

ST PIUS X, RAIWAQA, PARISH NEWSLETTER

TO RESTORE ALL THINGS IN CHRIST

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THE 16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - CYCLE A: – 23/07/17

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 today Sunday 23rd July. Main Topic will be the running of the Parish Bazaar next Saturday 29th July. Let all Reps attend

Catholic Times: Available in the Office to for collection after Mass. Could all Financial Reps pick up your quoted Numbers & Distribute them at \$1.00 each.

Reflection for the for the 16th Sunday of the Year: The Importance of Little Things: Through the centuries, Christianity has been much damaged because of triumphalism, the thirst for power, and the eagerness to impose oneself on our enemies. There are still Christians who yearn for a powerful Church that fills church buildings, conquers the streets and imposes our faith on the whole of society. We need to go back to two small parables where Jesus makes clear that his followers' task isn't to construct a powerful religion, but rather to put themselves at the service of the Father's humanizing project (God's Reign), sowing small «seeds» of the Gospel, and mixing themselves into society as a bit of «leaven» in human life.

The first speaks of a mustard seed that is sown in a garden. What's special about this mustard? That it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it grows, it becomes a bush bigger than the other vegetables. The Father's project has some very humble beginnings, but its transforming force can't be imagined even now.

Jesus' activity in Galilee of sowing deeds of goodness and justice isn't anything grandiose and spectacular: neither in Rome nor in the Jerusalem Temple are they aware of what's happening. The work that his followers are doing today is insignificant: the power centres ignore it. Even we Christians can think that it's useless to work for a better world. Human beings keep on committing the same horrors over and over again, seemingly forever, and we are incapable of catching on to the slow growing of God's Reign.

The second parable speaks of a woman who mixes a little leaven into a large mass of flour. Without anyone knowing how, the leaven goes about working silently until the whole mass is fermented.

That's what happens with God's humanizing project. Once it is introduced into the world, it goes about quietly transforming human history. God doesn't act by imposing Himself from outside. God humanizes the world by attracting the consciences of God's children to a more worthy life, one that is more just and fraternal.

God's Reign is always something humble and small in its beginnings, but God is still working among us, promoting solidarity, the desire for truth and for justice, the yearning for a happier world. So, let us cooperate with God by following Jesus.

A less powerful Church, one that is more lacking in privileges, poorer and closer to the poor, will always be a Church that is freer to sow seeds of the Gospel, humbler in its living in the midst of the people as the leaven of a more worthy and fraternal life.

{José A Pagola}.

Mue Mausio 4a Member of our Parish Disaster Team: will be attending a special training workshop on Disaster Management during the week Tuesday 25th to Thursday/Friday 27/28th July in St Joseph's Secondary School Hall. He does so on behalf our Parish Disaster Management Team. This training will be conducted by Caritas personnel from overseas, one from Caritas Australia, one from Caritas New Zealand and one from Caritas International, Rome. Good luck Mue and thanks for attending on our behalf.

Its Bazaar Week: Hopefully the 3 Bazaar Committees (Pre-Bazaar Committee; on-the-Day Committee; and after-Bazaar Committee) have got it altogether for next Saturday. They have had meetings every Wednesday for the past month or 6 weeks with Financial Community Reps. (But unfortunately, not many Financial Community Reps attended these meetings). Stage Tech will provide the Sound System for the Day while the sheds will be erected by Rapid Scaffolding. The Bazaar Committees are appreciative of the effort and good will in all of the Communities during the year. Letters and flyers have been delivered to companies and firms all around the Great Suva Area. Flyers & Letters have also been delivered to Religious Orders and Parishes. The jigsaw for the day would seem to be in place and here is wishing all the 11 Parish Communities a very successful Bazaar.

Mass Next Sunday 30th July will be at 9.00am, only one Mass and **Rev John Fong MSC** will be the Deacon at the Mass. John who is from St Michael's Community 5a in the parish will be most welcome among his own. For the past number of Sundays **Rev Pat Visanti** was our Deacon. Pat will be with us a Deacon at the St John Vianney's Mass at 8.30 today. All the above our privilege.

Programme for St Pius X Raiwaqa Parish Bazaar Sat 29th July 2017 - Theme Moving forward in Faith and in Good Health.

8.30am Mass	10.30am - the 1 st Call	3.00pm - the 3 rd Call	5.30pm - End of Programme
9.45 MC starts to Announce	11.00am - Entertainment	4.00pm - Vakavinavina	6.30pm Gathering in the Hall
10.00am. Judging of Stalls	2.00pm - the 2 nd Call	5.00pm Winners announced	

Reminder of some of the things agreed on for this year's Bazaar

1. The Prizes this year will be \$200.00 for 1st Prize; \$150.00 for 2nd Prize and \$100.00 for 3rd Prize. \$50.00 for the Best Stall and \$50.00 for best entertainment.
2. Stall layout will be somewhat similar to last years with the mainstage with its back to the Church.
3. Note to the Communities; there will be no electricity supplied to the stalls. **Youth responsible** for hourly cleaning of toilets.
4. A reminder that each Community provide their own security for their own stall. **Overall security team in place** for day.
5. 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 2nd Count.

Renovation for the Golden Jubilee of the Parish Aug in 2018. True to their word 'Classic Works' completed the new sewage line one week before the Bazaar. But TG they were blessed with good weather. The work looks very neat and professional. *So, this is a plea to Parishioners and all those who hire the Halls to use the toilets with due respect and do not put newspapers, cloth or nappies into the toilet bowls. This is also a plea to the parish Coordinator, night watchman, members of the parish team and indeed every parishioner to see that our facilities are used properly and to ensure that this is enforced here in the parish. It is all a matter of having pride in who we are and how we use parish property and how others use it as well. (Parish Priest).*

Adi Mariana Waqa and Meeting with the Women of the Parish: Last Wednesday Mariana did more visitation in 7b with Maria Waqavanua & Marj. These visits are proving very successful and fruitful to families visited. She stayed back on Wednesday evening to meet all women's organizations in the Parish after the 6.30pm Mass. *Although this meeting was advertised in last week's newsletter and after the evening weekday Masses and with phone calls to leaders of Women's Groups on Tuesday and Wednesday – a total of 9 women turned up for this important sharing session. It would appear that the "Tide is very much Out" as regards to the Women of our Parish Groups at this particular time – in comparison to the commitment and activities that the Men of the Parish are involved in.* Hopefully after the Bazaar the Women's Groups will get going again (as they usually do) for the Jubilee.

Condolences to PPC Chairperson Master Dan Burese and other members of the Burese Family: Master Dan wrote: "We received news of the passing of our Tribal Head in the village over the weekend. Due to traditional obligations towards her funeral and burial our clan will be presenting condolences and be part of cultural ceremonies over the next couple of days. It is also a time to catch up with our kinsfolk and blood relatives who we get to meet only on such occasions and update on the latest with regards to life in the land of our forefathers. Hence, I will be away from the Parish this weekend (Thursday - Sunday) and will miss out on PPC in the process. Master Tifere will be deputizing in my absence".

Students of PRS in Concert: performing Mekes, Dances and Songs from all national groups on the 18th August at Lambert Hall. Tickets on sale now. \$15.00. Available from PRS.

Early Childhood Education Week: For children in Kindergartens will be celebrated from 28th July – 4th August. (School Based).

1. **Thanks to the Men of the Parish:** for a Prayerful and well-prepared Liturgy Last Sunday 3rd Sunday of the Month.
2. **For their praiseworthy Faith Formation Programme:** That they have set up from now until the end of the Year.
3. **New Faith Formation Leaders** - Joseph Qalo and Peni Nabou (coming in for Walusio Buatava and Jacob Kivi)
4. **Proposal for Works - Erection of a Memorial Plaque** somewhere in the front of the church next year commemorating the Golden Jubilee and the pioneering families who toiled for the Parish in its early years.

Meetings Today Sunday 23rd July:

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

St Paul Community- 6 : All members please attend prayer meeting at Joseph Mows residence in Kula Street today @ 5.00pm.

Meetings during the Week:

1. **Tuesday 25th July:** – Seven Steps Prayer in most Communities.
2. **Tuesday 25th July:** Seven Steps in 4a Community in Kamsoo's Residence. Children with youth in Burese's Residence.
3. **Tuesday 25th July:** Seven Steps Prayer Meeting in Community 2 in Pius and Maria Burese's Residence at 7.30pm
4. **Wednesday 26th** Last Bazaar Committee meeting with Community Financial Reps in the Parish Hall at 7.30pm
5. **Friday 28th July:** Youth Seven Steps prayer meeting. Thank you, Youth, for being so faithful to the Seven Steps.

Thanks: To Community (3) St Joan of Arc for animating the Liturgy during the week and for cleaning of the Church & compound yesterday. We invite Community 4a St Peter Chanel to start Mon 24th July. Thanks also to the Men of the Parish for wonderful choir and liturgy at their monthly Mass last Sunday.

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

1st Collection \$540.35; 2nd Collection \$87.55 and Envelop \$190.00 = \$817.90.

Reading coming week: 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Wisdom 12: 13, 16-19; Rom 8: 26-27; Matt 13: 24-43; Mon [24/7/17] Ex 14: 5-18; Matt 12: 38-42; Tue [25/7/17] *St James, Apostle:* 2 Cor 4: 7-15; Matt 20: 20-28; Wed [26/7/17] *Sts Joachim & Anne, Parents of the Virgin Mary:* Ex 16: 1-5, 9-15; Matt 13: 1-9; Thurs [27/7/17] Ex 19: 1-2, 9-11, 16-20b; Matt 13: 10-17; Fri [28/7/17] Ex 20: 1-17; Matt 13: 18-23; Sat [29/7/17] *St Martha:* 1 John 4: 7-16; Luke 10: 38-42 (Alternative: John 11: 19-27); **17th Sunday in Ordinary Time** [30/7/17] 1 Kings 3: 5, 7-12; Rom 8: 28-30; Matt 13: 44-52.