

ST PIUS X, RAIWAQA, PARISH NEWSLETTER

TO RESTORE ALL THINGS IN CHRIST

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THE TWENTY SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - CYCLE A: - 01/10/17

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

Cathedral Sacred Heart – Soli - 7th 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.

Brianna Leaves for Rotuma on 29th Nov.

Congratulations to The Vincentians – Society of the Missions. Founded 400th ago by St Vincent de Paul whose feast day was 27th Sept.

Reflection for the 26th Sunday of the Year: Minds open to change

An idea that arises from today's readings is that of changing one's mind. Today's Gospel illustrates the value of revising our decisions. The first son "thought the better of it." He was open to change, to better thoughts. The second son was set and closed. The ability to change one's mind is essential to all healthy relationships. A mind that is closed, whether from pride, stubbornness or stupidity, tends to destroy all relationships, e.g., when we refuse to admit a mistake, when we are unwilling to apologise and change our ways, when we persist in prejudice against a person or group, when we think we know it all. The second reading (Philippians) talks of a more specific and positive change of mind: "in your minds, you must be the same as Christ Jesus", or as an older translation put it, "let this mind be in you which was in Christ Jesus." This is the direction in which we must be constantly changing our minds day by day.

Paul emphasises one aspect in particular of the mind of Christ, his humble openness and self-emptying in contrast to the conceited grasping and Ever since Adam, we have a strong tendency to cling to whatever we have. The new-born baby needs a tight grip, and as we get older the grip often gets stronger. Clinging permeates all of life; we cling to people (possessiveness); to things (greed); to power and position (ambition); we cling to opinions (pride.) At the root of our clinging lies fear and insecurity. The apparently strong person who clings aggressively to set ways or ideas is in reality full of fear. Notice your physical reactions to fright; you clench up and grasp at something or someone, as a frightened child clings to its mother, clinging of Adam: "he did not cling to (or grasp at) his equality with God (as Adam did in Eden) but emptied himself."

Jesus did not cling to things. He knew that ultimate reality could be trusted, because that ultimate reality is "Abba, dear Father," and holding everything together, even death itself, are the everlasting arms. So, he did not cling even to life, "accepting death, death on a cross." "Into your hands, I commend my spirit." May this mind be in us which was in Christ Jesus.

In Loving Memory: Lemaki Veimateyaki (20) Formally Nacamaki Koro and Nanuku (St Columban's) who died on Monday 25th Sept and was buried in Nasinu Cemetery on Sat 30th Sept after Requiem Mass in Raiwaqa. **Paul Julian Perao**, (49) 8 Talbot Lane (4a) who died on Friday evening 22nd Sept. Buried in Nasinu on Thursday after Requiem Mass here. **Inoke Vuivuma**, (54) Tokou, Levuka, father of Romeo Kivi – president of the Parish Youth, died on Monday 23rd Sept and buried on Sat 30th Sept. in Levuka. We also remember **Joseph Magnus**, (21) Nadera Parish, who died tragically - buried Sat Last 23rd Sept – he has many relatives in this parish. May they rest in peace. Heartfelt Sympathy is expressed to all the above families.

Caring of the Vanua, our Common Home: On behalf of His Grace, Archbishop Peter Loy Chong I write to invite you and members of your communities to a public lecture that will be held on Sunday 1st October at St Joseph's Secondary Hall. The lecture will be on "Reweaving the Ecological Mat" an Itaukei framework for caring of the Vanua, our Common Home. The lecture begins at 4.00pm and concludes at 5.30pm.

Parish Raffle Parish Executives and members of the Parish Financial Council are now ready to distribute list of Blocks and Prizes for parish raffle in aid of Jubilee Year celebrations and works. They will be distributed today to Community Leaders and Financial Reps. There are now 35 excellent prizes to be won – **The draw will take place after Mass on Tuesday 31st Oct.** That evening Communities will have taken Our Lady back to the Church – so there should be a big crowd present. Each Community will receive 100 blocks to be sold at \$5.00 per block. All proceeds go to the parish account for further works needed in the parish during this year coming up to our Golden Jubilee. Money collected can be deposited and receipted in the parish any time during the month. We thank all who will support your Community and Financial Reps in selling these Blocks.

Raffle Tickets for Catechist AGM in Savusavu on 4th Dec. 100 books at \$10.00 per book - handed in - 10 Prizes. 1st prize \$2,000.00 2nd Prize \$1500.00 3rd Prize \$1000.00 etc etc. and 4 prizes of \$200.00 each. Some Community Leaders took books of tickets at PPC Meeting last Sunday. Books of tickets can be had in Parish Office. Drawing date on tickets 13th Oct. So, a short time left.

Application Forms for Corpus Christi Teachers Training College: As usual these can be had from the Presbytery these days. Necessary Qualifications for successful candidates are on the Application Forms and must be accompanied by ref from Parish Priest.

Archdiocesan Evangelization Commission: There will be a Training for parish trainers of SCC Leaders in St Joseph's SS Hall on **Saturday, October 7th and Sunday October 8th**. This training is needed so that each parish will have some committed trainers who can hold training at parish level for SCC 7 Step gospel sharing sessions and can regularly visit SCCs to encourage, support and correct (when necessary) the community prayer leaders. Each Parish is to choose two dependable and experienced leaders who may have had previous training but who are now willing to take a kind of supervisory and training role within the parish for SCCs. Thank you for your interest and support to keep our diocesan priority on course. (*Fr Frank Hoare*).

Evangelisation Commission The workshop on Climate Change is on this Friday (06/10) at the Archbishop Petero Mataka hall, starting at 7.30pm. Guest speaker is Dr. Joeli Veiataki from USP. Dr. Joeli spoke at the recent Catholic Women's League annual gathering at Namosi. He also addressed the Columban Assembly in Nasese 2 weeks ago. His story is fascinating.

Boat to Rotuma: For Rev Pat Visanti's 1st Mass there: The Brianna will leave Suva on the evening of Wed 29th Nov. DV. It will be in Rotuma from Friday until Sunday night 3rd Dec arriving back in Suva on 5th Dec. Capacity 140 passengers only. **Price \$350.00.** Book with Soela or Visinia at Columban House, Nasese – 3308290. **50% Deposit to be paid before 31st Oct.**

Parish Structure and Constitution Review Workshop: to take place on Sat 21 October at the AB Mataka Hall. All PPC and Commission representatives are requested to be at this important workshop as part of our build up towards the Golden Jubilee.

The Family Life Commission:

- Family Life Commission Reps will be visiting Communities (2) and (6) this Sunday.
- Program for the Solo Parents this Sunday has been cancelled due to speakers unavailability. We apologise to the Solo Parents but we will re-schedule this program later in the month.
- Meeting for the FLC will be on Wednesday 4th at 7.15pm. All Reps please attend.
- The Family Life Commission will be conducting a month-long Family Theme in October for St. Pius X Parish to promote the age old saying "The Family that Prays Together, Stays Together". We are urging all Parishioners to please sit together as a Family during Mass, this will begin on the 1st of October.
- The Members of the Commission are also requesting that each Family of the parish have their evening/morning Rosary together as a family to begin on the 1st of October.

Women of the Parish: Registration for the women of the parish will take place after the 7.00am and 8.30 Mass in front of the church from Sunday **1/10/17 - 8.10.17** the parish will take place. By registering you are declaring your desire to be part of the women of the parish and general Catholic faith community. **Their Meeting** next Sunday, 8th Oct from **10am – 11.30am**

Justice & Development Commission: Parish Census - Two(2) weeks duration for the completion of the parish census exercise from **Friday,6.10.17 – Friday,13.10.17**. This exercise is vital in our pursue to understand what is going on in our parish and find out the hopes and needs of the community and the purpose the Church might play in the lives of people.

Disaster Management Workshop Feedback - Scheduled for Monday (2.10.17), **7.30pm – 8.45pm** in the AB Mataka Hall. Community leaders requested to avail - (3 Reps from each Community) and of course those who are on the Parish Committee.

Meetings Today Sunday 1st October:

1. **Sunday 1st Oct.** Meeting of the Liturgical Commission – All Reps please attend.
2. **Financial Reps:** Meeting today after 8.30 Mass to receive income and expenditure account of recent months in the Parish.
3. **Family Life Commission Reps** will be visiting Communities (2) and (6) this Sunday.
4. **Prayer Meeting Rosary Month: 4a Starts at the Church at 6pm** and will continue in the community every day.
5. **Cenacle at 2.00pm; Divine Mercy @ 3.00pm; Charismatics @ 3.30pm; World Apostolate of Prayer - 4.00**

Meetings during the Week:

1. **Evangelisation Commission** meets on Monday 02/10 immediately after evening Mass. Reps please attend.
1. **Tuesday 3rd Oct.** St Peter Chanel (4a) Seven Steps and Bible sharing and also in all other Communities.
2. **Tuesday 3rd Oct:** St Joseph the Worker (2) Seven Steps Bible Sharing at 7.30pm at Fuata's House.
3. **Wednesday 4th Oct.** Family Life Commission Meeting at 7.15. All Community Reps Please Attend.

Thanks: To Community 2 St Joseph the Worker for animating the Liturgy during the week & cleaning of the Church & compound. Community 3 St Joan of Arc starts tomorrow Mon 25th Sept.

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

1st Collection \$687.45; 2nd Collection \$73.25 and Envelop \$230.00 = \$990.70

Reading coming week: **26th Sunday in Ordinary Time [1/10]** Ezek 18:25-28; Phil 2:1-11; Matt 21:28-32; Mon [2/10] **Guardian Angels** Ex 23:20-23; Matt 18:1-5.10; Tues [3/10] Zech 8:20-23; Luke 9:51-56; Wed [4/10] **St Francis of Assisi** Gal 6:14-18; Matt 11:25-30; Thurs [5/10] Neh 8:1-12; Luke 10: 1-12; Fri[6/10] Baruch 1:15-22; Luke 10:13-16; Sat[7/10] **Our Lady of the Rosary** Acts 1:12-14; Luke 1: 46-55; **27th Sunday in Ordinary Time [8/10]** Is 5:1-7; Phil 4:6-9; Matt 21:33-43.