

ST PIUS X, RAIWAQA, PARISH NEWSLETTER

TO RESTORE ALL THINGS IN CHRIST

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THE TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - CYCLE A: - 03/09/17

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.pm

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.

St Agnes–Soli -28th October.

Holy Spirit Soli and Bazaar – Sat 4th Nov.

Holy Eucharist Soli – 18th November.

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

Thursday September 7th Constitution Day

Public Holiday: Mass at 8.30 am on this day.

Vinaka Vakalevu. Enjoy the break.

Reflection for the 22th Sunday of the Year: The Cost of Discipleship: If invited to pick and choose within the Gospels, and form our religion only with what appeals to us, what a cosy, comfortable church we would have! We might keep the stories about Christ's birth and infancy, his temptation in the desert and his healing miracles. We would include our favourite parables, like the Prodigal son, the Pharisee and the Publican, and of course, the Good Samaritan. But would we leave out that Gospel for today, that hard teaching about renouncing self, taking up the cross, losing our lives for the sake of Jesus? And even if we have not removed those words from our Gospels, do we remain deaf to them in practise, in our lives?

So, what does the Lord want from us? What does he mean by "renounce yourself," "lose your life for my sake," "carry your cross," or (in the epistle) "present your bodies as a holy sacrifice?" If we will allow, God's Word challenges us out of any complacency with a comfortable, conforming religion. It unmasks our many evasions, our double standards, our desire for "cheap grace", wanting salvation at cut price, unwilling to involve ourselves in sacrifice.

Perhaps a clue to this Lord's demand is in the first reading, in Jeremiah's extraordinary accusation that he was *seduced* by God. Letting his prophetic vocation overpower him, Jeremiah was involved in many a thankless task. He had *fallen in love with God*, so that nothing held him back from doing God's will, no matter where this might lead. Have *we* fallen in love with Christ? Are we seduced by him, so as to give to his service all that is ours to give? Wouldn't that be *becoming a living sacrifice*? All growth, all lasting achievement demands effort and sacrifice. Yet the sacrifice can be a satisfying part of experience, when orientated towards a high and valued goal. (e.g. athletic training; mountain-climbing; studying a language; practising a new skill). So, the self-discipline involved in Christian life look forward in hope to the great reward of loyal service, when the Son of man, coming in glory, will reward all according to their deeds.

Welcome to the Christian Community: Raphael Augustine Mikaele Tagivetaua, 21 Tamani Lane, and Zion Kaegan Kawhi Cokanasiga, 15 Tamani Lane, who were baptised here today 3rd Sept. 2017 by Rev. Pat Visanti (his 1st Baptisms).

Parents and CCD Teachers Meeting: CCD Facilitators meeting with parents for both Holy Communion and Confirmation classes after the 08.30 Mass this morning in the Archbishop Petero Mataca Hall. This is a most important meeting as we start Year 2 of the Confirmation Preparation Course and we are drawing near to 1st Holy Communion Day for 2017 – Nov 26th Feast of Christ the King. Parents with children for these Sacraments, please attend this meeting today. Thanks, is expressed to all CCD teachers for their dedication and commitment, indeed to parents and pupils also.
CCD Classes resume for Term Three on Sunday, 10th September.

Elections: - St Theresa of the Child Jesus Community 7b will elect new Community Office Bearers after their week on Liturgy. The election will take place during the Community Lunch on Sunday Sept 17th 2017 in two weeks time.

Rev Vio Drou (Ra) Ordination Lunch St Joseph's School Hall 23rd Sept 2017: Fr Rogasiano (Nadera) and Organizing Committee requests that Raiwaqa Parish prepare and cook the Beef Curry and supply 2 KGs of yaqona and donate serviettes, paper plates or other food items. **The combined choir for the day to include Raiwaqa Parishioners.**

Summary of the PPC last Sunday 27th Aug: Thanks to all Community Reps and Heads of Commission for attending. It was a full house. Fr Tom Rouse sat in on the Meeting and expressed gratitude that so much was happening in the parish. There was also a short presentation from Fr Trevor Trotter SSC and Julie an ex politician from Brisbane who had visited our squatter communities on Friday. Their mission was to identify if possible – placements for people from the Diocese of Brisbane to come on Short Term Mission. Since there were so many parish activities during the month of Aug. All Commission Heads and Community Leaders had full and satisfying reports. The Parish Priest – fresh from the Central Clergy Meeting – presented the Archbishop's presentation on the forthcoming Synod Preparation in 2019. He encouraged members of the PPC to inform themselves with the stages of the Synod Preparations namely the (1) **Awareness Process** (from now until end of Sept). PowerPoint presentation available to all Community Leaders from the office if requested). 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** in every parish within the Archdiocese.

Request from Youth Commission Executives and Head of Commission: that Community Leaders encourage your Youth Members to attend **two** important activities for the month of September:

1. Participate in the animation of the liturgy on Sunday 3/09/17 at 8.30am Mass.
2. Participate in the Social night/ with some empowering presentations, organized by the Justice and Development Commission on 8/09/17 in the Parish hall. We hope to see many young people coming forth for these two events scheduled for Sept. Let us praise the Lord in songs and prayer today first and foremost.

Men of the Parish: Workshop on Scripture and Social: To be held on Friday 8th Sept in the AB Mataca Hall at 7.30pm. All requested to bring some grog and Refreshments.

Happy Father's Day: to all Fathers of the Parish: striving to make their families love & serve God and Society.

Justice and Development Commission Proposed Visitations to the Communities: Visitation schedule on

1. Tuesday **12.9.17:** to Communities 1b, 3, 4a; and on
2. Tuesday **19.9.17:** to Communities 4b, 5a, 5b; and on
3. Tuesday **26.9.17:** 4c ,6, 7a, 7b. Communities to confirm appropriate date for visitation. Thank You.
4. Please note of the meetings and activities of the JD Commission during the coming week as scheduled below.

The World Apostolate of Fatima: will be having a **Curry Night** Fundraising on Friday, 15th September, 2017, in the Archbishop Petero Mataca Hall. All welcome.

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 Matts – and she does not work on weekends or after 2.00pm on weekdays. So, we request you respect her time off. Time and time again, she has been interrupted in her home on weekends and after working hours. This must stop.

Meetings Today Sunday 3rd Sept:

1. **Sunday 3rd Sept:** Liturgy Meeting after the 8.30 Mass.
2. **St Columban Community (5B)** - Meeting will be held at Mere Avaiki's residence at 5pm today (03.09.2017). All community members please make an effort to attend this important meeting.
1. **Divine Mercy @ 3.00pm; Charismatics @ 3.30pm; World Apostolate of Prayer - 4.00.**

Meetings during the Week:

3. **Monday 4th Sept.** There will be a meeting for **Parish Executives** after Mass next Monday to discuss the issue of **involving minority groups in the Parish** as this is one of our goals for the Jubilee Year – going forward.
4. **Tuesday 5th Sept:** Prayer meeting and bible sharing in Communities.
5. **Tuesday 5th Sept.** St Joseph the Worker (2) Prayer meeting and Bible Sharing – Pio Buresse Home at 7.30pm
6. **Wednesday 6th Sept.** Community 4A Meeting in AB Mataca Hall at 8.00pm.
7. **Wednesday 6th Sept.** Session on setting up a Database to benefits JD Commission member's and the Parish in general. Interested parishioners are welcome. Meeting in the Fr Hurley Hall from 7.30pm - 8.30pm.
8. **Thursday 7th Sept.** Constitution Day: Public Holiday. Mass in the Parish at 8.30am./ **Youth Seven Steps.**
9. **Friday 8th Sept.** JD presentation to parish youth, 8pm @ Fr Hurley Hall.

Thanks: To Community 6 St Paul's for animating the Liturgy during the week & cleaning of the Church & compound. There was a great attendance at evening Masses. Community 7a St Jacob's to start tomorrow Mon 4th Sept. Vinaka.

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

1st Collection \$529.35; 2nd Collection \$72.00 and Envelop \$125.00 = \$726.35

Reading coming week: 22nd Sunday Ordinary Time [3/9] Jer 20: 7-9; Romans 12:1-2; Matt 16: 21-27; Mon [4/9] Thess 4:13-18; Luke 4: 16-30; Tues [5/9] Thess 1-6. 9-11; Luke 4:31-37; Wed [6/9] Col 1:1-8; Luke 4:4-18, Thurs [7/9] Col 1:9-14; Luke 5: 1-11; Fri [8/9] **Birthday of The Blessed Virgin Mary** Micah 5:1-4; Matt 1:1-16. 18-23; Sat [9/9] Col 1:21-23; Luke 6:1-5; 23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time Ezek 33:7-9; Romans 13:8-10; Matt 18: 15-20.