

OCEANIA NEWS BULLETIN

One Heart and Mind for life and mission

Vol 5 Issue 2: Feb 2022



MYV Topics for March
"Hidden and unknown as the heart attitude to be present in our life"
(Justin Taylor) for the communities and lay groups.
"Understanding the difference between a vocation and a job" (NZ Seminary) for youth groups.

ALIVE IN MEMORY
5th EDITION
1836-2021

- see page 2 for details

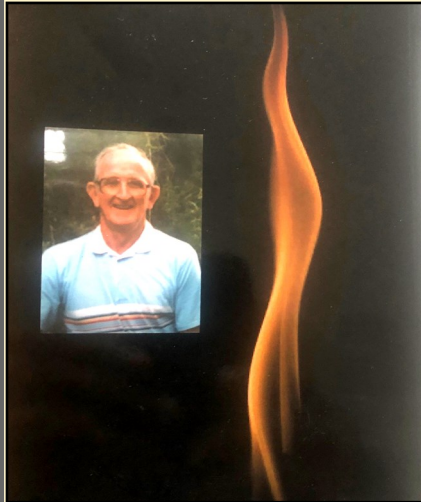
ADMINISTRATION

The Vicar Provincial is still on visitation in Taveuni.

Our Sick

Fr James Mokela sm
Fr Emiliano Lasaqa sm
Fr 'Ofa Vaihu sm
Fr Aisake Silatolu sm

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO THE "KEEPER OF THE FLAME"

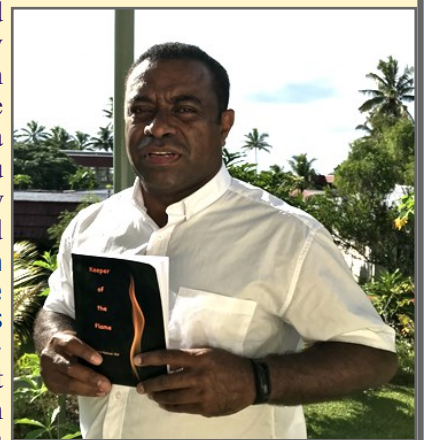


Late Fr Lawrence (Larry) Hannan SM, born 29.06.1922 in Dundalk, Ireland, professed on 08.09.1942, died on 06.02.2015. He spent his missionary life in Fiji starting in 1949 until his death 67 years later, aged 93.

This is a tribute to him from the formator of Marist College, Fr Donato Kivi sm, as they began their formation year. "It was breathtaking in the sense that it brought Fr. Larry to life. He was a formator (semi-retired) and a spiritual director when I started as a seminarian at Marist College. Like a jolt of electricity, his words alerted us into readiness for another year. His journal deeply moved me as if he was telling me his story in a personal way, just like he did when he was directing me during those seminary years. The little book is an inspiring read of a saintly Marist

who spent 67 years in a foreign land. Like many Marists that came to Oceania, they were equipped with all kinds of necessary skills from farming, building, plumbing, bookkeeping, etcetera; you name it, Fr. Larry seemed always to have one up his sleeve - he could even shoe a horse.

Fr. Larry is another Marist giant, a tireless shepherd who came ready to feed his flock in a distant land. A man fully charged, never slowed down even in his later years when he was partially blind. It was only right to say that he was "a man fully alive", as in the word of St. Irenaeus, where we "see the glory of God." To be robust and have a zest for life. He lived out his principle that "you should never walk when you can run ... with new initiatives and plans, it was never advisable to stand in the way for you might get run over." He then thanked those who made it possible for the book to be published particularly Fr Larry's brothers, Peter Hannan SJ and Michael Hannan. He then concluded, "we will never forget how he has touched, formed and enflamed us with his faith and love for the Society. We will always remember you Fr. Larry, you are a true "Keeper of the Flame". Donato Kivi SM.



Frs Patolo Matiasi, Mikaele Tuimavave, Iosefo Vili and "come and see" young men.

"Lord, give us vocations according to your heart."

The Year of Vocation is a blessing, and in the words of the Superior General, "a wonderful year of grace" where we come to appreciate and renew our vocation in the Society. Paradoxically, as we encourage, support, and listening to each other, a culture of vocations emerges. The Samoa sector, after some years without vocations for the Society is rejoicing that young men are now knocking on their door to discern their vocation.

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GOLDEN JUBILEE OF ORDINATION

CONGRATULATIONS to Fr Francois Grossin who achieved the memorable milestone of 50 years as a priest on the 12th of February. Unfortunately, the cyclone Dovi and the omicron disrupted any plan for celebration. The flight that he was supposed to be in to visit Lifou was cancelled and in his own words, "this is how on Saturday morning, February 12, I unexpectedly celebrated the mass of my priestly jubilee at the Cathedral at 6am in front of a sparse audience (about 50 people), surprised for some to see me go up to the altar, when they thought I was on the plane." Fr Grossin has showed no sign of slowing down despite his advancing years. AD MULTOS ANNOS.

ALIVE IN MEMORY

1836 - 2021

A
Biographic
Necrology
of
Oceania
Marist Province



VIVANTS DANS LA MEMOIRE

1836 - 2021

Nécrologie
biographique
de
la Province mariste
d'Océanie



ALIVE IN MEMORY—5th EDITION 1836—2022

Since 1981, Oceania Province has prayerfully remembered its deceased confreres who have worked in Oceania since 1836.

The Province had published their biographies firstly in a bilingual publication called MEMORIAM until the 4th edition when it was decided to publish it in two volumes, in English and in French and titled ALIVE IN MEMORY.

The publication is updated every 10 years.

The 4th edition (2011) had 741 names. This 5th edition (2021) will have 72 new entries which include those who had died since 2021 and a couple of others who missed out in the last edition.

As in the previous edition, ALIVE IN MEMORY, both versions, will be published in Fiji. It is envisaged that by the end of March 2022 and barring transportation constraints, the book would have been delivered to all members of the Province and the dioceses in Oceania, and all those who have ordered from outside the Province.

Orders for the French version from outside the Province may be sent to Fr Francois Grossin in

f.grossin@ddec.nc

The order for the English version to be directed to

aisake.vaisima@maristoceania.org

The new edition has 370 pages (English version) with an estimate cost per copy at 8.40 euros.

This book is both a wonderful inheritance of our common history and Christian roots in both central (Polynesia) and western (Melanesia) Oceania, and a tribute of gratitude to the men who were "spending themselves and be spent", and the countries where they were hailed from.