



## Notices

### Presentation of the Benemerenti Medal



On Sunday Feb. 12 at Saints Peter and Paul's in Lower Hutt, Brother Doug Dawick was presented with the Benemerenti Medal by Cardinal John.

In presenting the Benemerenti medal to Br. Douglas, Cardinal John chose the text from the first reading that referred to trust in God and acting and living faithfully. The Cardinal recognised Doug's 60 years of Marist life and the many contributions Doug has made to the Archdiocese through the establishment of the Grove community, through his chairmanship of the Archdiocesan Pastoral Council, but most of all from the many people who had written in support of the presentation of the award, of which he could quote only a few of the many.

The 5.30 Mass was full of friends from as far as Auckland and Hamilton who had come down for the occasion. Doug, in accepting the award, saw it as a recognition of the work of all the Marist Brothers who had been part of the faith live of the diocese.

Pope Gregory XVI (1832) instituted two medals which he called merit-medals to reward civil and military daring and courage. The civil merit-medal has engraved on its face surface the word BENEMERENTI, surrounded by a crown of oak leaves. The ribbon is of the papal colours.

### Samoa Marist Family gathering



A special mass at the Immaculate Conception Cathedral at Mulivai on Sunday united the Marist family in prayer as the inaugural Marist International Sports Week continues.

The mass was an opportunity to acknowledge God's guidance and protection on the first events of the Sports week including the boxing, netball and rugby league tournament which were held during the weekend.

[Reported by the Samoa observer.](#)

### Bon voyage Br Chris Maney

On Sunday Feb. 19th Br Chris departs Auckland for Samoa. Bon voyage Br Chris.



### Br Sefo Une arrives in Auckland



Br Sefo is scheduled to arrive in Auckland on Friday. He will return to Kiribati on the 27th February.

### District Calendar

23 February — Student Leader Forum (23 - 26th)

25 February — Bicentennial Gathering Mass and Dinner



## Notices continued...

### St. Louis, Lavalla and Old boys and girls



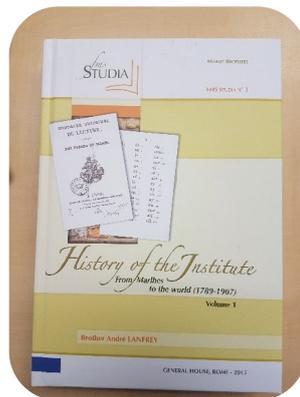
The St. Louis, Lavalla and Old boys and girls gathered to discuss the bicentenary events and enjoy a shared social lunch together that was kindly provided by Ti-oera loane and his wife, loane Tokaua and his wife and Mariateretia Kaiboia; the new Catholic Education Director.

The meeting began with a prayer led by Br Amberoti and our Lavalla Brothers. The meeting was chaired by Taatite and minutes taken by Br Barry.

### History of the Institute Volume 1

Copies of the new History of the Institute Volume 1 – from Marhles to the world (1789-1907) have arrived.

Arrangements will be made for copies to be made available in the near future.



### Update from Tarawa, Kiribati

In Kiribati there has been much enthusiastic activities among our Champagne Marists. Our Bi-centenary celebrations will begin with an opening Mass in the Cathedral on Saturday 18 February. Further Bi-centenary events are being planned for May and June around the time of the feast of Marcellin Champagnat.

The brothers at La Valla introduced silent meditation to the teachers at Sacred Heart College (on Tuesday 14). It was a half hour session where we stressed the importance of meditation. Following this, a good response came from some staff to discuss in their next staff meeting on how to carry this forward to their students. Next will be St Louis and hopefully other Catholic secondary schools if possible.

Two young men began their formation program on 1<sup>st</sup> February. Inraku and Ieremia are living with the brothers at La Valla under the guide of Br Tainga and his team at present (Brs Barry and Amberoti). These two young men have engaged in the various activities of the formation.