



ST PIUS X, RAIWAQA, PARISH NEWSLETTER

TO RESTORE ALL THINGS IN CHRIST

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11TH SUNDAY OF YEAR - ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B: 17.06.18

Sunday and Weekday Mass Schedule

Sundays: 7:00 am & 8:30 am

Weekday 6:30 pm - [Monday to Friday]

Saturday & Public Holidays: - 8.30am.

Wednesday Fijian Mass [Misa Vakaviti]

Thurs Holy Hour, Adoration & Benediction: 5.00pm – 6.pm

Holy days 7:00 am. & 7:00 pm. except Christmas & New Year.

Confessions: - Friday & Saturdays after Mass.

Baptisms: At 8.30am Mass on the first Sunday of the month.

Parents seeking baptism for their child make arrangements with Community Leader & Priests & Baptismal instructors.

Matrimony: Those preparing for marriage must contact a priest at least 1 month before and are required to undertake preparation sessions. Guidelines available at the Parish Office. **RCIA:** Session every Sunday after the 7am Mass.

Welcome and Goodbye Fr Pat Visanti: Fr Pat will offer our 8.30am Mass today. It will be his farewell to the parish He leaves for Pakistan 2nd July. There will be a Sevusevu and Bilo ni Mua for him after Mass.

PPC Meeting will take place next Sunday, 24th June, at 1000 in the AB Mataca Hall. All PPC members asked to attend this important meeting.

Sunday Reflection: How little things grow:

Today Jesus speaks about the mystery of growth and the establishment of the Kingdom of God A farmer scatters seed on the good soil of Galilee. Having done the sowing, all he can do is attend to other things, while the seed takes over and does its own work, producing first the shoot, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear, until the crop is ready for harvest. In the parable the farmer does not know how all this happens. Between his actions of sowing the seed and harvesting the crop nature takes over in a way that he does not fully understand. There is a reassuring message here for any who are discouraged by the slow progress of goodness in the world. The spreading of God's reign is ultimately the work of God... and that work is going on even when we do not see it or understand it. We have a part to play in bringing about love and justice among us, just as the farmer has a role to play in the coming of the final harvest. However, that first parable in the gospel warns us against overestimating our role. The second parable in today's gospel reminds us that God can be at work in surprising ways and places. There is a stark contrast between the tiny mustard seed (*the smallest of all the seeds*), and the large shrub that grows from it, in whose branches the birds of the air can nest. Insignificant beginnings can lead to a wonderful result. The kingdom of God is like that; it often is expressed initially in what is small and seemingly insignificant. We can feel that our own faith is insignificant, as small as a mustard seed. Jesus assures us that the Spirit is working in and through such faith. Our faith can appear as small as a mustard seed; but such hope is enough for the Lord to work with. Our various efforts can seem to bear very insignificant results. The parable assures us that the final harvest from those efforts will be abundant.

Bazaar Bazaar Bazaar Mode: Only six (6) weeks to our Parish Annual Bazaar. Bazaar fever has not yet taken off in the Communities. So let us all get into action and make this year's bazaar a success. The Parish needs another good Bazaar this year – Year of our Golden Jubilee. There will be a lot of expenses involved for these celebrations from the 21st – 26th August 2018. We are also aware of the huge amount of repairs that has taken place over the last 9 months here on the church and Presbytery. It has left a big dent in parish finances. **Tomorrow evening at 7.230** there will be a **meeting of all the 11 Community Financial Reps** together with the members of the Parish Financial Council. We will talk about the running of this year's Bazaar and to establish the various committees needed to run our Bazaar. So a big kerekere for all financial reps and finance council members – to attend tomorrow evenings meeting at 7.30 (18th June). Other interested people are welcome to attend. **Target for Each Community is \$4,500.00 (Bazaar 28th July).**
One suggested theme for our Bazaar Theme this year is: Healthy, Happy and Resilient.

Synod Seminar for Lay Leaders: Last weekend 8th – 10th June in St Joseph's Secondary School Hall was a huge success. Thanks is expressed to our parish team who attended - Tifanue Mausio, Jacob Kivi Joana Qalo, Veronika Rausuvanua, Dan Buresse, Maria Qaranivalu and Chris Wali (Youth Representative). They returned all fired up and ready to work even harder to promote the building of the Kingdom of God in our midst. Vinaka Vakalevu.

Working for a saver environment on Parish Premises: This week our credits goes to Visoni Ravai & Alan Smith for their work in repairing the wobbly banisters at the rear of the car port and going down to the Fr Hurley Hall.

These Improvements and repairs are being carried out so the parish can apply and be certified to be OH & S compliant and that our premises are safer, happier and be more conducive environment for parishioners and visitors alike. (JME)

Commission for Social Justice & Ecology:

Monday June 18th Commission Meeting in AB Mataca Hall (7.30pm – 8.30pm.) Commission members from each Community are requested to attend, also members from St Vincent de Paul & Parish Disaster Management Team.

Friday 22nd June Parish Disaster Management Team:

Advocacy sessions will be conducted for community members in the AB hall at 7.30pm.

Friday June 29th: Empowerment session by representative's from Ministry of Employment, APTEC, Social Welfare, Ministry of Youth & Sports are invited to provide awareness sessions on services provided by their Agencies. Sessions are specifically for unemployed in the parish. Parents & guardians are invited to attend as well. Activity is a process of social inclusion by which efforts are made to ensure equal opportunities for all, regardless of one's background, so that one can achieve full potential in life. Community leaders are encouraged to make full use of this opportunity and attend and bring all your community executives and other interested too (7.30pm - 9pm).

What is happening to Mass Attendance?? Over the last few weeks there has been a noticeable fall off in numbers attending both Sunday and weekday Masses. Is there a reason? There are many, many Catholic Families living within 500 yards of the church. Masses last week were very poorly attended – apart from members of 4c. Please improve.

T- Shirts for Parish Jubilee: Material for Kalavata: T-shirts (collar: \$25.00 & Round Neck: \$20.00.

Order's & cash in regards to material for Kalavata (\$8.00 per metre) & sublimated t-shirt - to be placed with Parish Treasurer & Merchandising team after Sunday Mass.

Come and See Experience: This Year of the Synod our Archbishop is urging us “To Make the Church in Fiji a more Missionary Church” Fr Willie Lee (**Columban Vocations Director**) will conduct a **Come and See** here in the Parish on Saturday 7th July. Contact Fr Willie on 7861899 or register your interest in the Parish Office.

Columban Parish's Choir Competition for Centenary Year: A Choir from the parish is formed and have chosen the required 15 members. They practice in the Hall most nights of the week. Competition on afternoon 30th June.

Evangelization: (1) Our Lady of Fatima Parish, **Nadera is having an 8 weeks Charismatic Renewal** from next Sunday (24/06) and has extended invitation to Raiwaqa parishioners. The Renewal starts at 10.30am every Sunday until 12th August. Interested members, please take bible and writing materials and find own transport to Nadera.

Cenacle, Divine Mercy, Charismatic prayers continues today from 2pm till 5pm. All Welcome. Charismatic Praise and Worship starts at 3.30pm after Divine Mercy with Laucala Bay Parishioners.

Small Christian Community – Communities come together for the Seven Steps Gospel Sharing every Tues 7.30pm.

Vuiyasawa Lane SCC (St. Peter Chanel community) 7 Steps is at Don Williams house on Tuesday 19th June

Community 4a Seven Steps Prayer Meetings: Community members are asked to attend to their Respective Groups.

Youth 7 Steps Prayer Meeting: Every Tues. evening now in preparation of Golden Jubilee and Synod. Vinaka Youth.

Sr Kalala and Children's 7 Steps: Sister is taking our children for SCC and CD sessions every Saturday morning after 8.30 Mass. She is willing to take our school going pupils on Saturday afternoons at 4.00pm. **Thank You Sr Kalala.**

Confirmation Retreat: Candidates for Confirmation (August 26th) were on a day's retreat in Wailoku, yesterday.

Painting of Church & Premises: Work on this present stage of painting and repairs of Church and Presbytery is nearing completion – should be complete this coming weekend. Trusting that our parishioners approve. Waiting now for the Men of the Parish to complete the little bit of tiling left in the sacristy. **No word yet from the Women of the Parish** as when they intend to start on the final part of landscaping & renovations needed in front of the church. **But thanks all.**

Thanks: To 4c, St John the Baptists for animating the Liturgy during the week & cleaning of the Church yesterday. We invite 5A St Michael's to take over responsibilities tomorrow Monday 18th June.

Thanks for your Collections Last Week: Wet Sunday Morning: 1st Collection: **\$555.00** 2nd Collection: **\$76.60**, Total Collection: **\$631.60.**

Reading coming week: Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time [17/6/18] Ez 17: 22-24; 2 Cor 5: 6-10; Mk 4: 26-34; Mon [18/6/18] 1 Kings 21: 1-16; Mt 5: 38-42; Tue [19/6/18] 1 Kings 21: 17-29; Mt 5: 43-48; Wed [20/6/18] 2 Kings 2: 1, 6-14; Mt 6: 1-6, 16-18; Thurs [21/6/18] St Aloysius Gonzaga: Sirach 48: 1-14; Mt 6: 7-15; Fri [22/6/18] 2 Kings 11: 1-4, 9-18, 20; Mt 6: 19-23; Sat [23/6/18] 2 Chronicles 24: 17-25; Mt 6: 24-34; **Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time** [24/6/18] Nativity of St John the Baptist, Solemnity: Is 49: 1-6; Acts 13:22-26; Lk 1: 57-66, 80

Continuation of A Brief History of the Parish: LATER CHANGES

Upon the steady growth of population and increasing number of Catholics in the area there was a dire need for expansion within the church boundary. The back area, of the church compound underwent reconstructions and office blocks were built. A new parish hall extends out over slopes where billiard balls once rolled. Below the hall is the new Men's Club and above is an extension of the presbytery porch. Within the whole restructuring process spaces have

been made available for a literary (present Legion of Mary room), a meeting room next door and opposite this is the St. Vincent de Paul room. The Parish office and work room occupy another lot beside the library. With all these facilities available parishioners can enjoy a better environment where parish programs and other related matters can be seen to.