

SMbulletin

Friday, 17 March 2023

CARE FOR OUR OCEAN

During their assembly held in Fiji in February, Fr Donato Kivi sm presented a document, "Care for our Oceans", to the bishops of the Federation of Catholic Bishops Conferences of Oceania.

Here some extracts from Donato's text:



"The Pacific Ocean extends over one-third of the planet's surface and is the largest geographical feature on Earth.

More than 20,000 islands are found within this "water continent". It is a "sea of islands" where all life forms are intrinsically related to one another. It reminds us of the creation story in the book of Genesis. When God said on the fourth day, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures... So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds ... and God saw that it was good" (Gen 1: 20-21).

Today there is a disconnection because we have not been responsible caretakers. Relationships have been undermined because of pride and greed. In the words of Ilia Delio, "the Book of Creation became unintelligible, like a foreign language to us." Creation is crying with sea level rise, coral bleaching and sea acidification altering food chains and food supply to people. The climate crisis should be viewed with urgency, the Oceania people are facing great uncertainties."

To read Donato's paper: [JPIC Blog](#).

AN OMNES GENTES MISSION IN TURKEY

The Superior General has appointed two confreres to form an "omnes gentes" community with two Marist Missionary Sisters. This team is responding to the request from Bishop Paolo Bizzeti s.j., of Anatolia, in Turkey, to establish a Marist missionary community in Samsun, on the Black Sea, and to minister among refugees and migrants, many of whom are Christians struggling to find their way in a foreign, Muslim land. The Superior General acknowledges and appreciates the sacrifices many Marists have made to enable our confreres to respond to this call to missionary creativity. He expresses gratitude to those who are responding so generously.

The members of the community will be:

- **Sr Juliana Tuluono** (Samoa), aged 49, who is the director of the Anondo Neer Project for disabled in Bangladesh.
- **Fr Donato Kivi** (Fiji), aged 49, who is the superior of Marist College in Suva and the founder of the marist Eco-Centre at Dawasamu, Fiji.
- **Sr Irène Imurere** (Rwanda), aged 39, who is active in teaching and pastoral care in Madagascar.
- **Fr Arnaldo da Silva** (Brazil), aged 42, who is the superior of our formation house in Brazil and vicar of the district.



Sister Georgeanne Donovan, Congregational Leader of the SSM Sisters wrote: "Let us ask the Lord to bless this new Marist mission outreach in Turkey. We hold in our prayer the Turkish and Syrian people who continue to suffer in the aftermath of the recent earthquakes, the Bishop of Anatolia, Turkey, and the team members for the projected Marist Collaborative Mission in Turkey. We ask the Holy Spirit and Mary, first disciple of Jesus, to guide all the preparations for this mission that will take place over the next months."