking forward to the challenge of living in community with a married couple but so far, I am enjoying the experience.



New Lavalla 200 community in Tabatinga. Laura, Marcio, and Mayra



The four Provincials with some of the children who come to the Centre

Our Marist Centre is running smoothly with more than 60 students from around Tabatinga. We offer:

1. Language Classes (Spanish, English and Portuguese)
2. Dance (Ballet) group
3. Homework group.
4. Mathematics and literacy classes.
5. Ecology (Gardening and Composting).

At weekends we have our pastoral outreach to other communities here in Brazil, Colombia and Peru. While we visit communities along the Amazon river, we teach catechism lessons to children and youth, join groups combating human trafficking and drugs and also do work on Ecology.

I am indeed blessed to serve, working with the people of this region. One of the greatest lessons that I have learned is the importance of life. How are we connected to one another? With myself, others, Nature and God? I am really amazed at how the communities along the river respect Nature, especially the animals and the forest. Their culture and spirituality are so deep that this helps me to value my own life as a Marist Brother, my own spirituality and my mission here in this region. Also, I can appreciate and respect the little I have - not to waste things, especially food. There are families who find it very hard to put food on the table but the little they have they will share among themselves and with their animals. Food, shelter (a place to sleep) and happiness are far more important to them than material things.

I am enjoying all the experiences that I have encountered here in this region. Thank God that my health is fine and that I am able to do my work in serving the people of this region.

Vinaka and God bless.

Br Luke



Our Lady of Fatima procession in one of the communities.



Boat ride with the four Provincials of the Region



Doing some gardening in one of the communities with a LaSalle Layman



The four provincials of the region Brs Bene, Devis, Assis and Pablo together with the missionaries here in Tabatinga

## NEW ZEALAND NEWS



Some Remarkable Activities from Catholic Cathedral College Christchurch, New Zealand.  
*From Br Osmund*



Facebook Link: <https://www.facebook.com/torchmygpacific>



*Our District Marist Youth will have their session this coming Sunday, and we kindly invite you to participate in it. Your presence will help so much in nurturing the life of our youth and at the same time, they will be aware that we are very much in support of them. We extend to you a welcome to our Zoom meeting. The link will be circulated. Thank you and see you there.*

## Speaker

Br Afaese, FMS

## Date

June 5th, 2022

## Time

Samoa: 8:00 pm

New Zealand: 8:00 pm

Fiji: 7:00 pm

Kiribati: 7:00 pm

Philippines: 3:00 pm

*Life of St. Marcellin Champagnat*

