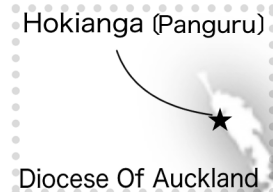


ジユン・ペラルタ神父
Pa Anahera

～マオリの人々と歩んだ日々～



Kia Ora, Haera Mai Nau Mai
Fr. Angel “Jun Pa Anahera” Peralta, SVD

Kia Ora Haera Mai Nau Mai ----

Kia ora can mean to say hello, express gratitude, send love and make a connection. Kia ora is a warm and welcoming greeting you'll hear throughout New Zealand and comes from the indigenous Māori language, te reo. “Haere Mai Nau Mai” means welcome and an invitation to come forward.

It was a truly blessed opportunity for me to experience mission in the Far North of New Zealand (Auckland Diocese) and to be welcomed and make a connection with our Maori brothers and sisters and to join them in their faith journey; a people truly rooted in their land, culture and faith, life and death.

It was a brief 13-month journey with them, but truly an enriching time for me. I stayed at Panguru Parish of St. Peter, a rustic small church; and from there I would visit various Maori communities around Hokianga. I would consider it a frontier mission.

Geographically, it is far up north and very much a rural place with rugged mountains and forests, seas and rivers. One might feel lost, truly disconnected from the urban atmosphere, yet truly a home in God’s creation, a Maori home.

Far North Catholic Mission is the site of the first catholic mission in New Zealand. It is the place where Bishop Jean Baptiste Pompallier landed and began the catholic mission back in 1838.

In 2002, his remains were brought back from France to New Zealand, and now rest underneath the altar of Motuti Church.

To be in this land alone and as a missionary priest at that, to walk alongside in faith with the Maori is a great blessing for me, from God. I am truly blest. To cap that experience, I celebrated my 50th birthday with my Maori brothers and sisters, together with my family and friends, coming as far as Japan. Truly what a pleasant and meaningful missionary journey for Pa Anahera (my Maori name).

In Christ, through Christ, and with Christ I greet you again,

“Kia Ora, Kia Ora” … and I continue to invite you “Haere Mai Haere Mai Nau Mai”, in this journey of life to our Creator.

Kia Ora
Haera Mai
Nau Mai !