

OCEANIA NEWS BULLETIN

One Heart and Mind for life and mission



Vol 4 Issue 7: July 2021

Council of the Province 2021

Virtual Meeting Sessions:

- Session 1: 10 July
- Session 2: 24 July
- Session 3: 07 August
- Session 4: 21 August
- Session 5: 04 September
- Session 6: 18 September

Vocation



The Tonga Sector confers with the "Come and See" candidates in their Vocation weekend program.

Formation



The Marist College formation community with the formators, Frs. Donato Kivi, Denis Revi and Aisake Silatolu.

Remembering our Sick

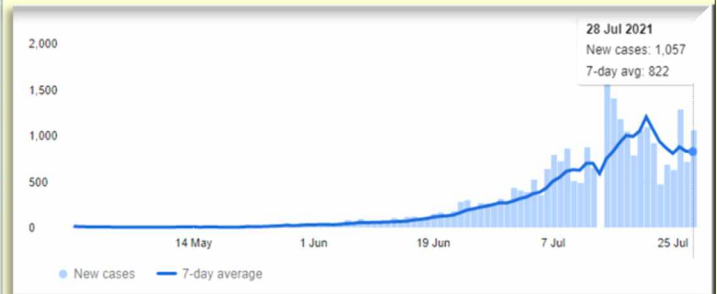
1. Fr Seluini 'Akau'ola sm
2. Fr James Mokela sm
3. Fr Jean Rodet sm
4. Fr Emeliano Lasaqa sm

"A LITTLE LIGHT FROM THE END OF THE TUNNEL"

As of 31st July 2021

Positive cases today	Total Cases from April Outbreak	Total Cases since 2020
1,163	28,590	28,660
New deaths recorded	Total deaths since April	Total deaths
6	231	233
Total Active Cases	New recoveries	Total recoveries
21,109	244	7,195

Source: Fiji Ministry of Health and Services



Source: Covid-19 Data Repository by CSSE at Johns Hopkins University



A month since the last bulletin the Covid-19 Delta variant infection rate in Fiji has risen from 7% to 25%, with a current total active cases, as of 31st July, of over 20,000, total deaths of over 200, and a daily average of over 800 positive cases. These are from April 2021. Despite the rising trends in all aspects of the pandemic, there is a little light that seems to glow dimly from the distance with the rising numbers of vaccinations towards herd immunity. The population target for vaccination has reached 79.3% 1st dose and 20.5% fully vaccinated. From the latest census (2017) Fiji's population was at 896,445 people with a population growth of 0.6%. While waiting in hope for full illumination the need for charity grows in proportion to the rising infections.

We are grateful to Marist Mission Centre, Sydney for providing 2 grants, so far, towards assisting families directly affected by the pandemic. The Provincial has taken the lead in the shopping and the distribution of the food rations for the affected families.



The cases are concentrated in the 3 major cities with the vast majority found in the capital areas of Suva.

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COUNCIL OF THE PROVINCE (COP) 2021



On the 10th of July Oceania began the first Session of a 6-session virtual COP meeting over a span of 2 months and a half. Each session occurs every fortnight until the 18th of September. Two sessions have been completed. The COP was called due to the indefinite delay of the Provincial Chapter and the growing sense of disconnections from each other. The meeting is with the fervent

intention that despite the grim effects of the pandemic that Oceania would continue to be on task with the life and mission of the Province.

Exceptional Citizen Crown Award



Fr Seluini 'Akau'ola sm was another awardee of the Order of the Crown of the King of Tonga in the anniversary of his 10th year on the throne. Seluini is currently in Australia for medical treatment and the award was a timely gift for his 90 year old mother, Ana Akau'ola. This is a witness to the 3 aims of the Marist education—good Christian, good citizen, and good scholar. Congratulations Seluini.

“Building up the people of God”



The structure of the new St John the Evangelist Church in Dala, Malaita, Solomon Islands is on target for completion. This a long-for-project that is coming to a fruition for the over 4,000 parishioners of Dala. Fr Peter Puamae sm, the parish priest and the parish are greatly indebted to the financial help from MMC and Rome.

Pledging to be members of the Third Order



Fr 'Anaua Finau sm, animator for the Third Order is seen receiving new members from one of the parishes in Tonga. The traditional third order is the main Marist laity group. There are also Marist youths and Marist students groups.

May he rest in peace



Br Mikaele Cilicewa sm was laid to rest on Friday 30th of July aged 75 after being a Marist for 50 years. He was professed on 01 Jan 1971. He was appointed to various ministries which includes the following places: Tutu, Takwa (Solomon), St Martin Rural Training Centre (Solomon), Rotuma, and the Macksville Koori Ministry (Australia). He retired in 2015 at the Fiji Sector House. R.I.P.