

# ST PIUS X, RAIWAQA, PARISH NEWSLETTER

## TO RESTORE ALL THINGS IN CHRIST

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### THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - CYCLE B: 10/12/17

#### 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.

#### Return trip from Rotuma: For the Records

The Briana broke down again on its return journey and was adrift for 9 hours So it arrived back one day late on Wednesday afternoon instead of Tuesday. TG all are back home safe and well. The Celebrations in Rotuma were great & enjoyable according to

**'Wonder'** Is the name of a really good Family movie for the Christmas – at a time when emphasis is being placed on parents to be more interested in their children. Many family issues come to the fore. See it.

#### Reflection 2nd Sunday of Advent: John's challenging message

The call of John the Baptist is challenging but, ultimately, it is a consoling word, because the Lord to whom John calls on us to turn our hearts is not one who is here to judge us. Rather, he is one who has come to heal and renew us. The voice crying in the wilderness is, ultimately, a voice of consolation. In the opening words of Isaiah in today's first reading, 'Console my people, console them. Speak to the heart of Jerusalem.' At the end of that reading, Isaiah declares, 'Here is the Lord coming with power.'

**The word 'power'** can have negative echoes for us, suggesting an overbearing will to dominate over others. Yet the power of the Lord that Isaiah speaks about is of a different kind. God is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast. This is a very tender power, the life-force of a faithful and enduring love, a love that gathers and nurtures and reassures. This is the God whom John the Baptist invites us to rediscover this Advent.

It is this God who comes to us in the person of Jesus of Nazareth. In the gospel, the Baptist refers to Jesus as 'more powerful than I am.' He is the more powerful one, in the sense that the first reading defines power. It is Jesus who gives full expression to God's tender love that brings healing to the broken, strength to the weak and rest to the weary. It is this adult Jesus, now risen Lord, whose coming towards us and present to us we celebrate at Christmas. The Baptist calls us this Advent to prepare a way in our lives for the coming of this Lord, this Shepherd, in whom, as Responsorial Psalm says, mercy and faithfulness have met, justice and peace have embraced. This is the one we are called to meet this Advent.

**In Loving Memory:** **Harry Chand, (58 years)** Delainavesi, Lami, formally from Wailoku and chairperson of St Joseph the Worker Parish, Tamavua – **brother of Matthew Chand, Community 7a**, died suddenly on the 4<sup>th</sup> Dec 2017 and his Requiem Mass was offered in Delainavei on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> Dec. Sympathy is expressed to Matthew and the Chand families May he rest in Peace.

**Welcome to the Christian Community:** Lucyanna Maleena Gibbons Lavulo, 3 Senibua Lane, Bryce Street - Jason Mani Lavulo, Bryce Street - Aurelia Flora Theresa Fotfiri, 24 Mataiva Rd. Caubati - Kelemete Raiyawa, 2 Good Lane, Raiwaqa - Iowane Boro, 2 Good Lane Raiwaqa and Tevite Raiyawa Ruru – 2 Good Lane Raiwaqa – who were baptised here yesterday 9<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2017.

**St Pius X Parish Clean up:** From Saturday Dec 9<sup>th</sup> to Dec 15<sup>th</sup> from 8.00am to 12.00pm. Please work with your community in getting rid of non-garden refuse such as old drums, tyres, tins, bottles, old refrigerators, stoves, washing machines and other discarded household items which are potential breeding places for mosquitos. Designated Pick up points for the 11 Communities in the parish are as follows:

St Cecelia – 1b	Browning St. Roundabout.	St John the Baptist – 4c	Gaji Road
St Joseph the Worker - 2	Bryce St. Near bus stop.	St Michael's – 5a	Vusovuso Pl, Lemaki St. +
St Joan of Arc – 3	Derrick St. Roundabout.	St Columban's - 5b	Nanuku & Fletcher Roads
St Peter Chanel – 4a	Grantham Rd. Davui Lane	St Paul's - 6	Howell Rd, Kula & Rewa St
St Patrick's – 4b	Milverton & Aidney Road	St Jacob's - 7a	Salvation Army/Nairai Rd
St Teresa Child Jesus - 7b	Kapadia Pl, McFarlane Rd	Leys Rd, Goodsir Rd and	Madam's Place.

Why not take advantage of this great free pick up and get your house and community ready for Christmas by getting rid of unwanted and broken utensils in your area. Pope Francis in Laudato Si invites us to adapt new ways of living to realize our place ...our planet ...our responsibility.

**Today's Advent Candle is purple:** Symbolizing Faith: 'Bethlehem Candle' Mary & Joseph's Journey there.

**New Lectors Training Course:** introductory session for new members willing to join the Lectors Ministry is scheduled for next Sunday 17th of December straight after the 8.30 a.m. Mass inside the Church. A note to all community liturgy reps to please have the names of interested members submitted to Tina Poate by Wednesday 13th December. Thank You.

**Parish Rite of Reconciliation/Confessions: Will be celebrated on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> Dec. after 6.30pm Mass**

**Youth AGM Last Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec. 2017:** Attended by the Head of Commission Mrs Tupou Nawalu and the Parish Priest with about 20 members of the youth. The PP thanked the youth for the beautiful singing at the 8.30am Mass and for the first fruits from the backyard garden. He also urged the youths to take part in St. Vincent de Paul activities including the distribution of food to the poor coming up to Christmas. The next distribution will be 17<sup>th</sup> Dec.

**New Office Bearers for the Coming year are as Follows: President:** Terrence Josaia (7A); **Vice President:** Rochelle Kamsoo (4A); **Social & Sports:** Paulo Dulunaqio (7B); **Assistant Social & Sports:** Francis Tikoibua (7B); **Assistant Liturgy:** Leo Roqica (6); **Assistant Evangelisation:** Oscar Saverio (1B); **Assistant Social Justice:** Pipiana Mua; **Current Executives Present that agreed to Stay on: Secretary:** Catherine Burese (4A); **Liturgy:** Bridget Tavutonivalu (4B); **Evangelisation:** Chris Wali (4B); **Social Justice:** Rasha Turagaiviu (2); **Finance:** Samu Burese. **Congratulations to all the new office bearers!** May they continue to work together and support one another. **Their Moto for this year comes from Former President Obama "Yes we Can"** May 2018 be a great year for them.

**Another humble Request to take ownership and have pride in our parish:** After all the praise of how the premises were left nice and clean last week – we cannot boast the same this week. Our toilets were blocked again with papers etc and cigarette butts in the men's toilet. Every time this happens it costs the parish money to have them cleared. Where is our pride?? So, this is another passionate plea for everyone to use the parish toilets responsibly. It has been noticed that when large functions take place – children are not adequately supervised and they are in and out of the toilets as they wish – turning on and off of the lights etc etc. How many times have the paper dispensers have been torn off the walls. They were only fixed a few week ago and they were whipped off again. Everyone please take note.

**Bible Dairy's for Sale:** They can be had after the Masses or from the Parish Office at \$15.00 each. There are still a number of **Columban Calendars** left also: The Art Calendar \$5.00 and the Colourful Wall Calendar at \$2.00 each.

**Evangelization Commission:**

Carol singing on 16/12/17. Community Leaders & Evangelisation Reps: Note that the lists of food stuff that were hanging on the Jesse Tree in the church last week should be brought back on the evening of the Carol Singing to be handed over to SVdP for distribution on the morning of the 17<sup>th</sup> Dec. All Communities and organisations are encouraged to participate.

**Mass and anointing of the Sick** for the elderly on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> Dec followed by morning tea with some carols singing.

**Today the Sunday of Advent:** Today the Advent Wreath will be blessed and the 1<sup>st</sup> Purple Candle will be lit. The Jesse Tree will also be blessed and readied to receive the Advent Symbols of the History of God's dealing with his people through the Ages. Also, it will contain tags with food and other requirements for poor families in the parish that the members of St Vincent De Paul will later distribute for Christmas. So, it helps us to think of other at this time.

**Advent Retreat:** - Fr Donal McIlraith directing Advent Retreat on 10th December, 9am - 4pm, at Nazareth Prayer Centre. Confession available, Mass at 3pm. Registration \$10; pay at Nicolas House. Registration closes on 7th December. All Welcome.

**Woman At The Well** - meets every Tuesday at 5:30pm in the Sacred Heart Crypt, starting on 28th Nov and every Tuesday thereafter. This is a support group for women who are divorced, separated or going through separation; to discuss topics of importance & healing after such a difficult transition. Enquiries call Asela 9388132.

**Meetings Today Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> Dec.**

1. The PPC Meetings in Parish Hall today Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> Dec. All reps please attend.
2. Cenacle at 2.00pm; Charismatic at 3.00 and World Apostolate of Fatima at 4.00pm.

**Meetings during the Week:**

1. (7 Steps) this Tues 5<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2017 at 7.30pm in all Communities

**Thanks:** To Community 1B - St Cecilia for animating the Liturgy during the week & cleaning of the Church & compound yesterday. Community 2 – St Joseph the Worker starts tomorrow Mon 11<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2017

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

**1<sup>st</sup> Collection \$459.00; 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: \$88.10; Envelopes \$25.00 = \$572.10**

**Reading coming week: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent [10/12]** Is 40: 1-5. 9-11; Peter 3: 8-14; Mark 1: 1-8; Mon [11/12] Sam 15: 16-23; Mark 2: 18-22; Tues [12/12] Sam 16: 1-13; Mark 2: 23-28; Wed [13/12] Sam 17: 32-33. 37. 40-51; Mark 3: 1-6; Thurs [14/12] Sam 18: 6-9; 19: 1-7; Mark 3: 7-12; Fri [15/12] Sam 24: 3-21; Mark 3: 13-19; Sat [16/12] Sam 1: 1-4. 11-12. 17. 19. 23-27; Mark 3: 20-21; **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent [17/12]** Is 61: 1-2. 10-11; Thess 5: 16-24; John 1: 6-8. 19-28.