

OCEANIA NEWS BULLETIN

One Heart and Mind for life and mission



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FEAST OF THE VISITATION



Gratitude is the foundation of generosity.

We remember in prayers on this day all our living benefactors. May they always be

blessed in their generosity.

FIJI COVID News as of 31 May

Since the first case detected in March 2020, 401 recorded cases with 164 recoveries and 4 deaths.



Since the outbreak started in April 2021, 331 cases were recorded. Presently, there are 233 active cases. The worst hit are the Suva-Nausori areas. We are on the 6th week of restrictions with the current curfews from 8pm to 4am except Suva-Nausori from 6pm to 4am. A total of 136,247 doses of vaccines have been administered and the vaccination program is continuing.

FROM RAIATEA



The Covid restrictions allow the Provincial to trim the mangoes tree 5 meter's above the ground. Well, the lightest member had the honor. All Marists in Fiji are well and most have had their first dose of the vaccine and are complying with the Covid safety measures.

Remember our sick

Fr Seluini 'Akau'ola
Fr Emeliano Lasaga
Fr James Mokela
Bishop John B Baremes
Fr Jean Rodet

TUTU AND THE "TREE OF BREAD"



The Tutu Rural Training Centre under the leadership of its director, Fr Petero Matairatu sm, has recently held a breadfruit symposium focusing on breadfruit as an alternative cropping for sustainable farming practices. Breadfruit is a common traditional staple food in the Islands of the South Pacific, and is known as *uto* (Fiji), *ulu* (Samoa), *mei* (Tonga), *kapiak* (PNG), *bulo* (Solomon), and *beta* (Vanuatu). The breadfruit has the potential to play a significant role not only in alleviating hunger but also as

a commodity for both the local economy and export markets. With a growing health-conscious society the offering of gluten-free breadfruit products are in great demand.

'API-FO'OU COLLEGE, TONGA CELEBRATING ITS 156 ANNIVERSARY



The inclement weather did not dampen the spirit of the principal, Fr 'Ekuasi Manu sm and the 'Api-fo'ou college past pupils as they marched from the Cathedral, after celebrating the Eucharist marking the birth of 'Api-fo'ou college 156 years ago by its founder, the "Father of Catholic Education in Tonga", Fr Amand Lamaze sm who was later consecrated

as the Bishop of Central Oceania in 1879. 'Api-fo'ou college began by Fr Lamaze with the name "St Stanislaus". In 1886 it was moved to the present site called "new home" or "api-fo'ou". The first principal in residence in the new home was Fr Emilien Thomas sm and he was in charge of the college for 20 years.

When Peter Chanel was beatified in 1889 'Api-fo'ou was dedicated to the name and the patronage of Blessed (and later in 1954, Saint) Peter Chanel. In 1964 'Api-fo'ou was renamed St John's until 1986 when it was combined with St Mary's, begun by the SMSMs, and named 'Api-fo'ou again. Adveniat Regnum Tuum!



Grateful to MMC / AMS and benefactors

St Raphael Elementary School—Cycle for Children fund



The students of St Raphael's Elementary school in the parish of St Aloysius, Tabago, Bougainville together with

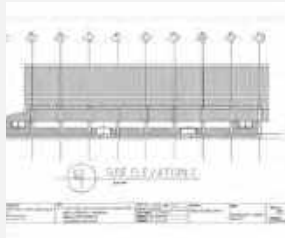
their parish priest, Fr George Baruka sm, are grateful to the Cycle for Children Fund as they eagerly await with joyful expectation their new classroom being built. Thanks to all the benefactors and to Br Charlie Randles sm and the cyclists from the International formation house

St John's, Dala, new parish Church



The parish priest of Dala, Solomon Island, Fr Peter Puamae sm, together with about 4,000 parishioners

are so thankful to MMC and benefactors who have accepted to assist them in rebuilding their run down church. The church was built in the late 1950s when the parish was established.



Sacrament of Confirmation in Lamalu parish, Tanna.



the Sacrament during his annual pastoral visit of the parish.

The Lamalu parish in Tanna, Vanuatu Islands under the pastoral care of the parish priest, Fr Epokifoou Okusitino sm and his assistant, Fr Louis Maite sm, together with the Catechists of the parish helped to make the confirmation day for the candidates a special one. Bishop John B Baremes administered

71st Anniversary of the establishment of St John's the Evangelist, Dala, Solomon Islands

The parishioners reenacted the arrival of the first Marist priest, Fr Authur Devlen sm on the 16th of May 1950 by welcoming the current parish priest, Fr Peter Puamae sm to the shore of Dala by the grandchild of the one who received the first parish priest 71 years ago. The parishioners also built a 6-meter cross to mark the occasion. The Marists took care of the new parish from 1950 until 1998. It was handed over to the diocese of Auki until

2010 when the Marists were asked to take it back again. Included in the parish is the St John's community school. The school will reach the form 6 or the Year 12 level in 2022. Assisting the parish priest is



Fr Soane 'Ahoako sm who is having a break from studies in the Philippines due to Covid-19.