



NEWS

BULLETIN

October 2023

Missionary and synodally in heart and mind

PROVINCIAL'S VISITATION OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA AND BOUGAINVILLE

The Provincial, Fr. Milikiade has returned after his visitation of the confreres in Bougainville and those at Hohola and Kanosia in PNG. In Bougainville there are two communities, one at Hahela in Buka which consists of Frs. James Habuak, Boniface Kevon, Anthony Nawata, James Moke-la, Austin Magra and George. Nawata looks after Gagan Parish and Boniface, Tearouki Parish. In Buin the community is at Turipoiru where Frs. Wesley, Robert and Posirou ministered to wide areas with huge number of Catholic populations. The visitation ends with a retreat for the confreres. At Hohola, the Provincial was welcomed by Fr. Chris Hifo, Bro Andrea, the parishioners and the Marist Laity. Later he traveled to Kanosia and was welcomed by Frs. Vaioleti and Ambrose and then to Bereina to see the Bishop who expressed gratitude for the work of the Marist there.



JUBILARIANS

On 24th September, Archbishop Michel Calvert of New Caledonia, the retired Bishop of Wallis and Futuna, Ghislain de Rasily and Fr. Francois Grossin celebrated 60 years of profession in the Society of Mary. They have contributed greatly to the mission of the Society of Mary in Oceania. Our former Superior General, John Hannan and Francois Drouilly were also professed on the same day. Our gratitude and hearty congratulations to you all.



TWO GOOD SAMARITANS

Fr. Viliami Kiola, besides a full time teacher still finds time to plant yam in Tonga. At harvest time the yams are normally distributed to the elderlies in the parish and those in need. Fr. Ambrose uses his painting skill to bring new life to the Sisters' convent at Kanosia, Papua New Guinea. Gudpla wok!



FAREWELL AND WELCOME

Bro. Berenado was farewelled at the Sector House, Suva in a Vanuatu style of drinking kava and later welcomed at the Sector House, Port Vila by Morlini, Louis and Leonard. It was not his first time in Vanuatu. While working in the Solomon he led their national rugby team to play against Vanuatu which they won. Now he goes to play in the Lord's vineyard. We welcomed also Sefo and Epoki after their Ranong Marist Workshop.



ADMINISTRATION NEWS

- The Provincial has returned from his visitation of the confreres in Bougainville and mainland Papua New Guinea.
- Both the Provincial and the Vicar had recently attended the Tutu Board Meeting in Taveuni.

Anniversary of Ordination—Ad multos annos!

- Soane Mata Lomu—17. 10. 1975
- Xavier Sariman—1.10.2016
- Joseph Tora—23.10.2021

GOLDEN JUBILEE OF AMALGAMATION

On 7th October, the ex-scholars of Loreto High School and St. John's College started celebrating together with joy and gratitude the Golden Jubilee of the amalgamation of the two schools in 1973. St. John's College was first established by the Marist Brothers (FMS) and Marist Fathers for boys only in a small hill called 'Naserete' at Cawaci in 1894. It later moved to its present location seen in the photo below in 1953. The first girl's school in Cawaci was founded by the Marist Sisters on 8th September, 1897. It was called SOLA, a shortened of the Latin 'Solatium' which was taken from Bishop Julian Vidal's motto 'Spes et Solatium'. Closed in the 1930s the Marist sisters moved to Levuka and then to the village of Tokou where it was called Loreto High School. In 1973, the two schools merged and adopted the name St. John's College. Fr. Donato who hails from Tokou village and a former pupil was the Guest of Honour. In his homily, Donato eloquently spoke of the connection between 'Nasarete' and 'Loreto' to the role of St. John today. Both schools adopted the name which point to the formative years of Jesus and growth into maturity. St. John's College continues this role, forming young people to be matured and 'upright Christians.' The two days celebration was filled with joys and gratitude to the Marist family for their immense contribution to education in Fiji following in the legacy of Fr. Founder who asserted the lofty vocation of educators giving students *'as it were a second creation'*.



ECOLOGY DAY

One of our 2023 Provincial Chapter Commitments is to *"have an ecological conversion of caring for our planet earth founded on our love for God and of Mary who is a type of 'soil', 'the garden', and 'the earth'."* It was decided that each sector in the Province will mark in their own way the importance of *Laudato Si* on 4th of October, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi. At Marist College after outdoor activities, Fr. Donato end the day with a celebration of the Holy Eucharist. At Dala, the whole students and staff led by Frs Dyl-an and Viko planted trees around the school compound.



ST. BEDES COLLEGE AND NEW CANTEN FOR 'APIFO'OU COLLEGE

St. Bedes College from Christchurch, New Zealand recently visited 'Apifo'ou College in Tonga led by the Principal Mr. McDowall, the Director of Ministry Ms. Racheal and 17 students including former student of Apifo'ou seen her having an audience with Cardinal Mafi. The Marist Fathers in NZ had been involved with education at St. Bedes for many years. Fred Sevele, the former Prime Minister of Tonga, and Marist priests Frs. Suni Halapio and 'Aliko Langi were educated there. Apifo'ou was also the recipient of generous work of a volunteer group from Australia who built a new canteen for the students.



M I S S I O N A R Y A N D S Y N O D A L L Y I N H E A R T A N D M I N D