

ST PIUS X, RAIWAQA, PARISH NEWSLETTER

TO RESTORE ALL THINGS IN CHRIST

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THE THIRTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - CYCLE A: - 12/11/17

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.

Reflection for 32nd Sunday of the Year: Is there life after death?

European civilisation derives, in great part, from Greek, Roman and Jewish cultures. But attitudes towards life after death varied greatly between the pagans and the Jews. When confronted with the inevitability of death, the typical pagan response was grim despair. A famous tombstone from the classical period has this inscription, “*I was not, I became; I am not, I care not.*” Essentially this means: *When you’re dead, you’re dead!* In similar vein, the Roman poet, Horace, who died the year Christ was born, advises us (Enjoy today, and trust tomorrow as little as possible). This gave rise to the popular motto, “Eat, drink, and be merry, for tomorrow we die.” In the Jewish tradition, belief in life after death was not widely accepted until the first century before Christ. Before that, they imagined a shadowy existence in a place called Sheol.

Christian belief in life hereafter is based on the resurrection of Christ. Paul wrote (Philippians 3:20), “our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the Saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he will transfigure these lowly bodies of ours into copies of his own glorious body.” Therefore, we should not grieve as others do, who have no concept of eternal life.

In Loving Memory: Ratu Suliano Lomaca (21): MacFarlane Road and formally 4c parishioner, Requiem Mass in Holy Eucharist on Friday 10th Nov. Paulo Yalimai & Vilivo Masau: Natovi Parish – after a tragic road accident. Buried on Thursday 9th Nov. RIP.

November is the month of the Holy Souls. We are encouraged to visit the graves of our loved ones – clean the graves etc. We were to have Mass in Vatuwaqa Cemetery last Sunday 5th Nov. Thanks to the members of the parish who turned up on Sunday. Holy Eucharist was to animate the liturgy and Mass for the day – but postponed the event and didn’t bother to inform us. So, we arrived unprepared. However, we recited the rosary, sang our hymns, had a small reflection and blessed the graves. After which individuals visited their family graves. Thanks for your witness and your faith.

Receptionist Secretary Vacancy for Regional Pacific Seminary. Application closes 20th Nov. Details on Notice Board.

Congratulations Rev Pat Visanti: On Graduation with Honours in Bachelor of Divinity at PRS Friday 10th Nov.

Parish Raffle: According to our receipts the following is what each Community contributed to the Parish Raffle

Sheet A: Community 1B St Cecelia’s	\$500.00	Sheet G: Community 5A St Michael’s	\$275.00
Sheet B: Community 2 St Joseph’s	\$500.00	Sheet H: Community 5B St Columban’s	\$500.00
Sheet C: Community 3 St Joan of Arc	\$225.00	Sheet I: Community 6 St Paul’s	\$350.00
Sheet D: Community 4A St Peter Chanel	\$500.00	Sheet J: Community 7A St Jacob’s	\$125.00
Sheet E: Community 4B St Patrick’s	\$270.00	Sheet K: Community 7b St Theresa’s	\$450.00
Sheet F: Community 4C St John Baptist	\$500.00	Sheet L: The Presby. (Fr McEvoy & Friends)	\$500.00

Sum Total: \$4695.00. We thank all who cooperated with Community Leaders and Financial Reps in making this raffle a success, especially all the Communities who returned a full house of 100 blocks. It was also **disheartening to hear some negativity from individual parishioners** regarding this raffle, especially when so much work is being carried out in the parish over the last 6 months or so – and all for the forthcoming Golden Jubilee Year preparations and Celebrations. “Give us a break and haven’t we done enough” were some of the reports coming back to us. Disheartening indeed. Thanks to the few volunteers who stepped up to the plate on Sunday morning to lend a hand in the drawing of the Blocks. And as per last week’s Newsletter – **special thanks again to Sophie Shackley, Bernadette Qaranivalu and Barbara King for organizing the raffle –for arranging, buying and the packing of the prizes.** Results of winners are posted on the Church doors (JME).

Up and Coming Events in the near future

Holy Eucharist Soli – 18th November.

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

1st Mass in Cathedral Nov 24th. Raiwaqa 27th

Parish Masses on 23rd and 24th Nov. at 7.00am.

Brianna Leaves for Rotuma on 29th Nov. an

Thanks to the Catholic Women’s League: For gifting the presbytery with new bed sheets and pillow cases. Fr John is very appreciative. Vinaka Vakalevu. The Women of the Parish and CWL are wished well especially with future projects eg – parish kitchen etc.

Parish Executive Meeting: 6th Nov 2017 - A November to Remember..

1. **To begin, we have put our last PPC for the year to Sunday, 10 December.** A very busy month for the Parish, we do not want our PPC to suffer undue anxiety while pondering over this month's '*November to remember*'.
2. First up is the **First Confession on Saturday, 18th November**, at 10.00am. Catechism classes have been working in preparation for this I am told. HOC Faith Formation has been given the blessings of the Parish ExCom to lead the Liturgy
3. On **First Holy Communion Sunday, (26/11/17) Feast of Christ the King**. For details the respective Commissions can work together. This is dovetailing. All the best ...
4. Meanwhile, the **Confirmation Group will do some Community work at Fiji School for the Blind** this Saturday, 11 November, under the supervision of the CCD teachers.
5. **Rev Pat's First Mass... Monday, 27 November:** The bulk of the discussion was on this topic. Fuelled by the excitement of one of our own Columban priests presiding over his first Mass here at St Pius X Parish, much information was gathered and shared on how best we would make the occasion one befitting a major celebration for the Parish. The Liturgy preparation and its animation will be the under the headship of the Commission in conjunction with the St John Vianney Community. Dovetailing again. All the best.
6. **A special meeting of PPC Representatives and Commission Heads will take place on Monday, 13 November**, to discuss the after-Mass function. The meeting will go through the business of food distribution and the general program. The presence and participation of our Rotuman Community in ceremonies for the evening will be greatly appreciated. The rest of the Parish will be there in full support.
7. The **Youth Commission** is looking to review their *status quo* and reshuffle roles and responsibilities in light of a seemingly lackadaisical attitude towards Parish commitment recently **There was a dismal turn out for their monthly Mass on Sun.**
8. **Reviewed Parish Constitution** is now in place. We have distributed copies to all concerned.
9. **The Parish Executive Committee welcomes back Fr John** and wishes him good health. (*Master Dan PPC Chairperson*).

Scholarship for primary & secondary students activated. Interested parents/guardians to contact S.V.d.P. Conference. Let us continue to pray for our students who are completing their Public Exams at this time. CCTC Graduation on Thurs. 23rd Nov. 2017.
Parish Masses on the 23 and 24 November at 07.00am because of Rev Pat's Ordination and first Mass respectively.
Community 3 Visitation by Parish Delegation: With Community Leader from Tuesday 14th Nov onwards until completed.

Disposal of rubbish project commences Saturday (18.11.17), please put old stoves, fridges, washing machines and sewing machines etc in usual assigned spots for pick up. Arrangement made with Suva City Council for Trucks to collect.

Evangelization Commission:

- Evangelisation Commission meeting is on Wednesday (15/11) after evening Mass. Evangelisation reps please take note.
- There was a workshop on 7 STEPS/Gospel Sharing held yesterday. Thank you to members who turned up for the workshop. Thank you also to the caterers.
- There will be a carol singing event on 16/12 in the Archbishop Petero Mataka Hall. Communities and organisations are encouraged to participate. (*Vama Mausio – Head of Commission*).

Application Forms for Corpus Christi Teachers Training College: Still some left in the Presbytery Closing date for return of Application Forms to Corpus Christi is the 30th November.

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. The boat is almost full now.

The Family Life Commission: All Community Leaders and Family Life Commission Reps are requested to submit names of members for the Christmas Party for the Elderly on 17th Nov. Names to be submitted to Parish Office no later than Wed. 15th Nov.

Meetings Today Sunday 12th Nov:

1. Meeting of the Women of the Parish will take place after the 8.30am Mass today.
2. AGM Meeting will take place in Community 5b today before Community lunch at 12.30pm in Mere Avaiki's house.
3. Cenacle at 2.00pm; Charismatic at 3.00 and World Apostolate of Fatima at 4.00pm.
4. Altar Servers Meeting today at 3.00pm. All servers please turn up – very busy time for Servers this month.
5. Prayer Meeting - Community 6 at Seeto's residence today at 5.00pm. Their week on liturgy will also be discussed.
6. Meeting of St Patrick's Community in Grey's Residences at 5.00pm this afternoon.

Meetings during the Week:

1. Tuesday 14th Nov. Seven Steps and Bible sharing in all Communities. (Are all Communities faithful to these sharing's).
2. Community 4a Prayer Meeting (Seven Steps) in Don Williams residence at 7.30pm. Children to meet at Burese's res.
3. Men of the Parish hymn practice on Wednesday 15th Nov. after 6.30pm Mass.
4. Interfaith Religious Dialogue Workshop Tues – Thurs 14th – 16th Nov (Fiji Teachers Union Hall Berry Road) 8.15 – 4.30pm

Thanks: To Community 5a St Columban's for animating the Liturgy during the week & cleaning of the Church & compound yesterday. Community 6 St Paul's starts tomorrow Mon 13th Nov.

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

1st Collection \$390.85 2nd Collection: \$117.30; Envelopes \$100.00 = \$608.15

Reading coming week: 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time [12/11] Wisdom 6:12-16; Thess 4:13-18; Matt 25:1-13; Mon[13/11] Wisdom 1:1-7; Luke 17:1-6; Tues[14/11] Wisdom 2:23-3:9; Luke 17:7-10; Wed[15/11] Wisdom 6:1-11; Luke 17:11-19; Thurs[16/11] Wisdom 7:22-8:1; Luke 17:20-25; Fri[17/11] Wisdom 13:1-9; Luke 17:26-37; Sat[18/11] Wisdom 18:14-16, 19:6-9; Luke 18:1-8; **33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time [19/11]** Proverbs 31:10-13. 19-20. 30-31; Thess 5:1-6; Matt 25:14-30.