



ST PIUS X, RAIWAQA, PARISH NEWSLETTER

TO RESTORE ALL THINGS IN CHRIST

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12TH SUNDAY OF YEAR - ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B: 24.06.18

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.

Home of Compassion Bazaar on Saturday 30th June

Corpus Christi Celebrates Diamond Jubilee (1958) 30th November 2018
Soli for the College 1st December 2018 for all concerned (past & present)

PPC Meeting will take place this Sunday, 24th June, at 10.00 in the AB Mataca Hall. All PPC members asked to attend this important meeting.

Sunday Reflection: Herald of the kingdom of God

Some might wonder why the birth of Saint John the Baptist is such a big feast-day, and why it is celebrated on just this date in June. The *date* for the feast is quite easy to explain. Just three months ago, on March 25th, we celebrated the feast of the Annunciation, when Mary, our Blessed Lady, conceived the child Jesus in response to the word of God. That same day she also heard about the pregnancy of her elderly cousin Elizabeth, and quickly set out to visit, so as to be of help to Elizabeth at that special time. Having stayed for *about three months* in the house of Elizabeth and Zechariah, that is, until John was safely born, Mary returned to her own home in Nazareth.

The joyful importance of John's birthday can be linked to the meaning of his name in Hebrew. "Yeho-hanan," means "the Lord is gracious" and as Luke's account underlines, in sending John the Baptist God had shown great favour, not just to the childless couple, Zechariah and Elizabeth, but to the whole of humanity. Before the Baptist came on the scene, the prophetic voice in Israel has been silent for 400 years. When John came into the desert near the river Jordan, he breathed fire and preached repentance and renewal. All four Gospels agree that it was he who prepared the way for Jesus the Christ, the Anointed One of God. So the whole Christian traditions honours John the Baptist as the precursor, the one who ran ahead as herald of the graciousness from God which came through Jesus, filled with grace and truth.

In Loving Memory: Lorenti Kafoa of St Michael's Community 5A, Vatuwaqa who passed away on his way home from Mass on Monday evening 18th June. He was buried on Thursday in Nasinu Cemetery after Requiem Mass here. He will be greatly missed by his community and parish. Sympathy is expressed to his family. May he rest in peace.

Invitation to Missionary Society of St Columban Centenary Celebrations 1918 -2018. Fr Donal McIlraith, Regional Director and the Columbans in Fiji have the pleasure of inviting you to attend our Foundation Day Celebrations on the 29th and 30th June 2018 to mark 100 YEARS of Columban Mission and the Silver Jubilee of our Lay Missionaries (June 30) Venue: Sacred Heart College Hall Suva Time: 10am Eucharistic Celebration. Two days Program of Entertainment and Teachings. Programme can be had in Presbytery.

Raiwaqa Choir: The 15 member Parish Choir to represent us at the 'Columban Inter Parish Choir Competition' next Saturday at Sacred Heart College are as follows: Joana, Margaret and Joe Qalo, Karalo Tamani. Visoni and Selina Ravai, Anna & Vuki Apao, Fono Josaia Seru Rafaele Dimili Rainabogi, Tina Poate. Mere Avaiki, Bruce Vute and Dominiko.

Social & Ecological Commission meeting, Monday (25.6.18), 7.30pm – 8.30pm, parish hall (Reps please attend.

Effective Disaster Response Training by National Disaster Management Officer, Saturday (7.7.18), 10am - 4pm.

Further Synod Seminar for Lay Leaders: Will take place from 6th – 8th July in St Joseph's Secondary School Hall. Each Parish is asked to send 5 more Reps for this Seminar. And Parishes requested to pay \$200.00 towards expenses.

The Members of the Parish Financial Council and Community Financial Reps Meeting: took place last Monday evening and the main topic of discussion was the Parish Bazaar 28th July 2018. A few decisions were reached namely:

1. That we will go with the Scaffolding Stalls again this year – although they are a little expensive – but more secure if the weather is bad.
2. There will be no electricity provided in the stalls except on the main Stage for the Music and speaker system.
3. Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd Communities that raise the most. There will be also prizes for the best stall on the day and for the best entertainment and for the most improved Community. There will be a bag of chickens for each stall that reaches or surpasses the target of \$4,500.00: **Theme for this year “Healthy, Happy and Resilient”**.
4. There were two tentative committees formed - before the Bazaar Committee and On the Day Committee.
5. Only five (5) weeks to our Parish Annual Bazaar. The Parish needs another good Bazaar this year – Year of our Golden Jubilee. There will be lots of expenses involved for these celebrations from the 21st – 26th Aug.
6. Next Bazaar meeting will be Monday Week July 2nd and every Monday Evening thereafter until Bazaar Day.

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 members as well which can include non - Catholic’s as well. (7.30pm - 9pm).

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.

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.

Tuesday 26th June: Women of the Parish All women of the parish that are free are requested to attend in numbers for up-keep and cleaning of the Church premises. There is a growing consciousness for the need of this in recent months.

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

Community 2 Steps Prayer Meetings: Tuesday 26th June at 7.30pm at Savaira Mow’s residence.

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.**

Painting and Renovation of Church & Premises: The last few jobs should be completed this week. The Men of the Parish have now completed the tiling of the sacristy. **Still waiting for the Women of the Parish Project.** Thanks to the neighbors, Andrew, Alan, Visoni and Pau for finishing off small jobs needing to be seen too around the place. Vinaka.

Thanks: To 5a, St Michael’s for animating the Liturgy during the week & cleaning of the Church yesterday and assisting at the wonderful liturgy for Kafoa. We invite 5b St Columban’s to take over tomorrow Monday 25th June.

Thanks for your Collections Last Week: Wet Sunday Morning: 1st Collection: **\$695.95** 2nd Collection: **\$161.75**, Total Collection: **\$857.70**

Reading coming week: 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; Mon [25/6/18] 2 Kings 17: 5-8, 13-15, 18; Mt 7: 1-5; Tue [26/6/18] 2 Kings 19: 9-11, 14-21, 31-35, 36; Mt 7: 6, 12-14; Wed [27/6/18] 2 Kings 22: 8-13; 23: 1-3; Mt 7: 15-20; Thurs [28/6/18] St Ireneaus: 2 Kings 24: 8-17; Mt 7: 21-29; Fri [29/6/18] Sts Peter and Paul, Apostles: Acts 2: 1-11; 2 Tim 4: 6-8, 17-18; Mt 16: 13-19; Sat [30/6/18] Lamentations 2: 2, 10-14, 18-19; Mt 8: 5-17; **Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time** [1/7/18] Wisdom 1: 13-15, 2: 23-24; 2 Cor 8: 7, 9, 13-15; Mk 4: 21-43

Continuation of A Brief History of the Parish: Finances: With the development of the parish, finance was a necessity. Early parishioners organized a stall at the Hibiscus Festival in the Mid—60’s and raised a substantial amount of 54 pounds which later was deposited as the-opening balance of the parish account. Subsequent aid and donations, fundraising income and church soli were to add to the 54 pounds courtesy of the Hibiscus Festival stall and its hard-working group of people. Film nights used to be held under the presbytery on Saturday and Sunday evenings. The income generated here supplemented the meagre parish earnings from Soli and Sunday collections. Since this practice has been done away with the second Sunday collected fittingly serves to satisfy this need. Careful planning by the main parish body ensured that families in the community took more active roles in its mission. To this effect the area was sub-divided into smaller sectors where each family identified in a group and participated in the activities they planned together. As a result everybody was making a direct contribution to the parish and its well—being. Besides prayer meetings and social gatherings their motive was to play positive roles in finance-driven activities; katis, dances and Charity Queen Contests. The annual parish soli would be the culmination of a hard year’s work and families got together for a day of fun and fanfare. In this way parish accounts have been enjoying a steady flow of funds. Support from parishioners has been tremendous and the tradition and spirit of competitiveness has grown fiercer over the years.