

# ST PIUS X, RAIWAQA, PARISH NEWSLETTER

## TO RESTORE ALL THINGS IN CHRIST

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**THE 15<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - CYCLE A: - 16/07/17**

### 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.p.m

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

**Confessions:** - Friday & Saturdays after Mass.

**Baptisms:** The 8.30am Mass on the first Sunday of the month is reserved for Baptisms. Parents seeking baptism for their child make arrangements with the Parish Priest before commencing session with Baptism helpers.

**Matrimony:** Those preparing for marriage must contact a priest at least 3 months before and are required to undertake preparation sessions. Guidelines available at the Parish Office.

**RCIA:** Session every Sunday after the 7am Mass.

### Meeting of the Pastoral Parish Council

This special meeting will take place in the parish hall from 10.00am – noon this coming Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July. Main Topic will be the running of the Parish Bazaar on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> July. Let all Reps attend

**CCD Classes:** take place after the 7.00am Mass. It is of the utmost importance that all attending CCD classes attend the 7.00am Mass also, Thank You.

**Reflection for the for the 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year: The power of the Word:** As a priest, I'm often surprised at what some parishioners from other parishes (many years ago) remember - the things I said to them. It would be less embarrassing on occasions if they conveniently forgot. "I remember you saying this one time, Father" and then, if not word for word, they give at least the general thrust of what was said. Even the not so important spoken words can have an extraordinary life-span. Sometimes we remember things our parents said, long after they are gone. Their words and outlook on life are not dead so long as we are alive and remember them.

What is true of our everyday words is even more true of God's word. That's what's stressed in today's readings and stated memorably by Isaiah: "So it is with the word that goes from my mouth: it will not return to me unfulfilled, or before having carried out my good pleasure and having achieved what it was sent to do." The only defence against God's word is deafness, whether inadvertent or deliberate. And refusing to listen is something today's Gospel does not recommend. It urges us to let the Word fall into good soil, so that it can yield a rich harvest in our lives.

Even though we're meant to have our ears cocked in church, and even though there's no substitute for hearing God's word as a worshipping community, the richest soil in any parish has to be in the home. The home, more than any place else, is a good place for growth. If space is made for God in the home, if parents pray with their children from an early age, if parents treat one another well, if the relationships within the home are basically sound, if Mass, as Christ's memorial, is seen to matter to the older people, then there is a good chance that in the hearts and minds of the children, the seed will take root and grow. In a sense, education is what remains when you have forgotten the texts themselves. We forget so easily what was said in church or school. We never forget what happens in the home.

**In Loving Memory:** Semi Koroi – one-time presenter in FBC – Media Officer FMF and recent times presenter of "the TV Show 'Back in Time' FBC. He was a close relative of Flori Cirikisuva. His Requiem Mass was offered yesterday morning 15<sup>th</sup> July at the Sacred Heart Cathedral, Suva. May he rest in Peace.

**Parish Reporter for Catholic Times:** The Archbishop suggested that each parish find someone who will take responsibility for sending in Articles re Parish events to the Catholic Times. The Chairperson PPC requested Ema Dimila to take on this role in our parish. Ema has graciously accepted. She has already penned her first article to the Catholic Times on Thursday Evenings meeting 13<sup>th</sup> July – Talenoa Session with visiting members of the Archdiocesan CJD (Commission for Justice and Development) with members of our own Parish Commission for JPHD (Justice and Peace and Human Development). Vinaka Vakalevu, Ema.

**Bazaar Time Just 3 Weeks Away:** There is an air of excitement in all Communities at the present time as last efforts of fund raising are taking place. The Bazaar Committees are appreciative of all this effort and good will in all or most of the Communities at this present time. Thirty-two (32) letters and flyers have been delivered to companies and firms all around the Great Suva Area. Letters and Flyers have also been delivered to Religious Orders and Parishes.

**We need a good bazaar this year to continue maintenance work in the parish.** A credit to all that are working hard for this event since Easter. Everyone knows how much work and maintenance that still needs to be done for the Celebration of our Golden Jubilee. Thanks for your faith, effort and commitment. It is due to good Sunday Collections and the Envelope Pledge by a number of people in each Community – that enabled us to do so much work this year. "A lot done – much more to be done" Vinaka Vakalevu kece.

**Commission for Justice and Peace and Human Development:** The Archdiocese of Suva CJD (Commission for Social Justice and Development) Team led by Mr. Paulo Bale accompanied by Sr Mariana and Master Misaele Driubalavu visited St. Pius on Thursday night (13th July) to relate their role and mandate of this Commission put forward by his Grace Archbishop Peter Loy Chong. Their visit was greatly appreciated by the 15 or so members of our Parish Commission JPHD who turned up for the meeting. The Chairperson of our Parish Commission informed our visitors via multimedia presentation of the work that is being done on the ground here in Raiwaqa parish which won their admiration and praise. Mr Misaele Driubalavu who heads the Archdiocesan Disaster Management Team also talked about the Archdiocesan Plan to have a Parish Disaster Team on the ready in each Parish. He talked about how Caritas International has and is willing to help out in this area until a branch of Caritas Fiji is set up in the Archdiocese. He also talked about the forthcoming training session for Parish personnel (one from each parish) to be held from 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> July 2017. **Mue Mausio 4a will be attending this workshop on behalf of our Parish Disaster Team.** Thanks, Mue. This training will be done by personnel from overseas, one from Caritas Australia, one from Caritas New Zealand and one from Caritas International, Rome. (Photos on parish website).

**A Reminder again of our Parish Disaster Management Team:** Kelemete Rausuvanua, Dan R Burese, Fr John McEvoy, Romeo Kivi, Christopher Wali, Barbara Edwards, Pio Burese, Mue Mausio, Rudolph Singh, Kristina Foliaki, Amini Qalo, Savaira Mow, Aloisia Tugaga, Pauliasi Sekiveikau and Wakeleo Cakacakavakavo. And as mentioned above Mue Mausio will attend the Special Training Course from 25<sup>th</sup> July – 27<sup>th</sup> July by visiting Caritas Members from overseas.

**Financial Council and Financial Reps from Communities on Thursday last in Preparation for Parish Bazaar:**

On Thursday night 13<sup>th</sup> July June members of the Financial Council and a number of Financial Community Reps met again to look at the preparations for our forthcoming Bazaar. Again, not all Community Financial Reps were present. It is important that Community Financial Reps attend these meetings so they can take the news back to their communities. **There will be another meeting on Wednesday next 19<sup>th</sup> July.** Lots on the check list has been done at this stage – A few more loose ends needs to be tidied up. Hopefully most of these will be in place by next Wednesday

**Reminder of some of the things agreed on for this year's Bazaar:** Be mindful that the Theme for this year is:

1. Moving forward in Faith and in Good Health.
2. The Prizes this year will be \$200.00 for 1<sup>st</sup> Prize; \$150.00 for 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize and \$100.00 for 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize. \$50.00 for the Best Stall and \$50.00 for best entertainment.
3. Stall layout will be somewhat similar to last years with the mainstage with its back to the Church.
4. Note to the Communities there will be no electricity supplied to the stalls.
5. A reminder that each Community provide their own security for their own stall.
6. For safety purposes and ease of counting of Money on the day – Communities are encouraged to deposit money with the parish and provide Bank Cheques on the Bazaar Day. Bring in all or most of your coins at the 2<sup>nd</sup> count.

**Renovation for the Golden Jubilee of the Parish Aug in 2018.** Men of the Parish Project - now fitting new gates still in progress and as regards the New Sewage Line - Classic Works intends to have the project complete and out of here by Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July.

**Adi Mariana Waqa:** Is still with us here in the Parish – will be here on Wednesday again to do more visitation in 7b with Marj. They had very successful visits to families in 7b last Wednesday. They will continue this Wednesday. She will stay on after the 6.30pm Mass to meet up with up all the women's Organisations in the Parish. So, I am pleading with Women Group Leaders to organise this evening and make it worthwhile. We all need to be challenged as how to be Church in the World (The Archbishop).

**Meetings Today Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July:**

Youth Seminar on *Catholic Social Teachings* after 8.30 Mass in the Fr Hurley Hall.

**The Cenacle @ 2.00pm; Divine Mercy @ 3.00pm; Charismatics @ 3.30pm; World Apostolate of Fatima @ 4.30pm.**

**Meetings during the Week:**

1. **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July:** - Parish Executives meeting on Monday (17 July) after the evening Mass to discuss what form or shape our discussions will take at next Sundays PPC meeting as we conduct a final check list on our Bazaar Preparation.
2. **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July:** – Seven Steps Prayer in most Communities
3. **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July:** Praying the Seven Steps in 4a Community held in Ratuyada's Residence.
4. **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July:** Seven Steps Prayer Meeting in Community 2 in Joe Colata's Residence at 7.30pm
5. **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July:** Youth Seven Steps prayer meeting. Thank you, Youth, for being so faithful to the Seven Steps.

**Thanks:** To Community (2) St Joseph the Worker for animating the Liturgy during the week and for cleaning of the Church & compound yesterday. We invite Community 3 St Joan of Arc to start Mon 17<sup>th</sup> July. Thanks also to the Men of the Parish for wonderful choir practice on Wednesday night in preparation for their monthly Mass today.

**Thanks too for your generous Collection for last week. The following is a summary:**

**1<sup>st</sup> Collection \$460.00; 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection \$75.75 and Envelop \$165.00 = \$700.75**

**Reading coming week: 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time:** Is 55: 10-11; Rom 8: 18-23; Matt 13: 1-23; Mon [17/7/17] Ex 1: 8-14, 22; Matt 10: 34—11:1; Tue [18/7/17] Ex 2: 1-15; Matt 11: 20-24; Wed [19/7/17] Ex 3: 1-6, 9-12; Matt 11: 25-27; Thurs [20/7/17] Ex 3: 13-20; Matt 11: 28-30; Fri [21/7/17] Ex 11: 10—12: 14; Matt 12: 1-8; Sat [22/7/17] *St Mary Magdalene:* 2 Cor 5: 14-17 (Alternative: Song 3: 1-4a); John 20: 1-2; 11-21; **16<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time:** Wisd 12: 13, 16-19; Rom 8: 26-27; Matt 13: 24-43