



ST PIUS X, RAIWAQA, PARISH NEWSLETTER

TO RESTORE ALL THINGS IN CHRIST

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5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - CYCLE B: 04/02/18

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 Community Leader and Priests 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.

AGM of the Parish Pastoral Council will be held in the AB Petero Mataca Hall next Sunday 11th Feb. 2018. The Annual AGM of any organisation is a very important event in the life of that Organisation. The same is true for the AGM of St Pius X Parish Raiwaqa. Let us all be prepared for this special annual

The Turning of the Wheel: Fr Frank's Book on the Columban History in Fiji. Selling at \$10.00.

5th Sunday in Ordinary time: Lessons of Job and Jesus

The story of Job is a like a roller-coaster: His life is a big success. He is a prosperous landowner, blessed with a happy home; and he's a happily faithful to his religious duties. The Lord even boasts about him to Satan, about what a virtuous man Job is; but Satan retorts that Job's prayer would stop if his prosperity suddenly failed. So the Lord reluctantly lets Satan do his worst, and then poor Job laments about the misery and emptiness of life. When some of Job's friends come along with words of religious comfort, it doesn't seem to help him one bit.

We're far removed from Job in time, but maybe not so far from his experience. The human condition can still suffer "the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune." Shakespeare.

There is pain and misery all around us. We hear of marriages heading for the rocks, people with nervous breakdowns, teenagers at odds with their parents, the threat of vandalism and violence in our cities. At times it seems that the world in which we live is full of immorality, injustice, exploitation, and hypocrisy for its systems to operate. We can identify with many of the sentiments that Job speaks in today's reading.

What might a Christian have to say to Job, or to people who reject the idea of a good and wise God? *What can* we say to the many like Job who suffer in our time? There is no easy answer to take away their pain. Maybe in dire situations it is not our task to speak at all, but to listen. Job's cry of loneliness, grief and despair is honest and strong. The cry of distress is a cry that demands some response. We see how Jesus responds when sick people came to him and he healed them. He does not debate the meaning of suffering, but simply stretches out his hand and heals. Naturally we think that we cannot be imitators of Christ in that way. Of course we cannot make illness go away with a simple blessing or a touch of the hand, as He could. But we can respond, and we can help to ease the suffering. We can let Christ himself act through us to ease the loneliness, care for people in need, and comfort those who are anxious or heartbroken. We are to follow Jesus not only in our happy times but also in times of loneliness, and even of tragedy. Like him we seek ways to reach out with love toward people who are worried, sick or depressed — to let the Lord use us to bless those situations.

Congratulations To Faustina Burese being appointed Head Girl at Stella Maris School for the Year 2018.

Congratulations also to her parents Master Dan and Patricia. Faustina is also one of our Altar Servers.

Deaconate Ordinations: Diocesan Students and Martin Korociri (Columban) will be held on Saturday 10th Feb. at 9.00am in the Cathedral, **thus no 8.30am Mass in Parish next Sat morning.** – Parishes of the C. E. D. requested to cater for the meal afterwards. Our parish has been allotted the cooking of Chicken Curry and 1KG of yagona for the occasion and recently beef curry was added (meat provided). (Vero Head of the Women of the Parish will be in charge).

Jubilee Renovations: As we can all see the lovely job that Boystown (teachers and students) are doing on our church seats. The entire lot of seats should be completed by the end of this week. Hope people are happy with the new

repaired, painted and varnished seats. Let us take care and maintain our church seats. Thanks Kele and Master Dan and helpers in loading and reloading the seats coming and going. Not an easy job – since the seats are so long and heavy.

Thinking ahead to Parish Jubilee:

A very important meeting of the **Jubilee Committee** took place on Thursday 1st Feb. The meeting started us thinking about the works that need to take place in the coming months towards our Jubilee Celebrations in August. Reports were given by the following **sub-committees**: Budget/Finance; Works; Sports; Merchandise and Marketing – written reports from Liturgy and from Fr Carlo on Parish Renewal – proposed for May. No reports yet from Culture and Ceremonies; and Catering and Serving. Hopefully at the next meeting of the Jubilee Committee there will be reports from these sub-committees. Next meeting of the entire Jubilee Committee (the **8 Sub Committees Heads**) Liturgy, Finance, Marketing, Logistics, Social, Works, Catering and Communications is scheduled to be held on Thursday evening next 15th Feb.

From the HOC Faith Formation: One or two more teachers is needed this year. Second Year Confirmation classes are in full swing at the present but could use one or two more teachers. **RCIA classes have now moved their time** from after 8.30 Mass to after 7.00am Mass. More teachers also needed.

Frames for Reading Glasses: For only those who needs them badly and can't afford to replace their frames. Frames only – No lenses. Will need to have lenses fitted by an optician. Donated by a Fijian Citizen in Australia like last year.

Men of the Parish first Pledge Collection - Friday, 9th February, at 8.00pm in the AB Mataca Hall. Men, please come along. Your support badly needed.

Moh & MS sponsored Mental Health Gap training, Friday, 16.2.18, Fr Hurley Hall from 8am - 4.30pm is a proactive 4.30pm approach of empowering members of the parish community to better identify, assess and manage mental health needs, be equipped with the appropriate skills to simultaneously attend to social issues that may contribute to depression and stress. This innovation is good for the society and enhances its capacity to act as mental health champions. Invitations will be issued to participants to attend the session so as to ensure maximum attendance for the day. (Contact Vero. 8912849).

Pioneer pins will be blessed and distributed only on First Friday Masses. Interested people contact Karalo.

Parish Meetings: Liturgy Meeting today after 8.30 Mass.

Today Sunday 4th Feb: Women of the Parish will meet in The AB Mataca Hall after the 8.30 Mass.

Cenacle at 2pm, Divine Mercy at 3pm, Charismatic at 3.30pm and World Apostolate of Fatima at 4.30pm

7 STEPS All Communities are urged to hold 7 STEPS prayer meetings every Tuesday from now on.

Animators will start visiting communities from Tuesday 6th Feb. (Communities 5a; 1b and 2 will be visited on 6th)

Current and Former Youth of St Pius X are asked to meet in the Parish on Saturday, 10th February at 4,00pm.

Sunday 11th Altar Servers Meeting at 3.00pm in the Church with Filo and Fr Carlo.

World Apostolate of Fatima: Central Eastern Meeting 24th Feb in Fr Hurley Hall from 9.00am – 2.00pm.

Workshop on the 3rd March held at Fr Hurley Hall – Sister Sisi facilitator. Time 9.00am – 2.00pm. Members and parishioners are invited. World of Apostolate of Fatima Book @ \$12.00 each. Contact Mere Avaiki.

Thanks: To Community 6 – St Paul's for animating the Liturgy during the week & cleaning of the Church & compound yesterday. Community 7a St Jacob's starts this week from tomorrow Mon, 05/02/2018.

Thanks for your generous Collections Last Week: The following is a summary:

1st Collection \$764.50; 2nd Collection: \$108.55; Envelops \$65.00 = \$938.05.

SVDP Secret Bag Collection for Month of January: = \$1339.00

Reading coming week: Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time [4/2/18] Jb 7: 1-4, 6-7, 1 Cor 9: 16-19, 22-23; Mk 1: 29-39; Mon [5/2/18] *St Agatha, virgin and martyr*; 1 Kgs 8: 1-7, 9-13; Mk 6: 53-56; Tue [6/2/18] *Sts Pedro Bautista, Paul Miki and Companions, martyrs*; 1 Kgs 8: 22-23, 27-30; Mk 7: 1-13; Wed [7/2/18] 1 Kgs 10: 1-10; Mk 7: 14-23; Thurs [8/2/18] *St Jerome Emiliani*; 1 Kgs 11: 4-13; Mk 7: 24-30; Fri [9/2/18] 1 Kgs 11: 29-32; 12: 19; Sat [10/2/18] *St Scholastica, virgin*; 1 Kgs 12: 26-32, 13: 33-34; Mk 8: 1-10; **Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time** [11/2/18] Lv 13: 1-2, 44-46; 1 Cor 10: 31—11:1; Mk 1: 40-45;

Continuation of our early History: Division within the Community: As the situation worsened, there was increasing racial tension and people became generally more and more divided. This situation was felt more severely in those areas, like Raiwaqa, where people of different backgrounds had only been settled, people of low income whose jobs were constantly at risk. So it was not only understandable but also inevitable that Raiwaqa experienced sporadic acts of violence and moments of lawlessness.

The situation soon changed and gradually the violence, decreased and crime within the area died down. It became safe at night to walk streets where people feared to go at one time. It was a significant moment of growth. While initial development plans had been drawn up by people at the top, here was a moment in the history of Raiwaqa when people at the bottom took responsibility for their own future....”