Chanel

St Peter Chanel is regarded as one of the special saints of New Zealand. He was born in France in 1803 and joined the Marist Congregation in 1831.

In 1841 he became one of the first Martyrs in the Pacific when he was murdered on the Island of Futuna. Within a few months of his death the whole island became Christians. He is especially revered in Australia, New Zealand and Pacific because of the missionary work done by the Marist order in these areas.