



ST PIUS X, RAIWAQA, PARISH NEWSLETTER TO RESTORE ALL THINGS IN CHRIST

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21TH SUNDAY OF YEAR - ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B: 26.08.18.

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 – 6pm

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.

Sunday Reflection No Compromising the Truth: Today's gospel suggests that Jesus was not too concerned about numbers. The gospels for the last four Sundays have been taken from chapter 6 of John's gospel where Jesus speaks of himself as the Bread of Life and of the need to eat his flesh and drink his blood in order to have life. In this morning's gospel some of Jesus' own disciples express their unease with this language. 'This is intolerable language', they say, 'How could anyone accept it?' Jesus is portrayed in that reading as being very aware that some of his followers were complaining. Yet, he did not make any effort to soften his teaching in order to hold on to his numbers. Rather, he insists that the words he has been speaking, all his words, are spirit and life. As a result, the gospel tells us that 'many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him.' Jesus suddenly lost a whole lot of his following. From the perspective of the culture of the time and of our own culture he was suddenly less successful. He even turned to the Twelve apostles, his core group, and asked them, 'What about you? Do you want to go away too?' He was prepared to suffer losses even from that core group rather than compromise on the teaching that he had given. It seems that numbers were not important to him. What was important was sharing the truth as he received it from God his Father. As it turned out, Jesus held onto the Twelve. Peter, their spokesperson, grasped the moment to declare their faithfulness to Jesus, 'Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the message of eternal life.' Yet, later, at the time of his passion Judas betrayed him and Peter denied him. If success is to be measured by numbers, by the end of his earthly life, Jesus was a total failure.

The teaching and the life of Jesus will always challenge us at some level of our being. There may even be times when we will feel like walking away from it. That is why it is so important for us to keep renewing our response to the Lord's presence and invitation. The Eucharist is the primary moment when we commit ourselves again to the Lord's vision for our lives; it is our weekly opportunity to make our own those words of Peter in today's gospel, 'Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the message of eternal life.'

In loving memory: **Mr Freddie Caine**, St Joseph the Worker Parish, Funeral tomorrow Monday, Sacred Heart Cathedral at 9.00am **Mrs Letty Chute** - will be buried on Tuesday at Nakula Estate Udu Point. May they rest in Peace.

Confirmation Candidates list 2018. The following is a list of the young ladies and men who received Confirmation today 26th August 2018. Some of them started their preparation for today 3 years ago and the rest were the 1st Group who participated in the New Archdiocesan 2-year Preparation Programme. We thank and admire their perseverance and of course we also thank those who walked with them over these years: Master Dan Burese, Mrs Nawalu, Aminiasi Columban Student, Sophie Wakanidrola, Sera Vira, HOC, but **especially Eta Roseru Mow** who accompanied them all this time. For her dedication and commitment – in spite of her busy school & family schedule – the parish is grateful.

Twenty-four (24) young ladies from the Parish: Lavenia Malaucake; Margaret Qalo; Cynthia Semesi; Vivian Mose; Carol Mose; Louise Burese; Mikayla Burese; Selina Vatuloka; Clara Jones; Teresia Roqica; Raijieli Saubulinayau; Moana Nabou; Milika Nabou; Elaina Jones; Andrea Jones; Hanisi Mausio; Estell Kainamoli; Rebecca Johns; Theresa Konrote; Maria Vira; Marleana Coalala; Naomi Cirikisuva; Teresia Waqanidrola; Mere Ratuwaqa.

Sixteen (16) Cauravou - Boys: Tavite Waqailiti; Saimoni Coalala; Richard Grey; Rafael Dakai; Arthur Tavutonivalu; Cedrick Vute; Christopher Mua; Petero Saubulinayau; Sione Tuimoheloa; Maximillian Daurewa; Mitieli Cirikisuva; Romanu James Naituku; Percy Lee; Emosi Loco; Tengata Betaia; Gabriel Mow.

Confirmation Day in the Parish. Today we welcome His Grace, Archbishop Peter Loy Chong to confer the Sacrament of Confirmation on 40 of our young Adults. Congratulations to all.

As we go to print on the evening Aug 25th Our Golden Jubilee Celebration Day is truly over. The Story of the day will be told next weekend

Memorable Golden Jubilee Preparation Week: A Summary: There was hardly a lull in the excitement during our Jubilee Week Celebrations. But of course there were anxious moments during the week. All of which were ironed out in time and no one noticed. Our visitors were welcomed back to the parish and were delighted with our celebrations and the décor of the Church. Parishioners gave of their best – willingly and with a good heart. So many **went that extra mile** and were glad to do so for the sake of their Parish. **Vinaka Vakalevu friends.**

The momentum of the week kept building evening after evening. Starting on **Monday Evening 20th August** when 4b and the Kiribati Community animated the liturgy – **the singing in Gilbertese was angelic.** Fr **Ipolito** spoke about **Unity** that is needed in society, the church and parishes, express best when we gather to celebrate Eucharist.

Fr **Timoci** on Tuesday Evening – **Feast Day of the parish recalled his memories and history of Raiwaqa** as the parish started and the changes that has taken place over the past 25 years since our Silver Jubilee. The liturgy was animated this evening by the powerful voices of the men and women of the Parish. The liturgy was followed by a Parish feast – where the multitudes were fed. **Heartfelt thanks to the Communities** who provided the means for our **Feast Day** and the good ladies who saw that the food was evenly shared.

The tempo changed again on Wednesday evening 22nd when the **Children of the Parish animated the liturgy** under the direction of Marjorie Engcoy. Their singing and participation amazed and delighted the huge congregation. Fr **Carlo** in a powerful homily emphasized the importance of the home where the faith and Christian principles must take root in our children. After Mass the parish moved into a serious mood – both the Men and Women of the Parish held separate places to put the final touches that would be needed for our Main Celebration on Sat – lovo preparation, cooking and food distribution was all fixed. **The Parish at its best was in evidence everywhere this evening.**

Fr **Tom Rouse was welcomed back to the Parish** with great enthusiasm by the youth and youth Legends of the parish who animated our liturgy on Thursday evening 23rd Aug. Fr Tom talked about our 'Identity 'who are we? He described the people of the Parish as 'Heart People' – in good times and bad. The youth had everything arranged to perfection and a live band which added spice to a most enjoyable evening.

St John Viany Community and the Mandali Group were not daunted by the fact that they were last on the week's programme. Friday Evening's liturgy was lovely, dignified and different and showed us how blessed we are in Fiji with such a diversity in culture all living in harmony – which makes us one Nation and one People. Fr Simon Mani emphasized this point in his homily. The Stage was truly set for Aug 25th Day of the Golden Jubilee of St Pius X Parish Raiwaqa. The two communities had enjoyed each other's company after Mass with grog and refreshments. While everyone else Men and Women moved to their assigned stationed for lovo and cooking preparation. JME.

Meditation Retreat Day: Will be held at Nazareth Prayer Centre Wailekutu on Sunday Sept 1st From 9.00am to 3.30pm. Those interested Contact Sr Torika SM at 3361106.

Season of Creation: Month of Sept. Christians are coming together - **From Norway to India, Australia to Peru, the United States to Israel, Christians are holding events to celebrate the Season of Creation.** Saturday, September 1 is the first day in the Season of Creation. Nearly 100 volunteer leaders have stepped forward in love and hope to register their events. **As a Parish we are challenged to organize a Creation event in our community.** Whether it is a simple prayer service, a hands-on event or action in your community is vital to lifting up a shared spirit of hope. (GCCM) Global Catholic Climate Movement. **At the Central Eastern Clergy Meeting last Tuesday, The Archbishop gave a special handbook** to each parish with suggestions for each Sunday liturgy in Sept – some suggestions: let's celebrate **Ocean Sunday, Vanua Sunday, Uciwai Sunday, Veikau Sunday etc etc, Over to you Liturgy Commission.**

The Agape Ministry of the Archdiocese of Suva invites all minority communities [non-iTaukei] to the Annual Agape Festival & Synod workshop at the St Joseph's Hall Waimanu Road Suva on 8th September 2018. The program begins at 8.30am concluding with Mass at 5pm followed by cultural items. Meals will be provided. Contact Elizabeth Krishna on 9234464/9803869 for further information.

Evangelisation meeting on Tuesday 9/09/2018 after 8.30am Mass in the hall.

Family Life Commission: in unison with the Liturgy, Evangelization and the Social & Ecological Justice Commissions will strive to make the Month of Sept. Family Month with special talks and topics addressed on the evenings of the 14th, 21st and 28th and then on Sunday 30th (Children's Liturgy) Wedding anniversary of couples who have been married 10, 15 and 20 years will be acknowledged during that liturgy also.

Ordination of Rev Edward Vakatora & Semi Ulunasobu will take place on 15th Sept at Sacred Heart Cathedral at 9.00am. Reception in St Joseph's Hall afterwards. Allocation of Food for St Pius X Parish – Chicken Curry with Rice and Chutney + one KG of yaqona and one item of entertainment per parish.

Thanks: To Community 4b St Patrick's for starting off the week of the Golden Jubilee with the Kiribati Community. We invite Community 4c St John the Baptist to take over tomorrow Monday 27th August.

Thanks for your Collections: 1st Collection: **\$790.45;** 2nd Collection: **\$135.75;** Envelopes **\$5.00;** Total **\$921.20**

Reading coming week: Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time [26/8/18] Joshua 24: 1-2; Eph 5: 21-32; Jn 6: 60-69; Mon [27/8/18] 2 Thes 1: 1-5, 11-12; Mt 23: 13-22; Tue [28/8/18] 2 Thes 2: 1-3, 14-17; Mt 23: 23-26; Wed [29/8/18] The Passion of St John the Baptist: Jer 1: 17-19; Mk 6: 17-29; Thurs [30/8/18] 1 Cor 1: 1-9; Mt 24: 42-51; Fri [31/8/18] 1 Cor 1: 17-25; Mt 25: 1-13; Sat [1/9/18] 1 Cor 1: 26-31; Mt 25: 14-30; **Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time** [2/8/18] Deut 4: 1-2, 6-8; James 1: 17-18, 21-22, 27; Mk 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23;