# OCEANIA NEWS BULLETIN

One Heart and Mind for life and mission



Vol 4 Issue 6: June 2021

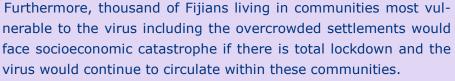
#### **Covid-19 Pandemic in Fiji** (as of 29 June 2021)



With a total of 3726 covid cases since the April 2021 outbreak, 15 deaths, a 7-day daily average of 250 cases, and a 7.9% test positivity rate and rising which now exceeds the WHO's 5% threshold, it means that the outbreak has become uncontrollable.



An underlying cause of this situation has been identified by Permanent Secretary of Health as a lack of public compliance. A total 24-hour lockdown over 28 days is therefore out of the question.





A mitigating strategy is the vaccination drive. At this stage there is about 46% of adults who have received one dose and about 7% fully vaccinated A fully vaccinated population is the only medically proven way towards the Fijians experiencing freedom in a new normal. The accelerated vaccination drive is greatly enhanced by the assistance of the Australian and New Zealand governments.

On the same token, the Archdiocese of Suva and Caritas Fiji have begun Covid-19 appeal and are now distributing food rations and wash kits worth FJD 100 to at least 500 families and are continuing. Other Catholic relief services, individuals, families, Catholic groups, religious congregations and parishes are generously donating. Currently, the Fiji's poverty rate is at 30%.

Pictures show the Vicar General of the Archdiocese, Rev Fr Sulio Turagakavici (top) helping in the distribution of food rations and cash to vulnerable families



Partnership in mission

Perhaps this is an expression of the 2017 General Chapter Statements and Decisions, #9.d "Seek 'partners in mission', most obviously from within the Marist Family...". Seminarian Leonard Amora sm, in the past 6 months, have been living in community with the Marist Sisters and fulfilling his Marist Mission Experience (MME) year. This is a first for the seminarians in formation and hopefully, not be the last. There are 3 other MME students, one in the Tutu Rural Training Center's community, one in the Holy Eucharist parish community, Laucala Bay, and one in the school community of St John's Cawaci, Levuka.



<u>Council of the Province</u>
The Provincial has called a virtual Council
of the Province for 2021 which will begin

of the Province for 2021 which will begin on 10th of July. There will be 6 sittings fortnightly until 18th of September.

Remember our sick Fr Seluini 'Akau'ola Fr Emeliano Lasaqa Fr James Mokela Fr Jean Rodet

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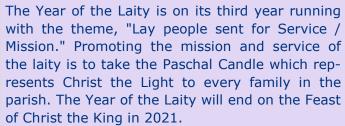
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### Queen of the Martyrs Parish—Wainoni Bay—Solomon Islands A group of the parishioners of the Queen of Mar-















#### Six new classrooms

and the Solomon Islands.

The parish school is deeply indebted to the Australian Marist Solidarity and Marist Mission Centre for further project grants to build six new classrooms in the newly established Queen of Martyrs Secondary School. The school was established through the initiative of the previous parish priest, Fr Patelisio Taufa sm and the parish community as a response to the educational needs of their children. The children showed their appreciation by eagerly helping with the work.

tyrs Parish, Wainoni Bay with their parish priest, Fr Richard Harui sm, joined to continue promoting the Year of the Laity which was declared by the Conference of Bishops for Papua New Guinea

#### AROB DAY FOR TURIBOIRU CHURCH, BUIN



Fr Dylan Hatobu sm with the Bougainville community in Brisbane celebrated the Bougainville Day on 15th June. Funds raised in the celebration was donated towards the building of the new church of the Turiboiru parish, Buin, Bougainville.



Cardinal Mafi & Fr Anaua Finau sm with the confirmed of the St Ann & Joachim parish, Tonga.



The new church of St Theresa parish, Lepea in Samoa. Three years later with hard work by Fr Patolo Matiasi sm and parishioners have finally come close to completion

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