

ST PIUS X, RAIWAQA, PARISH NEWSLETTER

TO RESTORE ALL THINGS IN CHRIST

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THE TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - CYCLE A: - 27/08/17

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.

Up and Coming Events in other Parishes

Ordination of Rev Vio – 23rd Sept. Cath.

Cathedral Sacred Heart – Soli - 14th Oct.

Holy Spirit & St Agnes–Soli -28th October

Holy Eucharist Soli – 18th November.

Ordination of Rev Pat Visanti-23rd Nov. Cath.

Meeting of the PPC Meets today at 10.00am. All

Community Leaders and Heads of Commissions

please try and attend. It is Synod Preparation Time.

Reflection for the 21th Sunday of the Year: Shepherd and Rock: Above the sanctuary of Saint Peter's basilica in Rome, in huge lettering of gold mosaic, stands the promise of Jesus to his chief apostle: "You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church. I will give to you the keys of the kingdom of heaven." These words are taken by Catholics as the basis for the papacy, as applying also to the bishop of Rome as Peter's successor and chief spokesman for the church's living faith, holding the "power of the keys".

The one appointed to "feed the lambs and sheep" of Christ, to "confirm his brethren," and welcome the first pagan convert into the Church, was not a *born saint*. Weakness of faith (when he began to sink), rash self-confidence and eventual denial are also portrayed by him. But these serve only to underline the grandeur of his conversion, when with a new clarity of self-knowledge, he turns and says to Jesus: "You know that I love you." The task is not one of stern dominance, or just for the efficient organisation of Christ's Church. Pastor and penitent at once, convert and the support for other converted sinners, he leads the faithful by witness and example. This pastoral understanding of authority finds a lovely echo in the first epistle of Peter. Elders or leaders are asked to "tend the flock of God, not as domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock" (5:13.) Just so, Peter tended the early church by sharing his deep faith in Christ the Risen Lord. So, he kept them united in a community of mutual love, and in faithful obedience to the Gospel. The ideal situation of harmony in the Church is found in Acts (2:42ff; 4:32f.)

What of today's Church, spread through our world, united under the leadership of pope Francis? How can this work of teaching, encouraging and uniting so many millions of baptised believers be carried on? Jesus remains at the centre, as the Christ, Son of the Living God, and he continues to be the Church's true Rock. We today, just as much as in the time of St Peter, need the ministry of faithful apostles, entrusted by Christ to build up his people, witness to the faith, and provide leadership in Christian love. Pope, bishops, priests and other ministries exist in order to serve. But in some sense, we get the service that we deserve. It is for us to make known to our pastors both our appreciation and our loyal criticisms; specially to pray for them, for their courage and perseverance. Today we particularly remember the present successor of Peter, our Pope; that God may establish him in faith and wisdom; that being strong in himself, he may confirm the brethren; and that as Chief Shepherd he may help us on our way to the Kingdom.

Program for Launching of Jubilee Year Monday 21st Aug. Feast of St Pius X: It was an astounding success. The liturgy was wonderfully prepared. The Choir was angelic. Although the evening was dreadful yet in spite of the weather a very good crowd of parishioners turned out for this eventful occasion in the parish. The Jubilee Banners were in place on time. The Plaque of Dedication for the Archbishop Mataca Hall was tastefully mounted and the passageway got the promised facelift from the Men of the Parish. As for the décor in the Hall, it was superb on the night - a transformation by Lavinia and crew that will be hard to beat. Fr Donal McIlraith gave a wonderful account of the life of St Pius X, on his holiness and his pastoral care for people. Fr Timoci Kaloudisi, and Mrs Helen Mow was on standby to unveil the memorial Plaque after the blessing by the PP. The refreshments and meal provided by the communities and the organising committee was adequate to feed a battalion. The Columban priests from Nasese together with Rev Pat Visanti, students in formation as well as the two new Philippine Lay Missionaries graced the occasion. The Parish salutes and thank all involved, especially the Organising Committee and their friends for a job well done. (JME PP)

Prayer to St Pius X 'New Chapter, New Beginning': This prayer composed especially for the coming year of Jubilee was given out on the evening of the Launching and recited for the 1st time after Communion on that day- will be recited each day after Communion during the coming year. Community leaders please ensure that each household have these prayers – plenty printed for everyone – they can be had from the Head of Liturgy Commission or at the parish office and presbytery. The other side of this Prayer Card – is the Prayer of St Columban as the Columbans throughout the world are celebrating their Centenary of their Foundation in 2018 also.

Thanks, and Gratitude: 'Mrs Helen Mow would like to take this opportunity to express her appreciation and thanks to Fr McEvoy and the Organising Committee for giving her the honour to represent the pioneer parishioners at the Dedication of the Archbishop Petero Mataca Hall. Vinaka Vakalevu' *Helen Mow*.

Sale of Mats: In all humility we request all those wanting to buy Mats come to the parish only on Mondays to Fridays from 9am – to 2.00pm daily. No weekend or public holiday sales please. Sophie is the only one that sells the Mats – and she does not work on weekends or after 2.00pm on weekday. So, we request you respect her time off. Time and time, she has been interrupted in her home on weekends and after working hours. This must stop.

CWL - AGM Namosi: The Members of the Catholic Women's League returned to the parish on Monday morning 21st Aug after a very successive AGM in Namosi. They offered their Sevusevu of thanks to the Parish and Parish Priest. They were all in good spirits returning – they came 1st for their handicraft display, while their Soli reached \$3,000.00. Namosi Parish raised the most at the Soli \$29,611.95 followed by Korolevu with \$24,677.80 and Lautoka was third with the sum of \$15,384.15. The total sum from the Regions were as follows Central Eastern: \$94,092.95; The West \$74,384.60 and the North \$29,775.70. The grand total reached an all-time record of \$201,000.00 + Well done to the Catholic Women's League of Fiji and those who visited from Australia.

Visitors to the Parish: Fr Trevor Trotter, Columban from Brisbane visited the Parish on Friday 25th Aug. with Julie, a lay person (former politician) who is volunteering with the Columbans in Australia, hoping to start a STM programme (short term mission) where they would hope to send some interested people from the Diocese in Brisbane to Fiji to experience mission and parish Life here. Fr Trover and Julie were shown around the squatter settlements of the parish on Friday morning and talked to Keleo from Nanuku. They talked to Vero, Head of JPHD Commission and Rafa Roqica on Friday evening - who informed them as what was taking place in the parish re JPIC issues.

Former Columban Lay Missionaries Meet at Komave, Korolevu. Vitalina Lubi has called all former LMs for a gathering at Komave this weekend, to renew their friendship and examine where they are at re mission outreach in their respective lives and parishes at the present moment. Or perhaps to re-ignite the flame of evangelization that used to be in their hearts when they were overseas. Former Fiji Lay Missionaries are also planning to celebrate their Silver Jubilee (25 years) of their Formation in 2018. Some 50 young Fijians & Tongans have been on overseas mission in that time.

Central Eastern Clergy Meeting: A summary – The Archbishop was Present. He wants all parishes to become aware of the Next Archdiocesan Synod to be held in 2019. He wants this done before the end of Sept. This is the (1) **Awareness Process**. Then the (2) **Consultative Process** will follow - the Organising Committee will issue the **Questionnaire** (we have already done) to each family in the Archdiocese. From the Answers from these Questionnaires the Agenda for the Synod will be drawn up. And the Final period of preparation will be the **Spiritual and Catechetical Process**. The Archbishop gave us all a simple PowerPoint Presentation to introduce the Awareness Process to our Parishes during the Month of Sept. Hopefully we will get a little time to see this at our PPC Meeting today. Then this will have to be brought to all the Communities in the parish. The First and only Synod was held in 1990. The year of preparation will start from Pentecost 2018 and finish with Synod on Pentecost 2019.

The Archbishop will also be introducing a **new RCIA Programme** – community based rather than class room style. A new book is available for those who will conduct or lead these courses. He is also introducing a **Preparation Course for engaged couples** – or for those who are contemplating Marriage: A new Trainers Manual is available for this also "Transformed in Love" On his pilot project recently he had 15 couples doing the course

Meetings Today Sunday 27th Aug:

1. PPC meeting, after Mass today at 10.00am. Australian Visitors re STM (short term mission) man attend.
2. **Divine Mercy @ 3.00pm; Charismatics @ 3.30pm; World Apostolate of Prayer - 4.00.**

Meetings during the Week:

1. **Tuesday 29th Aug:** Prayer meeting and bible sharing in Communities.
2. **Thursday 31st Aug.** Youth Seven Steps prayer meeting in a Community. Thank you – Youth members
3. **Sunday 3rd Sept:** Liturgy Meeting after the 8.30 Mass.

Thanks: To Community 5b St Columban's for animating the Liturgy during the week & cleaning of the Church & compound. There was a good attendance at evening Masses. Community 6 St Paul's to start tomorrow Mon 28th Aug.

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

1st Collection \$452.95; 2nd Collection \$74.00 and Envelop \$50.00 = \$576.95

Reading coming week: 21th Sun in Ordinary Time [27/8/17] Is 22: 19-23; Rom 11: 33-36, 29-32; Matt 16: 13-20; Mon [28/8] **St. Augustine** John 4:7-16; Matt 23: 8-12; Tues[29/8] **Passion of St. John the Baptist** Jer 1: 17-19; Mark 6:17-29; Wed[30/8] Thess 2:9-13; Matt 23: 27-32; Thurs[31/8] Thess 3: 7-13; Matt 24: 42-51; Fri[1/9] Thess 4:1-8; Matt 25: 1-13; Sat [2/9] Thess 4: 9-11; Matt 25:14-30; **22nd Sunday of Ordinary Time** [3/9/17] Jer 20:7-9; Rom 12:1-2; Matt 16:21-27