



## District of the Pacific Update

### Champagnat Marist

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



1st March 2019

#### Current News Items



#### Marist News From Rome

From March the Marist News from Rome will be emailed via Mail-Chimp. This requires anyone currently receiving the email or anyone who wants to receive it to complete a NEW REGISTRATION.

Go to <https://goo.gl/zivAAp> and register if you want to receive the Marist News.

#### District Dates

Friday 1st March - Mr Dan Dungey runs a Contemplative Retreat in Fiji for three days.

Monday 4th March - Brother David leaves For Rome until Tuesday 12th March.

Friday 8th March - Mrs Allison Bookers last day at Pacific Rise.

#### Links:



#### Brother Colin Divane Reports

Brother Bernard O'Malley was invited to select reading material from the St Paul's College book-room that could be suitable for his teaching back in Samoa. Here is Brother John parcelling up the readers in preparation for their shipping to Apia.

Over the holiday break Catherine McClintock (Board Chair) organised considerable improvements to the Marist Alternative Centre. At a BBQ this week she introduced our Board members to the two new educators taking up leadership roles for this year. This photo shows Tauke, Jacqui, Cherie and John. Don is an absent member of our staff for 2019.



Tauke Kirkwood is now our Centre leader. He replaces Kim Fraser who resigned after three demanding years at the helm. Tauke comes to us from from a Senior Management position of the Mental Health here on the North Shore. Over the years he has had contact with Marist in his capacity as a Mental Health provider. Cherie is a registered teacher and has been at Westbridge School at Massey for youth requiring residential care. We welcome them to our team. May our Centre continue to provide a haven for our needy

#### Brother Sefo Une storm damage photos from Kiribati



#### A Notice from Brother Kieran Fenn of the Oasis Community

Oasis Thursday 7th March 2.00pm "The Women of Genesis". Any Brothers are very welcome.

#### Brother Kevin Reports on Conversazione with General Councillors

There will be an opportunity to meet with Br Josep Maria Soteras and Br Ben Consigli on Saturday 23 March at Onslow Avenue.

Start time: 11am. The format has not been finalised but there will be some input/discussion followed by lunch.



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### Brother Kees Reports on the Lomeri Professions

The Lomeri Pacific Novitiate was host on Saturday February 23rd to visitors from Suva and other parts of Fiji, as well as from Samoa and from New Zealand, brothers family and friends, who had gathered to witness the First Profession of Brothers Steve Vaea (Samoa) and Petero Navuku (Fiji). The mass of Profession was celebrated by Fr Arthur Leger, a Fiji born Jesuit Priest and the choir from the Lomeri Mission Compound lead the congregation in the singing of hymns from around the Pacific. The mass was followed by a lengthy photo shoot opportunity in the brilliant sunshine, before everyone was invited to witness the cultural welcome as well as enjoying the entertainment, well lubricated by copious quantities of yaqona. (Kava). No gathering is complete without a meal and the cooks with their helpers excelled themselves with a feast befitting the occasion.

Welcome to the Champagnat Marist Family, Brother Petero and Brother Steve.



Brothers Steve and Petero with the Brothers present to mark the occasion.

Second photo is of Brother Afaese with Brother Steve and Steve's father, who had come over from Samoa.



### Brother Michael Taylor's 90 birthday From Brother Richard



Although Michael did not wish for any celebration of his milestone 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, some of his devoted old boys had a different idea. They wished to honour as best they could the 54 years out of his 69 as a Marist Brother, that he served at SHC with such tremendous dedication, and indeed, inspiration.

On the day, 9th February, they organised a special Mass celebrated by Mons Bernard Kiely & Fr Stephen Berecz, followed by a gathering afterwards in the College staffroom. Some 50 old boys and friends were invited, some travelling from afar, and tremendous tributes were paid to Michael- not principally as a teacher and coach but as a person of marked Marist simplicity, strength of character, insight into developing young men, and as a model for themselves growing up. Several mentioned that latter as a strong influence that has continued throughout their own adult lives. Their special gift to Michael was to fly his 91-year old sister, Pat, from Napier, as their surprise gift to him on the day. This brought wonderful joy to both Pat and Michael. Michael's reply to the various toasts was received with huge delight by those there. He had stories about various ones which both teased and praised, so had everyone in fits of laughter at time! The following day the Brothers from the three SHC communities, and Pat and her grandson gathered for a lunch which all enjoyed. John Koorey who had lived with Mick for the last 38 years proposed the main toast, and others, including his sister, Pat, contributed to the happy memories and appreciation for the great man. Ad multos annos, Michael.