

ST PIUS X, RAIWAQA, PARISH NEWSLETTER

TO RESTORE ALL THINGS IN CHRIST

P.O. Box 5175, Raiwaqa, Suva - Phone & Fax # 3383183

Email Address: stpiusx810@gmail.com

Parish Priest: Fr. John McEvoy: email: mcevoyfj@gmail.com website: www.stpiusxfj.com

THE TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - CYCLE A: - 10/09/17

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.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.

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.

Hurricane Irma: And the Caribbean Islands.

Today we remember and think of the plight of these people hit and devastated by 300km winds.

Reflection for the 23th Sunday of the Year: **A reconciled community:** Today's readings confront us with two aspects of the question. Firstly, the need for a sense of individual responsibility in the way of conversion. Ezekiel certainly made it clear that the individual is addressed by the Word of God calling for repentance. There is no way out of this personal responsibility. But all of this should not be seen simply in terms of what the individual owes to the community. The whole Church is called to be supportive of each person who seeks reconciliation. This is especially important in a world where so many people feel threatened by the alienating force of impersonal state structures. The Church is not called to be mega-corporation.

Individuals who are perplexed by their own failures or oppressed by the weaknesses of others, need a community that does not drive them further into isolation but one which calls them through forgiveness and love into the life of fellowship. Living in this fellowship does mean that we owe debts to one another, and as Paul reminds us today the only obligation that ultimately counts is the debt of love we owe one another.

From the Archbishop: New Director of Catholic Education: I wish to formally introduce and advise the official appointment of the new Director Catholic Education, Mr Nemani Drova. Mr Drova is highly qualified with Masters in Education and Business Administration. As an education he has a very wide teaching experience, having taught in many schools, non-Catholic and Catholic, and is very much aware of the needs of many Catholic Schools, and has a strong desire to upgrade them. Mr Drova belongs to the Immaculate Conception Parish, Lami and is deeply committed to his faith, and is proactive in responding to all that concerns the welfare of the parish and beyond.

Fr. George Ting takes up a new position in the Curia – Director Human Resource Development. Fr. George Ting has returned from the East Asian Pastoral Institute in Manila Philippines after completing the Pastoral Leadership and Management for Mission Program. Fr. Ting's job-description includes training parish priests on parish management and pastoral planning, help parishes establish pastoral and finance council, assist parish priests in their ministry and assist me as a resource personnel.

Clergy on Leave: Frs. Daniel Sinclair and Ipolito Bakaua are on leave and awaiting new appointments.

Fr. Ioane Koroi has requested to leave the priesthood. I thank Fr. Koroi for his ministry in Immaculate Conception Parish Lami and Our Lady of Hope Vanuakula. I wish him well as he returns to lay life.

Fiji Catholic Times wins Award: Congratulations to the Archdiocese of Suva Communication Team! The Fiji Catholic Times (FCT) won the "Best Mission Coverage Award" in the Australasian Catholic Press Association (ACPA) conference held in Auckland, NZ August 23-25, 2017. John Pickering who attended the conference received the award from Cardinal John Dew (Archdiocese of Wellington). Fiji Catholic Times has done tremendously well to receive such an important award. Last year FCT won the best Catechesis Article. *Wananavu!*

Invitation to Iceland: I have been invited by the World Council of Churches to speak on behalf of the Pacific on Climate Change by the WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES "A CONFERENCE ON JUST PEACE WITH THE EARTH" 11-15 Oct.2017, Digraneskirkja, Kópavogur, Iceland. This is a great opportunity to promote Pope Francis' vision "Care for Our Common Home" especially the Oceania Islands. Please keep me in your prayers.
+(Archbishop Peter Loy Chong).

Elections: - St Theresa of the Child Jesus Community 7b will elect new Community Office Bearers Next Sunday after their week on Liturgy. The election will take place during the Community Lunch on Sunday Sept 17th 2017. An invitation Flyer has been issued to each home in Community. So, we look forward working closely with you all during the week.

Parents and CCD Teachers Meeting Last Sunday: Warning Bells of Concern re CCD Classes and falling off in numbers attending both Confirmation and 1st Communion Classes. The challenge is now for parents realize the urgency of the situation at hand with the dwindling numbers in attendance at the after 0700 Mass classes. The parents do agree that they have not been keeping to their side of the promise. For now, the trend will continue with a much closer monitoring of children this term. Their attendance or non-attendance this term, will determine whether they are ready to receive the Sacraments of Confirmation and 1st Holy Communion. Facilitators will also be liaising closely with parents and updating them with the attendance record of their child. The following figures indicate the urgency of this matter. **In the beginning of the year 48 young adults made their Promise of Commitment for the 2-year Confirmation Programme – this number has fallen off to about 30 on average each week now. While there is an all-time low number attending 1st Holy Communion Classes (about 10 most Sundays – sometimes 12 and the biggest number was 18 on a few Sundays. Urgent action is needed and will be taken by those who are in charge of CCD. *****CCD Classes resume for Term Three this Sunday, 10th September*******

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.**

The Family Life Commission: will be conducting a month-long Family Theme in October for the Parish to promote the age old saying "The Family that Prays Together, Stays Together". Every Family will be encouraged to take note. October is the Month that Vocations are promoted in the Family to the religious Life.

The Family Life Commission is currently working on its **2 Year Strategic Plan** and are planning on consulting all communities in the parish. All FLC Reps from each Communities are urged to please attend the weekly meetings. Community Reps are asked to consult Community leaders as when it would be good time to visit your Community. It is hoped that the visitation programme will commence on the 15th of September to the 30th of September. Please Call Jack and Gina Kivi on 7777731.

Celebrating September – The Season of Creation: The Parish Youth will come together on the Saturdays of in Sept here in the Church Compound 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th to do a clean-up and plant seeds and vegetables at the back of the Halls. Hopefully we will all do some planting too to honour Creation in and around our own homes and neighbourhood.

Invitation to members of Smaller Ethnic Groups: eg. Indian speaking Catholics and the Kiribati Community etc to get more involved with us this year as we prepare to Celebrate our Golden Jubilee. Parish Executives will be in contact with you.

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.

Archdiocese of Suva Synod Awareness Program (More from the Archbishop)

Our synod preparations are progressing well. During the month of September, I ask parishes, religious communities and parish groups to carry out an awareness program on the synod. I propose three ways for carrying out the Synod Awareness Program:

1. Parish priests to preach on the Synod during Sunday Masses.
2. Parish Newsletter: You can print out the enclosed Synod Awareness Program in your Parish Newsletter.
3. Small Christian communities, other parish groups, Parish Pastoral Councils, Community Leaders can use a power point presentation. **Slide Presentations available from the Chairperson of PPC both in English and Fijian.**

I would appreciate that the Synod Awareness program be done in September. In October and November, we will move to the Consultative Phase which involves a diocesan survey on what the faithful think of the Catholic Church in Fiji. Your support needed.

Meetings Today Sunday 10th Sept:

1. **Sunday 10th Sept:** Meeting for Lectors in the Fr. Hurley hall this Sunday straight after the 8.30am Mass.
2. **Women of the Parish Meeting:** Today after the 8.30 Mass.
3. **Single Parents Support Group:** Those who attended the Breakfast Seminar – meeting today after 8.30am Mass
4. **Archdiocesan Choir Practice:** In the Fr Hurley Hall this afternoon at 3.00pm. Any Raiwaqa members please?
5. **Cenacle at 2.00pm; Divine Mercy @ 3.00pm; Charismatics @ 3.30pm; World Apostolate of Prayer - 4.00.**
There is an open invitation to anyone who wishes to join a prayer group on Sunday afternoons. Choices above.

Meetings during the Week:

1. **Monday 11th Sept. Meeting of the Parish Financial Council after Mass at 7.30pm**
2. **Tuesday 12th Sept.** St Peter Chanel's (4a) 7 Steps Prayer meeting at Daveta's Home – Children at Burese's.
3. **Wed. 13th Sept.** Meeting of **Financial Community Reps** with members of the Parish Finance Council @ 7.30.
4. **Wednesday 13th 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.
5. **Wednesday 13th Sept.** Family Life Commission Meeting at 7.15. All Community Reps Please Attend.
6. **Thursday 14th Sept.** Youth Seven Steps.
7. **Friday 15th Sept.** The World Apostolate of Fatima - **Curry Night** Fundraiser. AB Mataka hall. All welcome.
8. **Saturday 16th Sept.** Meeting of the Ex-Youth of the Parish at Carrie and Rudi Singh residence at 4.00pm.

Thanks: To Community 7a St Jacob's for animating the Liturgy during the week & cleaning of the Church & compound. A great attendance at evening Masses. Community 7b St Teresa of the Child Jesus starts tomorrow Mon 11th Sept.

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

1st Collection \$671.80; 2nd Collection \$58.90 and Envelop \$80.00 = \$810.70

Reading coming week: 23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time Ezek 33:7-9; Romans 13:8-10; Matt 18: 15-20; Mon[11-9] Col 1:24-2:3; Luke 6:6-11; Tues[12/9] Col 2: 6-15; Luke 6: 12-19; Wed[13/9] Col 3:1-11; Luke 6: 20-26; Thurs[14/9] **The Triumph of the**

Cross Num 21:4-9; Phil 2:6-11; John 3:13-17; Fri[15/9] **Our Lady of Sorrows** Heb 5:7-9; John 19:25-27; Sat[16/9] Tim1:15-17; Luke 6:43-49; **24th Sunday in Ordinary Time** [17/9] Ecc 27:30-28:7; Romans 14:7-9; Matt 18:21-35.