



# NEWS

# BULLETIN

August, 2024

Missionary and synodally in heart and mind

## VISITATION OF SAMOA SECTOR

The councilor, Fr. Lutoviko Manu recently visited the confreres in Apia, Samoa from 17th to 24th August. He also had the opportunity to attend the Episcopal Ordination of Fr. Mosese Tui as the new Archbishop of Samoa. The community at Lepea consists of Frs. Patolo Matiasi, Sefo Vili, Mikaele Tuimavave and 'Ofa Vaihu. The community looks after two parishes of Lepea and Vaiusu. Sefo is the parish priest of both and is assisted by 'Ofa. Sefo continues to teach religious education at the Marist Brother's High School, St. Joseph and one course on Mary at the Moamoa Theological College for catechists. 'Ofa, besides his parish work looks after the Marist Laity and the Chaplain for the Tongan Catholic students at the USP Alafua Campus. Mika has just completed his studies at the Australian Catholic University. He helps out in the parish while awaiting graduation in October. After completing his renewal at EAPI, Manila and a holiday with his families in New Zealand, Patolo returns to the community and await his visa for the Solomon. After years of fund raising and overseeing the building of the beautiful church of St. Theresa of Lisieux at Lepea, he felt the need to go out for mission. Solomon is not new to him since he did his pastoral year experience there at Holy Spirit Parish, Buma in Malaita. The confreres look very well and are enjoying their ministries. Malo lava le onosai.



## WELCOME SIPILIANO



The Marist College community welcome Fr. Sipiliano Faka'osi as part of the formation team. After completing the Colinian Renewal Program in France Sipi went to Loreto House in Dublin, Ireland to study Religious Formation Ministry as part of the preparation for his new appointment. Welcome Sipi and we wish you well.

## STAYING FIT AND HEALTHY—SUNI HALAPIO



A Tongan couple, Lochlein and Simaima Sekona making a pilgrimage of St. Peter Chanel in Oceania met up with Fr. Suni Halapio and sent this photo of him exercising in his garden. He is semi-retired but still looks fit and healthy. He no longer celebrates Mass in the parish except in the Marist community at the Sector House in Wallis. With him in the community is Frs. Michel Tuvini, Fa Vakata and Bros. Adrian Lemo and Petelo Sekeme.

## ADMINISTRATION NEWS

- ◇ Fr. Lote is in the Solomon for visitation and also to conduct the annual retreat of the confreres.
- ◇ The Provincial currently is doing visitation of the Fiji Sector.



**SECTOR OF THE PROVINCE RETREAT**

Members of the Sector of the Province’s annual retreat was held at the Prayer Center, Wailkeutu from 10th to 16th of August. We were fortunate to have Fr. Carl Telford SM from the New Zealand Province directing our retreat. At the beginning, our reflection focus on a term taken from the writings of Hans Urs Von Balthasar, ‘Ego-Drama and Theodrama.’ Theodrama reminds us that God is the director of life and that it frees us to play a part in His plan. The opposite is ego-drama which means I’m the director and captain of my boat. It’s all about me, my parish, my school, my ministry. Ego-drama invites us to a life of anxiety, stress, resentment, loneliness and self-pity.



**VANUATU RETREAT**

During the Seminary’s second term break, Soane ‘Ahohako was invited by Bishop John Bosco Baremes of Vanuatu to direct the combined retreat of the Diocesan clergies and the Marist confreres. The retreat was held at Monmarte. The reflections focused on the ministry of priesthood, the challenges they encountered in their ministry and the joys of being servant of God. According to Soane, the sharing in the afternoon was very frank and honest which led to healing and reconciliation among the retreatants. A meeting of all priests followed the retreat.



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**DMI RETREAT—SOLOMON**



During the secondary school two weeks break, Fr. Dylan Schmidt left the comfort of Wainoni and a much needed break to preach the annual retreat of the Daughters of Mary Immaculate Sisters at Visale in the island of Guadalcanal. The theme for the retreat was ‘Discipleship’. At the end of the retreat as is the custom, the sisters renewed their vows. Tenkyu Aga.



**FIJI CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC CONVENTION**

Hundreds of people throughout Fiji, gathered at Don Bosco Hall from 23rd to 25th August for the Fiji Catholic Charismatic Convention. The theme of the convention: “Power in the Eucharist.” The guest speaker was Fr. Rojan George VC from Melbourne. Fr. Milikiade, the National Chaplain of the Charismatic Movement said: “There was an overwhelming spirit of enthusiasm, joy and celebration on the power of the Holy Spirit that became alive in this gathering.”





**NEW ARCHBISHOP FOR APIA, SAMOA.**

On the 22nd August, a majority of the Catholic population of Samoa gathered at Tofamama’o center to witness the episcopal ordination and installation of Fr. Mosese Kelekolio Tui SDB as their new Archbishop. It was a day of rejoicing and giving thanks to God. The ordination was led by the retired Bishop of Tutuila, Bishop Peter Brown. After the death of Archbishop ‘Alapati, Bishop Brown was appointed as administrator of the diocese. Samoa’s Head of State, Tuimale’ali’ifano was present as well as the Prime Minister Fiame Mata’afa and members of her cabinet. Archbishop Mosese began his seminary training at PRS in 1984 as a Diocesan seminarian before joining the Salesians.



**‘APIFO’OU COLLEGE U17 TOUR OF NEW ZEALAND**

The Principal, Fr. ‘Ekuasi and the Manager Fr. Mateo Kivalu led the ‘Apifo’ou College U17 Rugby team on a tour of New Zealand. They played two games in the South Island against St. Thomas and St. Bedes College. They then travelled to Auckland to face two top schools there, De la Salle College and Sacred Heart College. On the day of their arrival at Christchurch, it was –3 degrees. Most of them experienced for the first time cold weather and the snow. The tour was the continuation of a working relationship between St. Bedes and ‘Apifo’ou College. At St. Bedes, they met Fr. Roderick Milne SM, photo in the middle, a former Principal of ‘Apifo’ou College.



**FAREWELL FROM BUIN**

The Marist community in Buin, Bougainville thank Fr. Richard Harui and the seminarians from the Theologate in Rome, Leslie, Leonard and Zulu for helping out in the pastoral work of the community. The seminarians nearing the end of their holiday travelled to Buka and await their return to Rome. Richard has been appointed to Gagan in Buka and his first mammoth task is to demolish the old presbytery and build a new house fit for human habitat.



**CATHOLIC WOMEN’S LEAGUE, FIJI—29th August—1st September.**

The Catholic Women’s League of Fiji gathered at Mount. St. Mary’s Parish, Nadi for its annual conference with a theme: “The Role of the Catholic Women in Fiji in a Synodal Church Mission.” There were times to pray and times for various speakers speaking on various critical social issues affecting families in Fiji. The preparation started by Fr. Lote last year and continued by Frs. Eneriko and Justin this year.

