



“These projects have given us a sense of urgency in recognizing our responsibility to care for the Earth and the poor of Earth in the way we live.”



## Marist College, Suva. Bulletin #8 30th August, 2021

### August Greetings

Greetings and good wishes to you all, our dear families, confreres, friends and benefactors. I greet you all after we celebrated the feast of the Assumption. We remembered the first Mass celebrated in Fiji by the first group of Marists, Fr. Bréhéret, Fr. Roulleaux and Br. Annet on the island of Namuka in the Lau group 177 years ago. We also celebrated the 40th birthday of Fr. Denis Revi, one of our Formators. It is a great time to celebrate birthdays and mark events in a particular manner where things are dull and monotonous during this Covid-19 lockdown.



*(the raised beds)*

We are in the middle of the three week school holidays, and because of the lockdown, students have been deprived of travelling and enjoying the break with families and friends. Unfortunately, this has been the new norm for this year when the Covid-19 Delta variant struck Fiji. In the past weeks, Fiji was tallying more than 1000 positive cases. However, the vaccination drive by the Ministry of Health has brought some hope that things will be eased in the coming months.

The pandemic lockdown has taught us many things. Students are more at home using Zoom and Canvas online programs. So, all classes take place at home, either as a group in the College Library or in the comfort of their rooms. Since most of our time are oriented at home, we have also spend a good time promoting and living out Laudato Si' in some ways. This is in following the Sustainability Covenant adopted by the General Council in September of 2020. The Covenant sets down for the Society of Mary practical steps towards creating a life-sustaining world following the direction from Laudato Si' and GC2017. Marists do the work of “Mary, the Mother who cared for Jesus, who now cares with maternal affection and pain for this wounded world”(LS. 241).



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***DID YOU KNOW??***

AT ANY GIVEN TIME OR PLACE, MOTHER MARY IS ALWAYS THE SUPERIOR OF THE SOCIETY, COMMUNITY OR MARIST HOUSE.



*(lets call it a day!!)*



*(The year ones having classes on zoom)*

At Marist College, we have tried to integrate this care into the formation life of the community. Our life-sustaining practices are focused on food, waste, water use and landscaping. On food, we have adopted a couple of plant-based meals cutting down on our meat consumption. In waste management, we have increased our waste bins according to different categories of waste materials. We have a composting house which has been providing for our garden for the past two years. Another area we have looked into is earthbag technology for making raised beds and beautify our landscape. We have also used the same technology to support and patch one of our broken water tanks. Finally, in lowering our energy footprints, all our lights have been changed to LED. These projects have given us a sense of urgency in recognizing our responsibility to care for the Earth and the poor of Earth in the way we live. We hope that many more of you, our friends and families, will join us to acknowledge the urgency of the climate crisis and act with the required integrity to heal our broken home.



*(Young men at work)*



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