

# OCEANIA NEWS BULLETIN

One Heart and Mind for life and mission



Vol 4 Issue 1



By Fr Nico Reale OSJ

## Tropical Cyclone Ana



### Condolences

Our condolences to Frs Lutoviko Manu sm and 'Ekuasi Manu sm for the loss of their beloved mother, Maliana Manu. May she rest in Peace.

### Remember our Sick:

Fr James Mokela sm  
Fr Ipolito Bakaua sm  
Fr Emiliano Lasaqa sm  
Fr Seluini 'Akau'ola sm  
Mrs Philomena Buri Lugabai, Steven Lugabai's mother, who is very sick at this time .

St Joseph, faithful and chaste spouse of Mary, guardian of the domestic church, you lived a poor and humble life. You submitted your own dreams to the greater dream of God. You left behind your home and walk into the unknown with Jesus and Mary. May we, like you, be faithful, chaste, poor and true—to your family—which is our family too. Amen.

## THE FIRST TASK OF THE NEW YEAR



The Sector of Fiji

As it is happening in all the Sectors at the beginning of a new year, the Fiji Sector came together from the 13–15 January not only to be with each other but also to plan for the year ahead. This entails refocusing on their mission with accompanying pas-

toral plans. A presentation on Child Protection and Safeguarding by the Provincial administration was well received and further plan on Safeguarding training was established. Fiji Sector has 3 parishes, one school, and chaplaincies. Wishing a fruitful outcome to all the Sectors as they gather to deliberate at the beginning of 2021.

## RELIEF FOR CYCLONE YASA'S SCHOOL CHILDREN



Stationery kits plus...

As Fiji Islands braces herself for the arrival of Cyclone Ana, the efforts to reach out to the victims of the recent cyclone Yasa continue. The Provincial joined forces with Sr Kalala Taufa of the Marist Sisters in distributing school stationery kits and miscellaneous school resources received from numerous generous donors to the school children in the northern island of Vanua Levu where the full force of the cyclone was felt. The relief project

was the initiative of the Marist Sister after visiting the areas greatly affected by the cyclone. The sponsors and donors are gratefully thanked and are very much appreciated.

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## NEW SOLN MOTHER GENERAL AND TEAM



Despite the COVID-19 restrictions they did not hold back the SOLN sisters from their General Chapter. The Chapter culminated with the election of Sr Alisi Naufahu (3rd from left) of Tonga as the new Mother General together with four new councilors. The election was witnessed and confirmed by his Grace, Archbishop Peter Loy Chong. The SOLN sisters began 130 years ago with courageous young Fijian girls and women who volunteered to help the early Marist missionaries (Priests and Sisters) in their mission.

The SOLN have spread from Fiji to Tonga and Samoa and they are still working in partnership with other Marists and other congregations in building up the Kingdom of God within the local Churches. Congratulations to Sr Alisi and her new team and to the SOLN sisters for their 130th Anniversary.

## FIRST PROFESSION



We joyfully welcome to the Province and to the Society of Mary the two newly professed, Charles Sangul sm of Vanuatu and Peter Carde Matarakawa sm of Fiji. Seen in the photo is one of their formators in the Novitiate, Oceanian Fr Jacob Aba sm of the Solomon Island. Because there will be no novitiate in 2021 Fr Jacob is returning to Oceania to continue in the formation work.

Of the two newly professed, Peter Carde is returning to Fiji to continue his formation and studies at Marist College. Charles Sangul is not able to return to Fiji to continue his formation due to COVID-19 restrictions. Instead he will continue to Rome where he will join the International Formation Community for his further formation and training. Congratulations brothers and welcome back Fr Jacob.

## KEEPING ALIVE THE TIES TO OCEANIA



Despite being members of the Australian Province, former members of Oceania, Frs Brian Wilson sm (right) and Aliko Langi sm (left) are still keeping up the connection with the traditional beverage most loved and enjoyed in the islands. At the same time Oceania is greatly indebted to Fr Brian for his generosity and willingness to continue as the Mission Procurator for the Marist Mission of the Pacific investments. Fr Aliko is currently the assistant priest at the Marist parish of Hunters Hill. We wish them both continued good health and blessings.