



District of the Pacific Update

Champagnat Marist

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



2nd March 2018

Melanesia



Brother Douglas Dawick, from the District of the Pacific has been warmly welcomed to his new community in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea on February 1, 2018. Since then, Doug has been settling into the new environment where he will be living there for the next nine months as a community member.

Brother Doug's main role is to give support to the District Leader and to the communities in the District when there are needs. Therefore, he will not be staying only in Port Moresby, but he will spend time at other communities around the District.

Perpetual Profession of Brother Amberoti Nantei



Brothers Amberoti, Tainga, and David



Brothers gathered outside

Saturday 24th February was when the light of our Champagnat Marist mission in Kiribati shone brightly as many people witnessed our Brother Amberoti Nantei professing his perpetual vows. The Profession Eucharist was celebrated in the Cathedral where five different choirs helped animate the Mass.

We were blessed to have Brother David McDonald and Council members; Brothers Christopher, Martin and Sefo witness the Profession as well as our newly professed I-Kiribati Brother Tabunga present. Many lay Champagnat Marists, St Louis High School staff and students, parishioners, friends and associates witnessed this occasion.

After the Profession Mass, celebrations continued through the day in the imposing St Joseph's Maneaba where Brother Ambi's extended family organised the continuing cultural ceremonies, powerfully performed cultural songs and dance, and later an abundant meal for all. Many speeches in acknowledgment of Brother Amberoti and in appreciation of the mission of the Marist Brothers in Kiribati were made by guests including the Vice President.

On Friday afternoon, the staff and students of St Louis High School gathered to welcome Br David and the Brothers. The welcoming speech of the Principal echoed the encouraging spirit of "new beginnings" present in St Louis High School this year. The day following the Profession, some lay Champagnat Marists gathered at our La Valla Community for a time of sharing.

We Brothers in Kiribati are deeply grateful and uplifted by all the support and encouragement we have been blessed with through Br Amberoti's Perpetual Profession and look forward to working jointly with our Champagnat lay Marists in creating new expressions of our future Marist mission here in Kiribati.

District Dates

Sunday 4th - Marist Formators and Marist Sisters meet at Orakei.

Tuesday 6th - Asia/Oceania Leaders meeting in Singapore (Brother David attending).

Friday 6th March - Oceania Finance Committee meet in Sydney (Brs Kevin W and Peter H).

Saturday 10th - Marists meet at Onslow 2 - 4:00 pm to discuss reflection ideas with Sister Gemma Wilson SM