

SMbulletin

Friday, 7 May 2021

OCEANIA AND LAUDATO SI'

This week Fr Petero Matairatu from the province of Oceania gave a 1,5 hour presentation as part of the one week “Residential Seminar”, in which 163 SEDOS-members from around the globe participated and which had the theme “Living Green Mission”. Petero is the director of the Tutu Marist Training Centre in Fiji. He explained the 51 Year development of this Marist Project, and gave tribute to Fr Michael McVerry sm, who has been chief architect of the Project over the previous 42 years. More on www.tutufiji.com.

In the same spirit Fr Donato Kivi continues his work in *Dawasamu*, the Marist Eco-Centre in Fiji. Recently he ran a workshop for youth from the village on how to build *earth bag houses*: houses easily to build, produced with natural, eco-friendly, low-cost building materials. The houses are surprisingly strong and durable, resisting fire, earthquakes and cyclones. Along with the students of Marist College, they have completed their first earth bag home. The technology is new in Oceania, and, says Donato, it has been a monumental task to achieve this one, the first in Fiji.



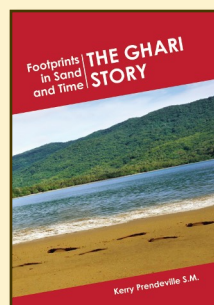
**LET US PRAY THAT OUR
DECEASED CONFRERE MAY REST IN PEACE**

THE CENACLE

In the Netherlands the community house of Enschede is called “De Bovenzaal”, which means the “cenacle”. To honor this name, Fr Ad Blommerde has painted an icon with Mary in the center, praying with the apostles in anticipation of the Pentecost event in Jerusalem. After Fr John Larsen’s last reflection, the community is happy to share the icon with confreres worldwide.



THE GHARI STORY



New Zealand confrere [Fr Kerry Prendeville](#) has published a book about the Ghari people of Guadalcanal where he first worked. The book is a compilation of oral and written narratives covering the pre-history of the Solomons, the mythology behind the social and cultural structures of the Ghari, religious rituals and spiritual beliefs handed down by their ancestors, the story of the Marist missionaries who lived among the Ghari, the Battle for Guadalcanal and much more. The book may help the younger generation of Guadalcanal to maintain their cultural identity and links with their ancestors in a rapidly changing world. The Province of NZ has funded this project and the books will be gifted to the Ghari community and the Archdiocese of Honiara through Archbishop Chris Cardone OP.

F. Colin Campbell
Australia

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