

29th July 2016

District Update



Champagnat Marists
DISTRICT OF THE PACIFIC

Kia Ora • Greetings • Ni sa bula vinaka • Kam na mauri • Talofa lava

Faith Circles



Faith Circles are a double-sided A4 sheet, based on Pope Francis' Weekly Catechesis, with reflection questions and prayer points. It is available to download via email subscription. Faith Circles is free, no strings attached. You can print as many copies as you like. To subscribe go to <http://www.dow.org.au/diocese/resources/faith-circles>

New Staff at Pacific Rise



Finance Office

As of Monday 1 August 2016, Rita de Jager will join the Finance Office at Pacific Rise. Welcome Rita.

We look forward to you joining our Champagnat Marist community.

Healthcare

Catalina Velez is assisting Cilla on a part time basis with healthcare and wellbeing of the brothers. Welcome Catalina to our Champagnat Marist community.



Chapter Decisions

At the last Chapter the decision was made to review the governance and management structures of the District to ensure the sustainability and development of Champagnat Marist apostolic works into the future.

The Council has appointed Mr Brian Nicholas to lead the review. Br Richard Dunleavy and he will form an implementation team to consult, develop and put the proposed structure in place.

A Desert Experience – Br Kevin Dobbyn



On Saturday 23 July we had the chance to visit the monastery of St George Khoziba in the Judean Desert. These monasteries (there were 3,000 monks and hermits in their heyday in the 7th century), are located where they find water. It was the coolest day of the summer (33°C). After visiting the monastery, we set about walking the short-cut trail to Jericho. It was a contemplative walk in silence to the first resting point. All up it took two and a half hours. It made me realise that Jesus must have been very fit. As well, I learned that the 'Good Samaritan' would have taken his life into his hands because thieves and gangs found it an easy way to assault and rob people. And you can see in the photos plenty of holes in the limestone cliffs where hermits would spend time there, often dying there to be buried by the next hermit who came along to stay there. No one is there at present except for one monk from one of the other monasteries and he is the only one in the Holy Land. A rugged and austere life indeed. From there we went to the Jordan River where we had a simple ceremony renewing our baptism. It's not the kind of river that you'd want to be fully immersed, though they do have showers afterwards. Just on the other side is Jordan with its relaxed border guard.

District Administration

- 30 July** Constitutions meetings Marcellin College (9:30am-12:30pm)
- 31 July** Constitutions meetings 48 Crossfield Road (9:30am-12:30pm)
- 2-4 August** CMSPI
- 5 August** District Council meeting, Fiji

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

Talofa lava from Mulivai



The Brothers in Samoa with the District Leader, Br David McDonald, during his recent visit.



We have invited different local Marist communities to our community for a prayer, social and meal. Here is a gathering with the SMSM Vaimoso community.



We hosted a farewell for Br Chris and Br David recently. Members of the Property and Finance Committee joined the Brothers of Samoa.



Earlier we celebrated Br Peter Brown's birthday. Peter and the two young RE training teachers working at St Joseph's Alafua cut the cake.

Fourvière Day in Kiribati



Sunday Gospel Reflection

The weekly reflection may be downloaded at <http://www.maristbrothers.org.nz/spirituality/sunday-gospel-commentary/july-2016/>

World Youth Day – Auckland

