



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

Greetings to our Marist Community of Aotearoa and Pacific Isles

Greetings to all our Marist Family.

In bygone days when the shades of the Autumn sun began to lengthen an inner voice seemed to call us to line up to be weighed in for the Rugby season. Balls were pumped up and laced, leather springs were checked and boots rubbed down with dubbin. Our Brothers were energised too and rather anxious that their key players would make the weigh in grade. Once more would the green and white Marist jersey successfully grace the playing field across the land. Those were the days of our youth. I'm afraid that for many of us Channel 51 will suffice.

It has been a busy few months of activity for our Marist Pacific Community. Let me tell you of some of our highlights.

Congratulations to Napier Marist who recently took home to Hawkes Bay the 87th Spillane trophy.

Prior to Christmas Greymouth hosted the last of our Bi-centenary celebrations with a grand turn out of old Marist identities including brother Sam Eathorne who left Grey in 1948 to go to Tuakau.

In February, Dan Dungey gathered the 36 Student Leaders of our High Schools for a weekend. The Marist Student Leaders Forum was held at Kaiapoi, North Canterbury. Thanks for your generous support. This was another valuable assembly in maintaining our Marist approach to the education of our youth.



On the distant isle of Tarawa, Kiribati, Amberoti Nantei made his perpetual profession as a Marist Brother and in Lomeri, Fiji, Tabunga Etuati professed his first vows in the institute.

The New Year brought a few farewells for our Brothers. Kevin O'Malley and Don Teixeira set off to American Samoa to join Christopher Poppelwell while Brother Douglas headed for Papua New Guinea and Tim Leen for Malaysia.

The yearly event in the Petone Men's Working Club of our Tuakau Old Boys was attended by forty of our life-long friends. Phil McLaughlin came up from Christchurch to host the event and the current owners of La Valla, Peter and Maria Thompson were present to present a video of the recent developments taking place there.



Marcellin College in Auckland is celebrating sixty years of education while over at Ponsonby, Bishop Patrick Dunn and Brother David McDonald officially blessed the new Marcellin Champagnat Building of St. Paul's College. After 115 years on this inner city Ponsonby site this fine new building is a strong statement that Marist Catholic traditions are greatly treasured and worth the effort and expense in integrating life, culture and faith for the today's youth.



Already Easter is upon us. We wish you every blessing at this time of the year and look forward to sharing more news of what our Marist Family of the Pacific is currently involved in.



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With Thanks,

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