



# ST JOSEPH'S CATHEDRAL

JULY 2015

PHONE: (682) 26113

**SUNDAYS MASSESS**

9.00 AM Maori  
10.30 AM English  
5.30 PM ADORATION/BENEDICTION

**WEEKDAY MASSES**

7.00 AM MON.-FRI.  
8.00AM SATURDAY  
CONFESSIONS AFTER MASS

**St. Joseph's Cathedral Parish:**

**Parish Priest:** Bishop Paul Donoghue, sm.

**Phone:** (682) 20817: Office  
20692: Residence

**St Joseph's Cathedral Parish Council:**

Chair: Carl Glassie  
Assistants: Joe Caffrey/Ron Patia  
Treasurer: Unakea Kauvai  
Assistant: Julia K. Cowan  
Secretary: Mousie Skews  
Assistant: Ruta Tomokino

**Sunday Readings for July:**

**Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> July:** 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time.

**Readings:**

1. Ezekiel 2:2-5
2. 2 Corinthians 12:7-10
3. Mark 6: 1-6

**Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> July:** 15<sup>th</sup> Sun. in Ordinary Time.

**Readings:**

1. Amos 7:12-15
2. Ephesians 1: 3-14
3. Mark 6: 7-13

**Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> July:** 16<sup>th</sup> Sun. in Ordinary Time

**Readings:**

1. Jer. 23: 1 -6
2. Ephesians 2: 13 -18
3. Mark 6: 30 -34

**Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> July:** 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time.

**Readings:**

1. 2 Kings 4: 42-44
2. Ephesians 4: a-6
3. John. 6: 1-15

**WEEKDAY MASS CHANGE.**

Starting in the first week of July, the weekly service with the Catechist will be transferred from Saturday morning to Thursday morning. And on Saturday morning there will be mass.

The reason behind the change is that some people can not come to a weekday mass because of commitments to work and school. Whereas they are free on Saturday morning to attend.

**ECUMENICAL SERVICES.**

While the programme for the 50 years anniversary of internal self government is not finalized, I would like to signal that two ecumenical services are being promoted at this stage. One on the evening of the 15<sup>th</sup> of July and the second on the morning of the August 4<sup>th</sup>. I appeal that we put these dates and time in our planning.

**A PPRECIATION**

Our sincere thanks to the Nikao/Panama Tapere Mamas and Catechists who looked after the cleaning of the Cathedral inside and its environs during last month. Thanks also to the altar servers and Readers who turned up faithfully each morning. And too for those involved in the funeral liturgies of Mama Tuakana Tererui. Rip Meitaki maata.

## **FR DAMIAN MARINUS SS.CC**

This year in the Cathedral parish, you will all be aware that Fr Damian Marinus is seen concelebrating at most of the masses. Fr Damian has reached that stage of life where his voice is not as strong as it used to be and now is quite happy playing a supporting role rather than being responsible for liturgies.

Recently, on the feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus the people of Matavera, at a special mass on their patronal feast day thanked Fr Damian for the years he served Matavera. And St. Paul's Titikaveka are doing the same on the patronal feast of their parish. St. Paul the apostle, which this year they will celebrate with all parishes on Rarotonga, in the cathedral.

### **Personal Details of Fr. Damian.**

Born 13<sup>th</sup> July, 1929 Father will be 86 this month.

Baptised as Petrus Cornelius Marinus.

Professed on 24<sup>th</sup> September, 1949. Took the religious name of Damian. Coming up 66 years professed.

Ordained 29<sup>th</sup> August, 1954. Coming up 61 years as a priest.

Arrived in Rarotonga on the Maui Pomare 11<sup>th</sup> Nov. 1957. Has been in the Pacific 58 years.

### **Appointments.**

#### **Parishes:**

**Mauke.** 12<sup>th</sup> December, 1957 - 1964

Mauke as assistant to Fr Edwin. Taught Maori by Irene Turua, the mother of Sr. Clara. In Mauke Fr. Damian taught in the school.

- On the 10<sup>th</sup> July, 1958 he was appointed Parish Priest in Mauke.

**Atiu.** 25<sup>th</sup> September, 1964 - 1974. Father Damian worked on Atiu for just under 10 years.)

**St. Joseph's Avarua.** 1975. Briefly in the Cathedral until mid year.

### **Sacred Heart, Matavera. 1975 - 1980**

While living at the Cathedral was responsible for Sacred Heart Parish Matavera.

Also involved in the translation of the Bible with a committee set up for this work.

Teaching Religion daily in St. Joseph's School and Chaplain to Nukutere College.

**Sacred Heart Matavera.** 1985 - 2015

**St. Paul's Titikaveka.** 1991 - 2015

### **PACIFIC REGIONAL SEMINARY, SUVA.**

From 1980 - 1985 Fr. Damian was appointed by Bishop Browne to the Pacific Regional Seminary in Fiji as Spiritual Director.

### **Holidays.**

In 1963, 1973, 1986 and again in 1992 Fr Damian took holidays in the Netherlands.

### **Study/Renewal.**

1973. EAPI Philippines from August for nine months for pastoral and catechetical renewal.

1987 October. Canon Law and Marriage Tribunal in Auckland.

### **Responsibilities.**

1. Vicar General. 1973. 1974 1977
2. Chancellor and Vicar General 1992 - 2015

### **Accidents.**

1972. In Canada on his way home as a result of a sledging accident, ended up with 83 stitches in his face.

19<sup>th</sup> July, 1999. Motor Scooter outside Wigmore's Store. In hospital for 12 days with concussion, broken collar bone and abrasions.

25<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2014. Motor Scooter. Hospital for three days. Abrasions and bruising.

### **REFLECTION.**

This is the year of the Consecrated Life. Let me make the point that Fr Damian is first and foremost a **religious priest**. He has been living his religious life for 66 years. Priesthood for 61 years.

In considering a religious vocation, a text that has to be taken into account is that of leaving father and mother for the sake of the kingdom of God. "If any man comes to me without hating his father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes and his own life too, he can not be my disciple. Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple." Luke 14: 26.

This is not only challenging for the candidate him or herself. But also for the family. In my own congregation when the first Marists left for the Pacific in 1836, families struggled with the departure of their sons leaving France for the Pacific. One of the mothers had a breakdown. The departing priests had to trick their parents over when they were leaving as they knew the family would do their best to prevent them leaving. One left without saying goodbye. It seems to me it has not got any easier. For Pacific Islanders to let go of land. Not to generate children for the family can become serious issues in the vocation choice. (note rules for Diocesan priests are different than those for religious priests.)

Just looking at the life of Fr Damian my information shows that he returned home four times in 58 years. After the last visit he was reported as saying, "I don't miss Holland anymore". Like Fr. John Rovers his home is amongst the people he has served and ministered here in the Cook Islands.

In talking with Fr Damian I have noticed the years in the classroom, particularly in Mauke and Atiu were memorable days for him. It gives him a great thrill today when someone approaches him and says something like this, "Father do you remember me. You taught me in Atiu in 1969.

Last year at the launching of the new translation of the Maori New Testament, the organisers invited Fr Damian to the launching acknowledging the important work he and other committee members had done when the project first started.

The religious and priestly life of Fr Damian has meant many years in the parishes of the Diocese. Sixteen of those years had him teaching in the classroom. Another six years involved the spiritual formation of Pacific Island priests. And then many years in the Administration of the Diocese. This priest deserves his retirement and I hope he has many years to enjoy it.

### **Roles for Fr Damian Today.**

1. Those who have seen Fr Damian's prayer book, know it is heavily stained from frequent use. Now that Father Damian is living a quieter life, his prayer will be beneficial for the church, the diocese and individuals who ask him to pray for them.
2. As our bishop is new to the diocese, Fr Damian's knowledge of families, is valuable to helping the bishop. Also his knowledge of the diocese and its history is valuable. Fr Damian's study of Canon Law and work on the marriage tribunal enables him to advise bishop on marriage cases today.
3. If you have the opportunity to talk with Fr. Damian one question you could ask him is to explain to you the importance of ss.cc priest and saint he is named after, Fr. Damian of Molokai.

## **FEAST DAY OF ST. PETER AND SAINT PAUL – June 29<sup>th</sup>.**

On June 29 the Church celebrates the feast day of Sts. Peter & Paul. As early as the year 258, there is evidence of an already lengthy tradition of celebrating the solemnities of both Saint Peter and Saint Paul on the same day. Together, the two saints are the founders of the See of Rome, through their preaching, ministry and martyrdom there.

Peter, who was named Simon, was a fisherman of Galilee and was introduced to the Lord Jesus by his brother Andrew, also a fisherman. Jesus gave him the name Cephas (Petrus in Latin), which means 'Rock,' because he was to become the rock upon which Christ would build His Church.

Peter was a bold follower of the Lord. He was the first to recognize that Jesus was "the Messiah, the Son of the living God," and eagerly pledged his fidelity until death. In his boldness, he also made many mistakes, however, such as losing faith when walking on water with Christ and betraying the Lord on the night of His passion.

Yet despite his human weaknesses, Peter was chosen to shepherd God's flock. The Acts of the Apostles illustrates his role as head of the Church after the Resurrection and Ascension of Christ. Peter led the Apostles as the first Pope and ensured that the disciples kept the true faith.

St. Peter spent his last years in Rome, leading the Church through persecution and eventually being martyred in the year 64. He was crucified upside-down at his own request, because he claimed he was not worthy to die as his Lord.

He was buried on Vatican hill, and St. Peter's Basilica is built over his tomb.

Saul's conversion took place as he was on his way to Damascus to persecute the Christian community there. As he was traveling along the road, he was suddenly surrounded by a great light from heaven. He was blinded and fell off his horse. He then heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" He answered: "Who are you, Lord?" Christ said: "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting."

Saul continued to Damascus, where he was baptized and his sight was restored. He took the name Paul and spent the remainder of his life preaching the Gospel tirelessly to the Gentiles of the Mediterranean world.

Paul was imprisoned and taken to Rome, where he was beheaded in the year 67.

He is buried in Rome in the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls.

In a sermon in the year 395, St. Augustine of Hippo said of Sts. Peter and Paul: "Both apostles share the same feast day, for these two were one; and even though they suffered on different days, they were as one. Peter went first, and Paul followed. And so we celebrate this day made holy for us by the apostles' blood. Let us embrace what they believed, their life, their labors, their sufferings, their preaching, and their confession of faith."

