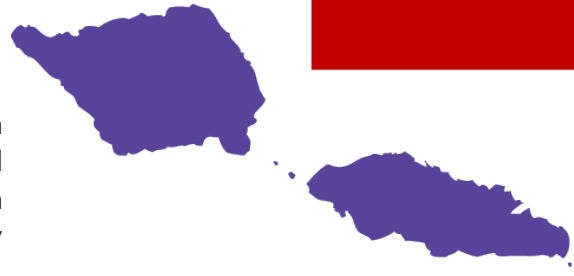
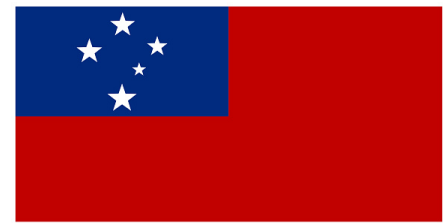


# Samoa



## Overview: Brothers and Communities

Currently there are two communities of Brothers in Samoa. One at the primary school, in Mulivai and one at St Joseph's College, the secondary school in Alafua. Br Siasoio Ioane is Principal and Community Leader at Mulivai and lives there with Br Anitelea. This community is also the pre-Novitiate formation house, and a Postulant, Robert, is in residence currently. Br Afa Afaese is Principal at Alafua and resides there with Brothers Sefo Une, Community Leader, and Br Iulio Suaesi, who is now retired. The Current Leader of the District of the Pacific, Br John Hazelman, is Samoan and based in Auckland. Another Samoan, Br Steve Vaea, is currently in the Philippines undertaking post-Novitiate University studies.

## Marist Ministries and Schools

The first school in what is now the Marist Brothers District of the Pacific was, in fact, opened in Samoa when two Brothers arrived in Apia on 14 April 1871 to open a school at Saleufi on 1 May that year.

The conditions endured by these Brothers led them to withdraw from Samoa in 1877 and the school closed. However, a new community arrived on 18 August 1888 and the school was re-opened near the church at Mulivai on 4 September, but confined to Europeans. In 1890 one of the original Brothers returned to Samoa and was put in charge of a school for Samoans built on the Brothers' land near the European school.

During 1947 discussions were held by the government about establishing secondary schooling in Apia and the Brothers began planning their own secondary school and raising funds for it. In February 1950 a suitable building was erected and St Joseph's High School was blessed and officially opened on 25 November. This high school was renamed St Joseph's College on its transfer to Lotopa at the beginning of 1960. The College was transferred to its present site at Alafua in 1988.

## Formation

Annual staff formation programmes are delivered to staff of our two schools during the orientation week at the beginning of the year. The hope is to produce a local formation programme to incorporate all members of the wider Champagnat Marist family in the near future.

National Identity	Samoa A colony of the German Empire from 1899-1915, then came under a joint British and New Zealand colonial administration until 1 January 1962, when it became independent (Independence Day celebrated annually 1 June)
Capital	Apia
Languages	Samoaan, English
Population	202,500
Time Zone	UTC +12; Summer (DST) UTC +13
Main Religions	Christianity (official religion of Samoa) In June 2017, an Act was passed changing the country's constitution to include a reference to the Trinity: 'Samoa is a Christian nation founded of God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit'
Arrival of Marists	1871
Number of Marist Brothers	5
Number of Marist Brothers Communities	2 Communities: Mulivai and Alafua
Number of Marist Schools	Secondary School: St Joseph's College, Alafua, Apia. Primary School: Marist Brothers Primary School, Mulivai, Apia