



# District of the Pacific Update

## Champagnat Marists

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

**4th August 2017**

### General Chapter Website

Through the new Champagnat.org website, you can meet the capitulars and accompany the work of the Chapter, which begins September 8<sup>th</sup> in Colombia. Interaction with the Chapter participants is possible through the messages published on the website itself and by using the hashtag #lavalla 2017 on social media.



### Brother Anitelea makes his first Vows in Fiji

Brother Anitelea Fidow made his first profession as a Marist Brother at the Pacific Novitiate in Lomeri on Saturday July 29<sup>th</sup>. Brother David McDonald, Leader of the District of the Pacific, received his vows. Brother Anitelea was born in Fiji, but now holds Samoan citizenship, He joined us from Samoa. His extended family from Tokou on the island of Ovalau were present, along with representation from the community at Lomeri and the Brothers and Champagnat Lay Marists from Suva.

The liturgy was celebrated by Fr Jim Hoe, a Salesian Priest. A group of boarders from the Ratu Mara Hostel in Suva added considerable life to the liturgy with their enthusiastic singing under the guidance of Inoke Malani and Jason Konrote, both Champagnat Lay Marists but also the two Hostel wardens. Mass was followed by a traditional ceremony of welcome, as well as a number of vigorous dance items performed by Anitelea, novice Tabunga, the three young men from the Formation community in Carew Street, as well as Harley, a close friend of the community there in Suva. A generous lunch followed the cutting of the cake. In the Pacific tradition, there was more than enough food for everyone, and oh so tasty!

Brother Anitelea heads home to Samoa for a holiday before taking up his new appointment at Kaikohe.



### District Dates

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> - Champagnat Partnership meeting

8<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> August Conference of the Major Superiors in Fiji

9<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> August Oceania Partnership Commission

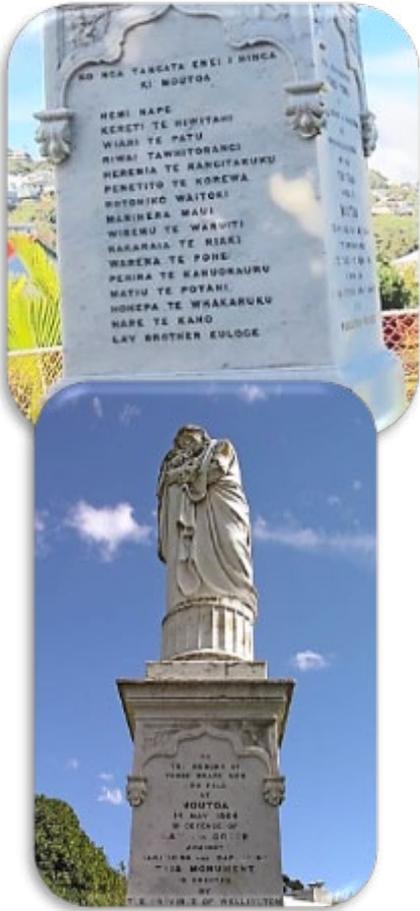


**New Zealand’s Oldest War Memorial Refurbished**

Marist Brother , (Antoine ) Brother Euloge Chabany , is the only European commemorated alongside fifteen kūpapa (Māori fighting on the government side) on New Zealand ’s first war memorial . They died during a skirmish that took place on Moutua Island in the Whanganui river.

The white marble statue of a weeping woman, a personification of grief, stands in Moutoa Gardens/Pakaitore in the city of Whanganui. The memorial was erected by the European citizens to commemorate the kūpapa who fell in the engagement on Moutoa Island. About 50 Pai Mārire also perished.

In May 1864, a party of Pai Mārire supporters from the upper Whanganui River were heading down the river to attack Whanganui town. Their path was blocked at Moutoa, by the party of kūpapa led by two chiefs from Pūtiki , near the river mouth. The encounter lasted not much more than 30 minutes. An account of the engagement, a 100th-anniversary publication, relates that Brother Euloge was wounded in the head As a mark of honour he was buried among the chiefs and rests there today.

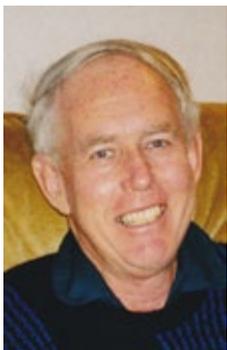


**A Sunny Day in Fiji**

Br David recently visited Fiji and snapped Br Kees enjoying a sunny day in Fiji.



**Welcome Back Br Terence**



Brother Terence arrives in Auckland on the 11th of August for meetings.