



NEWS

August 2025

BULLETIN

Missionary and synodally in heart and mind

YOUNG FARMERS AND YOUNG FARMING COUPLES - TUTU RURAL TRAINING CENTER

On a recent visit to Tutu, Fr. Petero explain two programs which are currently running at this time. “The Young Farmers every Thursday, participated in a one-hour seminar on Marian Integral Ecology, deepening their understanding of being stewards of God’s creation through the lens of Marist Spirituality. Rooted in the example of Mary, who lived simply and attentively to God’s presence in all things, the session invited participants to reflect on their vocation as farmers not just as a livelihood, but as a sacred mission of caring for the land, protecting biodiversity, and nurturing community well-being. This formation encouraged the youth to see their daily work as a response to God’s call for ecological conversion, aligning faith, culture, and sustainable farming practices to ensure a healthier future for their families, 'vanua', and the wider creation.”

“The Farming Couples program continues to nurture the holistic growth of participants through a formation on Human Person Development. This session emphasized inner transformation as the foundation for becoming good stewards of the land and better farm managers within the Vanua. Grounded in faith and family values, couples were encouraged to see agri-entrepreneurship not only as an economic pathway but also as a vocation of service to their communities and creation. By integrating personal growth, responsible leadership, and sustainable farming practices, the program strengthens families to be resilient, innovative, and rooted in the shared responsibility of caring for the land and future generations.”

The veggies belongs to the Married Couples and they will sell it for their own profit when they return home at the end of the program.



ADMINISTRATION NEWS

- ◇ The Provincial, together with those representing Oceania Province in the General Chapter, Frs 'Ekuasi and Petero and Serenia as an observer member will leave Fiji next week for Rome. Fr. 'Aisake will travel from Sydney. We wish you all the best in the Chapter.

SECTOR OF THE PROVINCE RETREAT

The Sector of the Province had its annual retreat this year from the 10th to 15th August at the Nazareth Prayer Center. Fr. Asaeli Raass SVD, the Provincial of the SVD in Australia led us in our retreat which was guided by the theme: 'The Challenges of a Synodality Church'. From his rich experiences as a missionary, an administrator and a facilitator at the recent Synod of Bishops in Rome, Fr. Raass brought a lot and enriched us all. We find that the Spiritual Conversation in the afternoon was very encouraging to us all since we began to see things that needs to be attended to. Those attending the retreat covers those from Tutu, Frs Petero and Tomasi and Bro. Berenado; Frs. Sione and Samu from the Formation House and Frs. Kiade, Lote and Viko from the Provincial House. We thank you most sincerely Fr. Raass.



MOTHERS' GATHERING—QUEEN OF MARTYRS PARISH, WAINONI

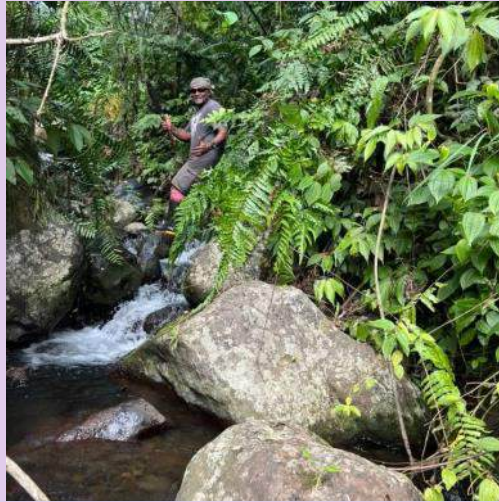
Every Assumption Day in the Solomon Islands is a very special day for all Catholic mothers. At Wainoni Parish, 200 mothers gathered from the 11th to 15th in the parish for seminar. Frs Lutoviko and Dylan plus Seminarian Hanford Mane gave talks on Mary's virtues and the Holy Eucharist. The Daughters of Mary Immaculate and other speakers also gave some inputs on different fields. The men's group were there too to support their wives and with the youth they perform entertainments.



VISITATION OF WAIRIKI

After the retreat this year, Fr. Lutoviko visited the community at Holy Cross Parish, Wairiki where both Fr. Epoki and Bro. Makario resides. They are awaiting now the arrival of Fr. Fabi, their new parish priest. Both are doing well in their mission, caring for their people in such a huge parish. Every Thursday, the Blessed Sacrament is exposed in the Church and no vehicles are allowed to go up to the school. In the evening there is Benediction and a celebration of the Mass. In the meantime, those from Tutu continued to help out at Mass in the parish.

Epoki has laboured hard in the parish farm, planting water melons, tomatoes besides taro and cassava. Through the help of the Ministry of Agriculture, pipes were provided to lead water down from the main source to the farm. This was a huge help for they always carried water up to the farm. These income continued to help the parish in its operational costs.



TUTU RURAL TRAINING CENTER

While in Wairiki, Fr. Lutoviko also visited the community in Tutu. Since our retreat has just finished, Fr. Tomasi was visiting the Solomon Islands with two other members of the Tutu staff for meeting. The community was glad to welcome back Fr. Isaia who had just completed his studies on Ignatius Spirituality in Rome which certainly equipped him in his work. Fr. Makario as always was busy every morning trying to keep the place neat as also his daily exercises. Fr. Petero, the Director of the place was busy preparing Isaia to take over the job as he prepares to leave for the General Chapter in Rome and to continues his study there. All the very best Petero.



OPENING OF THE NEW CHURCH AT VATULELE VILLAGE—KORO ISLAND

On the 16th August, Archbishop Peter Loy Chong consecrated the Church of St. Peter in the village of Vatulele in the Koro Island. The newly built church was constructed through the generosity of a donor from Australia, Mr. Peter Warners, and the tireless commitment of the people of Vatulele and Nabuna villages. This was a testimony to their resilience especially the destruction caused by Cyclone Winston in recent years.

On Sunday 17th, there was Confirmation at the Church of St. Joseph the Worker at Nacamaki in Koro Island too. During the celebration of the Mass there were 44 candidates who received the sacrament. In his welcoming address, Archbishop Peter reminded the confirmands about the significance of acquiring the fullness of life through our Lord Jesus Christ.

This was also the final works of Fr. Fabiano Dakai, the parish priest of Levuka. In his busy schedule he always find time to visit and spend days with the community supporting them in their work. Now two communities had one church each and he can now move on with gratitude to God for all that he was able to accomplished.



MMC VISITATION

Fr. Paul Sullivan, the Director of the Marist Mission Center in Australia has recently visited Bougainville and Hohola Parish in PNG. This was part of visiting places where the MMC is currently funding some of the building projects. In Bougainville, he is pictured here with Fr. Wesley and the Turiboiru Parish Pastoral Council. The other photo he is with Fr. Chris Hifo the parish priest of Hohola. The MMC is currently helping them in the building of their church's hall. Welcome to Oceania Paul.

