

Marist Mission Centre (MMC)

Managing both:

The Marist Fathers International Mission (MFIM)

ABN 91 030 510 250

The Australian Marist Centre for Overseas Aid (AMCOA)

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MARIST MISSION NEWSLETTER
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Emergency Funding and Capacity Building for Mission

The Coronavirus is having a significant impact on the day to day lives of our missions especially in Fiji and Thailand. It is the poor whose lives are most affected during these times of crisis.

Fiji is experiencing a challenging time with the recent outbreak of the virus and the subsequent major impact on their health system and economy. Families are struggling to buy food and receive medical support from a health system that is itself in crisis. Refugees in Thailand make up a large component of the menial workforce but are not offered any health or financial support.

Thanks to the generous and kind support of our donors, MMC has been able to send Emergency Funding to Fiji and Thailand and is open to send further support when requested.

Our missions in Bougainville and the Solomon Islands are actively engaged in projects to upgrade or build new resources for mission. Work continues on the building of a primary school classroom at Tabago, Buin, Bougainville and plans are in progress for another classroom in a community nearby.

The SMSM sisters in Arawa, Bougainville have installed four water tanks and pit toilets to ensure a reliable and clean water supply and to address health issues in the parish community. In Tanzania, they are upgrading a library as a Centre of Learning for faith support and education of young people.

The community of St. John the Evangelist Parish at Dala, Solomon Islands have two active projects. The first is the restoration of the church building and the second is the building of three new houses for teachers as the school extends their program to include years 11 and 12.

The funding of new buildings and facilities or the restoration of existing buildings have a significant impact on the morale and capacity for mission in these local communities.

On behalf of the people in these communities in Thailand, Fiji, Bougainville, the Solomon Islands and Tanzania, I would like to offer my thanks for your support of all our missions in these challenging times.

As we approach the month of November for the remembrance of the Holy Souls you are most welcome to have a Mass offered by a Marist Missionary for your departed loved family member or special friend.

With my thanks and blessings.

Fr Paul Sullivan sm



Tabago Buin Bougainville



Fr Paul Sullivan sm
MMC Executive Officer

To Donate visit MMC Website:
www.maristmissions.com



EMERGENCY FUNDING

The people of Fiji and Thailand are experiencing the severe impact of COVID-19 on their families, communities, health and the economy.

Emergency Aid - Fiji



Thanks to the generous support of our donors, MMC has been able to fund food supplies and packages for distribution to members of local parishes and communities conducted by the Marist Fathers and Marist Sisters.

Fr Setefano, Oceania Marist Fathers Provincial has indicated that the virus will be active in the community well into September.



Above: A welcome relief for urban and rural families

Emergency Aid—Thailand

Refugees from Myanmar living in Thailand are deprived of any support from the local government during COVID-19. The Marist community in Ranong are actively involved with supporting these refugees with food supplies and medical assistance.



Above: Grateful families receiving supplies

Solomon Islands St John the Evangelist Parish Church

This is our Church

The original parish church in the community of Dala has deteriorated beyond repair due to the severe weather conditions in the Solomon Islands. The whole community is actively involved with the project to build their new church. This involves everyone participating in all aspects of the project including the very demanding and difficult work of cutting and carting timber from the bush to the building site.



Above:
The old and the new



Above:
The women have formed themselves into work teams and are doing the hard work of carrying the timber from the bush to the trucks



Above:
The men have their teams for the next stage of carting the timber to the building site.

‘All hands make light work’: The active involvement of the whole community has significantly reduced the overall cost of this project and will make an important contribution to the morale and spirit of the whole community.

Cambodia: Marist Soidarity

Marist Solidarity Cambodia is conducted by the Marist Brothers and is for young people who have disabilities. These young people are usually excluded from society in Cambodia. They are deprived of their rights to attend school and experience social and community support. The Centre is an opportunity for a new beginning and a life with hope.

The purpose of the project was to replace the old roofing on two classroom blocks with new roofing material and to insulate the buildings. Previously there had been no insulation in the roof or the walkways and the rooms were very hot in the summer period.

All the old roofing was removed, the steelwork of the roofing framework was repaired/replaced as necessary and repainted with rust-proof paint. Extra steel was added to support the heavier insulated roofing material.

New insulated roofing materials were installed on the two classroom blocks and covered walkways around the buildings. With these new roofs, classrooms have become cooler, which is more suitable for in-class learning upon the return of the students.

Ceilings in the rooms were repaired and repainted and/or replaced in each of the eight classrooms.



Above: New Roofing



Above: Completed Restoration

Marist Solidarity Cambodia is very grateful for the support the Marist Mission Centre has given in this renovation.

Since school reopening is currently not allowed due to Covid-19 pandemic, Marist Solidarity Cambodia continue doing the job of supporting our students' online learning and assisting them to access health care and rehabilitation services.



We Would Like To Express Our Appreciation To Those Donors Who Have Left Us Gifts In Their Wills Supporting The Mission Centre

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