



ST COLUMBANS MISSION SOCIETY

JUSTICE, PEACE AND INTEGRITY OF CREATION (JPIC)

***MISSION IN FIJI - COLUMBAN MISSIONARY
SOCIETY (REGION OF OCEANIA)***



HISTORY

The JPIC Ministry of the St. Columban Missionary Society emerged in response to the growing need to align missionary efforts with global justice, environmental integrity, and peace advocacy.

Rooted in the Society's founding principles in 1918, Columban missionaries began by working in solidarity with the poor and marginalized, especially in areas deeply impacted by colonialism and systemic poverty.

In the 1970s and 1980s, amid global upheaval, liberation theology, and ecological concerns, the Society formally embraced JPIC as a pillar of its mission, recognizing that evangelization cannot be separated from advocacy for justice and care for creation.

By the early 2000s, JPIC became an organized ministry with regional coordinators and international cooperation, influencing Church, civil society, and policy-level dialogues, particularly in places like Latin America, the Philippines, Korea, and the Pacific.



MISSION

To be witness to the Gospel by promoting justice, standing in solidarity with the oppressed, working for peace, and respecting the integrity of God's creation. We walk with the peoples we serve, amplifying their voices and nurturing communities rooted in love, dignity, and sustainability.





VISION

A world where the dignity of every person is upheld, the Earth is cared for as our common home, and all communities live in peace, justice, and harmony with creation.





MISSION PRIORITIES

*IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MSSC
2024 GENERAL ASSEMBLY - SYNODAL
TRANSFORMATION FOR MISSION*

PRIORITY 1: MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

“Do not oppress a foreigner; you yourselves know
how it feels to be foreigners because you
yourselves were foreigners in Egypt.”

-Exodus 23:9



MISSION PRIORITIES

*IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MSSC
2024 GENERAL ASSEMBLY - SYNODAL
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PRIORITY 2: BIODIVERSITY PROTECTION AND RESTORATION

“As stewards of God’s creation, we are called to make the earth a beautiful garden for the human family. When we destroy our forests, ravage our soil and pollute our seas, we betray that noble calling.”

–Pope Francis, Philippines (2015)



JPIC IN FIJI: CONTEXT AND MISSION FOCUS

BIODIVERSITY ISSUES IN FIJI

- Deforestation
- Overfishing and coral breaching
- Pollution
- Coastal Erosion
- Deep-sea mining

MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

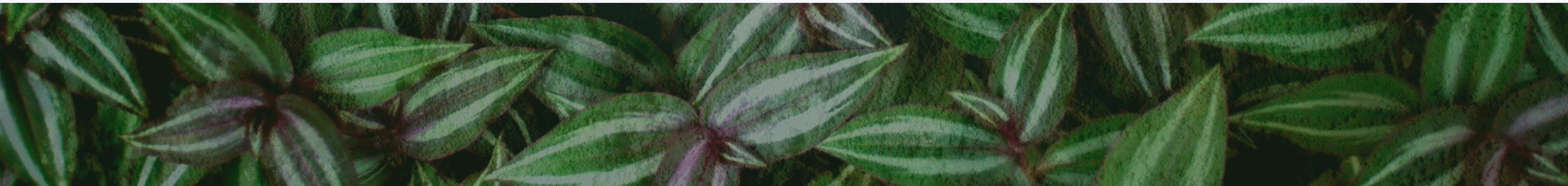
- Internal migrants from outer islands due to climate change
- Regional migrants including seasonal workers and displaced persons from Kiribati, Tuvalu, etc.
- Xenophobia and legal uncertainty

DRUGS IN COMMUNITIES

- Rising drug use and trafficking
- Impact on youth
- Destruction of families, increase in crime and mental health deterioration
- It's co-relation to the rise in HIV cases

HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCACY

- Concerns of Indigenous communities
- Right to Education, Health and Life
- Gender-based violence and discrimination
- Suppression of civil society voices
- Police brutality and lack of access to justice



JPIC RESPONSE

- Engage parishes within the Archdiocese of Suva and mobilize youth groups in climate and environmental restoration efforts.
- Coordinate education and grassroots action around the **2022 Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework** goals.
- Promote ecological spirituality and organize coastal cleanups, tree planting, mangrove restoration, and anti-plastic campaigns.
- Partner with NGOs, academia, other religious groups, and government in conducting biodiversity audits and advocating for policy reform.
- Address drug abuse through awareness campaigns, collaboration with rehabilitation centers, and support for healing and restorative programs.
- Support migrants, refugees, and displaced peoples with pastoral care, accompaniment, and advocacy for inclusive policies.
- Advocate for human rights by educating communities, supporting human rights defenders, and addressing systemic injustices.
- Advance climate restoration initiatives that prioritize:
 - Permanence – CO₂ removal lasting over a century.
 - Scalability – At least 25 gigatonnes of CO₂ removal per year within a decade.
 - Financeability – Leveraging existing or emerging markets for funding.
 - Practicality – Implementable with current technologies and infrastructure.



MEET THE JPIC COORDINATOR - FIJI

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Noa is the current Coordinator for Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation (JPIC) at the Columban Mission Office in Fiji. He brings a strong background in legal and research work, with a particular focus on policy reform in areas affecting local communities and the environment. With experience in education, student leadership, and grassroots mobilization, Noa is committed to fostering inclusive, spiritually grounded action that responds to the signs of the times - especially around the themes of biodiversity, care for the ocean, and the rights of migrants and vulnerable communities. His work is deeply inspired by Laudato Si', Catholic Social Teaching, and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.



**"EVERYTHING IS INTERCONNECTED, AND...GENUINE CARE
FOR OUR OWN LIVES AND OUR RELATIONSHIPS WITH
NATURE IS INSEPARABLE FROM FRATERNITY, JUSTICE AND
FAITHFULNESS TO OTHERS."**

-Pope Francis encyclical Laudato Si', 20

