

ST PIUS X, RAIWAQA, PARISH NEWSLETTER

TO RESTORE ALL THINGS IN CHRIST

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FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER IN CYCLE C: – 24/04/16

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.

Fifth Sunday of Easter: Please visit the revamped and well presented Parish Website for recent parish events: Easter Celebrations, Year of Mercy, Community 2's visit to the Holy Door and Charlie McKenzie's military Funeral [Address of website is: stpiusxfj.com](http://www.stpiusxfj.com)
The Parish Newsletter is posted on the website

Reflection for 5th Sunday of Easter: Ministers of encouragement: Most of us can remember people who helped us at a time when we needed encouragement in our lives. They probably encouraged us more by the quality of their presence than by anything they said. Their presence communicated support and appreciation. St. Paul was fond of calling on the members of his churches to encourage one another in their faith. To the people in Thessalonica, for example, he writes: 'Encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.' He clearly saw his own role with his churches as that of an encourager. In today's first reading we find Paul and Barnabas engaged in exactly that same ministry of encouragement. Luke says that Paul and Barnabas 'put fresh heart into the disciples, encouraging them to persevere in the faith.' I often think that the primary role of a priest in a faith community is to be a helper, to encourage people in their faith, in their relationship with the Lord. The priest is called to be present to the faith community in a way that puts fresh heart into people and encourages them to persevere in the faith. Most priests would happily admit also, that they get great encouragement from the parish community where they work. The presence of a Eucharistic community, of people who want to gather to celebrate the Eucharist, is a great help. The willingness of people to offer themselves for some service or ministry in the parish, no matter how small it might seem, gives us encouragement. Paul's call to his people in Thessalonica to encourage one another and to build up each other reminds us that we are all called to be ministers of encouragement to each other. We all have a role to play in helping each other in living our baptismal faith. Jesus was very much engaged in the work of giving encouragement to people.

In Loving Memory: Iowane Divavesi, Delainavesi, Brother of Karalo, Ita and Maria, Community 2. Funeral will take place at 11.00am on Wednesday 27th April in Lami Parish Church. May he rest in Peace.

New Fijian Missal Comes into force on Pentecost Sunday: Small pamphlets will be made available for some time with the new responses of (some parts of the Mass) until the people gets used to them. This is the Roman Approved Missal – in Fijian. So we don't have much choice in the matter. After a short time we will get used to it – just as we did with the new English Translation. Hopefully too Thomas will be able to put it up on the overheads for some time too.

Thanks Expressed: to the parish teams who made themselves available during the week to visit the various communities in the parish. Thanks also to the Communities for making yourselves available for this visitation. Perhaps the outcome wasn't 100% on all sides but it was an effort by the parish reps to touch base with the thinking of people in the Communities. Hopefully this as St Luke said in today's Gospel about Paul and Barnabas that they 'put fresh heart into the disciples, encouraging them to persevere in the faith.' We look forward to the feedback.

Training for Parish Eucharistic Ministers: 3rd session today April 24, 10:00 - 11:30 am in the Church.

Training for Parish Lectors: The 3rd session today April 24, 10:00 - 11:30 am in Hurley Hall. Thanks to Fr Felisiano Fatu for giving the 3 sessions over the last 3 weeks and for the Communities for providing the refreshments.

Due to the above training sessions today, there will be no Pastoral Parish Council Meeting today after Mass.

Feast of St Peter Chanel: Thursday 28th April is the Feast of St Peter Chanel and is also Priest Day in the Archdiocese. The normal evening Mass will be at 6.30pm followed by dinner in the Hall. *There will be a Collection at the Mass for the Support of Seminarians.* It is recommended that the responsibility of providing food be as follows: Chop Suey (chicken)/Rice - Communities -1b & 2; Chop Suey (beef)/Rice - Communities - 4a & 5a; Curry Chicken & Rice - Communities - 6, 7a & 4b; Curry Vegetables & Puri - Communities – 3 & 7b; Fish & Cassava - Communities 5b & 4c; Takeaway packs, juice, sugar(2kg), ice-cubes – The Parish. Serving of the Food - Communities - 4a & 7b; Grog Mixing & Distribution Communities - 4c & 4b; Hall decoration - Community - 7a; MC - Master Dan. **(Food Quantity sufficient for 200).**

Welcome Fr Clement Wanesubua Columban Associate Priest in Training: From Maiaita Solomon Islands is doing his orientation here with the Columbans in Fiji. He will be stationed in Raiwaqa Parish for 6/10 weeks. He will arrive here this weekend and will be helping out in the parish while the PP attends meetings in NZ & Ireland.

CCD Classes Resumed: Parents and guardians, please take note of this fact. Only a very small number have started CCD Class after 8.30am Mass - preparing for their 1st Holy Communion later on in the year. Whereas no one has turned up yet for Confirmation Classes in the Church after 8.30am Mass. A worrying fact for Faith Formation Comm.

Parish pilgrimage to Sacred Heart Cathedral: to the door of mercy is confirmed for 14 May at 2pm. A committee will be formed to organise programme. If you're interested to be part of the organising group, please contact Head of Evangelisation after the 8.30am Mass today.

Evangelisation Commission meets on 01 May after 8.30am Mass in the meeting room.

Charismatic prayer meeting today at 3pm.

Social Justice Meeting Monday Evening 25 April in the Parish Hall at 7.30pm. There will be a talk on the issue of Social Justice and what Social Justice means. So as well as the Reps of the Social Justice Commission – Anyone who is interested in this all important topic are invited to come along to this session.

St Patrick's (4b) Community. Are having a cake stall after the 7am & 8.30 am Masses this Sunday 24/04

Community of St Peter Chanel (4a) a. Prayer Meeting on Tuesday evening 26th April @ 7:30 pm in the hall.

b. Social & Soli for all men on 30th April, 5:00 pm, Parish Hall (women will do the catering)

Community of St Joseph the Worker a. Prayer Meeting on 26 April, 7:30 pm, @ Anne & Keni's residence (Hibiscus Lane, Bryce St)

b. Kati on 29 April, 7:30 pm @ Maria & Pius Buresse's residence.

Invitation to the Marian Movement of Priests Annual Retreat. The National Marian Movement of Priests Retreat 2016 will be held at the Pacific Regional Seminary (PRS) from Fri 29 April to Sun 1 May and led by Fr Donal. All are welcome. \$10 subscription if possible and bring some food. Call Soela for details 3308290.

Come and See Inviting young men to the Vocation program from priesthood, led by Fr Frank Hoare, on 30 April 2016, from 8:30 AM until 3:30 pm at the Columban Formation House (239 Q.E. Drive, Nasese)

Earth Day 2016, 22nd April: *There is a nobility in the duty to care for creation through little daily actions: showing care for other living beings, using public transport, or car-pooling, planting trees, turning off unnecessary lights or any number of other practices. All of these reflect a generous and worthy creativity which brings out the best in human beings. (Laudato Si, 211)*

Everyone is encouraged to get a copy of Pope Francis' encyclical, **Laudato Si** and take response to the call of our common home, EARTH. (Justice, Peace and Human Development Commission please take note)

Amoris Laetitia (The Joy of Love) This exhortation is especially timely in this Jubilee Year of Mercy. It represents an invitation to Christian families to the value of gifts of marriage and the family and to persevere in a love strengthened by good virtues of generosity, commitment, fidelity, and patience. It also seeks to encourage everyone to be a sign of mercy and closeness wherever family life remains imperfect or lacks of peace and joy. (A wonderful document for Family Life Commission to considerer - going forward).

'Misericordiae Vultus' Pope Francis Encyclical on God's Mercy It is for sale at \$2.00 per copy. It is a great document on God Mercy for the Jubilee Year of Mercy. Let us all make an attempt to read it.

For your Generous Contributions: Thanks to members of [4a] St Peter Chanel for animating the Liturgy during the week and the clean-up of the church & compound yesterday. We invite Members of Community 4b St Patrick's to continue from tomorrow 25th April. **Details of last Sunday's Collections published here:**

First Collection - \$829.00; Second Collection - \$121.00 = \$950.00; Envelope Pledge \$15.00. Thank You so much.

Reading coming week 5th Sunday of Easter [24/04/16] Acts 14:21-27; Apocalypse 21:1-5; John 13: 31-35; Mon [25/04/16] 1 Peter 5: 5-14; Mark 16: 15-20 (*St Mark, Evangelist*); Tue [26/04/16] Acts 14: 19-28; John 14: 27-31; Wed [27/04/16] Acts 15: 1-6; John 15: 1-8; Thurs [28/04/16] Acts 7: 55-60; 1 Cor 1:18-25; Mark 1:14-20 (*St Peter Chanel, priest and martyr*); Fri [29/04/16] Acts 15: 22-31; John 15: 12-17; Sat [30/04/16] Acts 16:1-10; John 15: 18-21; **6th Sunday of Easter** [01/04/16] Acts 15: 1-2, 22-29; Apocalypse 21: 10-14, 22-23; John 14:23-29.