



# District of the Pacific Update

## Champagnat Marists

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



12<sup>th</sup> January 2018 District Update

### General News

#### January 2nd Anniversary Celebration

On January 2nd 36 Brothers gathered at Onslow to celebrate the two hundred and first anniversary of our foundation as a Religious Congregation. Not only Brothers from around Auckland were there but a number of Brothers home on holiday from our Missions overseas. A pleasant time was had by all plus a wonderful lunch provided by the Onslow community. Samoa, American Samoa and Fiji were also celebrating about this time as well. Below we have the Chapel at Fourviere where it all began so many years ago.



### District Dates

Sunday 14th - Brother Barry returns to Kiribati.

Wednesday 17th – Lay Preparation Planning Session with Dan Dungey.

Thursday 18th - Br Terence Costello goes to Kiribati to assist with Staff induction at St Louis' High School.

Friday 19th January - Brother Amberoti begins his retreat in preparation for his final vows in February.

### As a Global Charismatic Family

Kia ora

Nga mihi o te tau hou ki a koutou. Ma te Atua koutou e manaaki e tiaki hoki. (May God keep you and bless you.)

At the end of last year, we circulated the Calls of the XXII General Chapter to you.

For the first three months of the year we would invite you to focus on the First Call:

**We are called to be a beacon of hope in this turbulent world.**

We can achieve this by:

**A** Reshaping our communities to become living homes characterised by:

- A living home formed around Marist family values
- Being open to all
- Adopting a simple lifestyle
- Being present to all in our living home

**B** Promoting the diversity of Marist life in our district and the Champagnat Marist world by:

- Investigating and raising our awareness of what is happening in other parts of our Champagnat Marist and sharing what you know with at least one other person

**C** Acting globally by:

- Beginning a meaningful dialogue with others beyond our own geographic and district boundaries

You are invited to join with all in the District and agree on ONE ACTION that you personally or your Champagnat Marist community can take to implement this Call.

*“The New Year is a painting not yet painted; a path not yet stepped on; a wing not yet taken off! Things haven't happened as yet! Before the clock strikes twelve, remember that you are blessed with the ability to reshape your life!”*

— Mehmet Murat ildan

Brother David McDonald



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### 2018 Jubilarians

Champagnat Marists - District of the Pacific,  
Kiribati, Fiji, Samoa, American Samoa, Aotearoa  
New Zealand

Our grateful thanks and appreciation to these men  
for so many years of loyal and faithful service in  
Mary's and Marcellin's names.

#### 75 Years

Brother Romuald Gibson  
Brother Emilian O'Dowd  
Brother Brian Wanden

#### 70 Years

Brother Campion McMahon

#### 60 Years

Brother Joseph McCarthy  
Brother Denis Turner

#### 50 Years

Brother Michael Potter Brother Iulio Suaesi  
Brother Anthony Walker

### Totara Point - 10th January - 180 Years Anniversary

Bishop Pompallier, Father Servant SM and Brother Michel Colombon FMS landed at Totara Point in Hokianga Harbour on 10th January 1838. The first recorded Mass celebrated there three days later inaugurated the Catholic Church in New Zealand. But it was not until June, when the little party took up residence across the harbour among the Hikutu, that the mission to the indigenous people really began. For the first year, it remained centred on Hokianga, but in June 1839, after the arrival of the second group of Marists, Pompallier set up a new station at Kororareka in the Bay of Islands, the present-day Russell. This became the administrative and supply centre of his vicariate. With the arrival of five further groups between December 1839 and February 1843, he was able to found other stations in the north and elsewhere in the upper part of the North Island, as well as at Otaki in the south and even one in the South Island, at Akaroa. When he departed for Rome in 1846 to report on the state of the mission, the vicar apostolic listed 5000 Maori baptized, with five or six times that number catechumens.



*Gracious God, as we celebrate our Marist 180 years of Marist presence in Oceania, we pray that our hearts may be transformed.*

*Send us, like the first Marist missionaries, as a global charismatic family, a beacon of hope in this turbulent world, to be the face and hands of your tender mercy.*

*Inspire our creativity to be bridge-builders, to journey with children and young people on the margins of life, and to respond boldly to emerging needs.*

*We ask this through Jesus Christ, our brother.*

*Amen.*



**Pompallier Mission Station in Kororareka (Russell)**