



NEWS

BULLETIN

November, 2025

Missionary and synodally in heart and mind

CELEBRATING THE SESQUICENTENARY OF FR. JEAN CLAUDE COLIN SM

On the 15th November, the Oceania Marist Province joined the Society of Mary worldwide in celebrating the 150th anniversary of the death of Fr. Jean Claude Colin. This was a time to reflect with gratitude on the immense contribution of our Founder to establish the Society and the legacies left behind. We continue to pray also for the cause of Fr. Colin. As part of the preparation for the celebration throughout the Province, quotes of Fr. Colin were sent to each community to be read in meal time. Prayers were sent out later and each community mark the day in a special way. Here are some photos from the celebration at the Provincial House, Tonga Sector and in the Solomon it was celebrated together with the Marist Laity gathering. Our accountant, Lawrence was there and share with the Marist Laity of his experiences working with the Marist Fathers.



ADMINISTRATION NEWS

- ◇ The Vicar Provincial is currently visiting Vanuatu.
- ◇ The Provincial Administration had its meeting to evaluate the work this year.

RENEWAL OF VOWS

On Sunday 29th November, Bro. Leone Balewaiyevo renewed his vows at the Pacific Regional Seminary Chapel. The chapel was packed with his relatives, friends and Marist College seminarians who led beautifully the singing. Dinner was served after Mass and a social evening. The Provincial led the celebration and assisted by Fr. Sipiliano and Bro. Elia as signatories.



PRS GRADUATION

The Pacific Regional Seminary had its Graduation Ceremony on the 19th November. It started with the celebration of the Holy Eucharist which was led by the Guest of Honour, Bishop Etuale of the Diocese of Pagopago. Four seminarians from Marist College all graduated with Diploma in Theology. They were Jordan Charlehand (PNG), Paulo Veitoyaki (Fiji), Marcellin Kamin (Bougainville), and Charlmas Harold (PNG). Jordan graduated with Distinction. These four candidates have all been accepted to enter next year the Marist International Novitiate in Davao City, Philippines. Congratulations!

YOUNG MARRIED COUPLES GRADUATION—TUTU

Beginning in the month of June, these Farming Couples celebrated a beautiful and spirit-filled Holy Mass at the Lura Grotto a place of reflection, faith and new beginnings. This marked the beginning of their six months course in Tutu. The whole purpose of the course is for them to be inspired to become entrepreneurs, learning to build a future through the wise use of their own resources-land, time, relationships and community. The course is not just about farming. It is also about strengthening families, building self-reliance and growing a future ground in the Vanua and Lotu.

Having completed the course, the Assistant Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Kuridanu was invited as Guest of Honour for their graduation ceremony. The Provincial and the Vicar were there to join Fr. Petero and the staff of Tutu in the joyous occasion.



GOLDEN JUBILEE OF ST. MARTIN RURAL TRAINING CENTRE—SOLOMON ISLAND

On 3rd November 2025, the Catholic Archdiocese of Honiara joined the Universal Church in celebrating the Feast of St. Martin de Porres together with the 50th Anniversary of St. Martin RTC which was established by the late Br. George van der Zant and the opening and blessing of the new church building.

The day began with a powerful enactment of the arrival of the first missionaries to the Solomon Islands by Archbishop Christopher Cardone OP, Bishop-Elect Fr. Jacob Aba SM, and the Marist Brothers, symbolizing Faith, Education, and Health, the gifts the Church brought to our islands. During the Mass, Archbishop Chris reflected on the humility and faith of St. Martin de Porres, urging everyone to be willing Christians and not lazy, and to serve God with love and commitment.

The celebration ended with feasting, music, and joyful fellowship, giving thanks to God for 50 years of faith and formation at St. Martin RTC.



TUTU BOARD MEETING

The Board of Tutu had its meeting on the 21st November at the center. Part of the agenda of the meeting was to discuss with Hon. Kuridani the Assistant Minister of Agriculture and Waterways. Hon. Kuridani re-affirmed the Government's commitment to the center. He acknowledge the Catholic Church and Tutu Rural Training Center for their vision and leadership in helping young families to stand as guiding light for changes and empowerment especially for those in rural areas which encountered unemployment, rural-urban drift and social fragmentation.



RETREAT-SOLOMON ISLAND

The Marist community in the Solomon Islands this year decided to join the Diocesan clergies of the Archdiocese of Honiara in their annual retreat. It was opportunity for them to pray together with their confreres.