



ST PIUS X, RAIWAQA, PARISH NEWSLETTER

TO RESTORE ALL THINGS IN CHRIST

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5TH SUNDAY IN LENT - CYCLE B: 18/03/18

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.

The Parish PPC Budget Meeting will take place today after 8.30am Mass, to endorse the Parish Budget for 2018/19. All are welcome especially Community Leaders and Financial Reps who will take the news back to your Communities. Monthly PPC next Saturday 24th March @ 11.00am

Parish Sacrament of Reconciliation will be on Friday 23rd March after Mass & Stations.

5th Sunday in Lent: Letting go of oneself, for others

Martin Luther King once wrote about a time when he knelt in prayer in the kitchen of his home in Alabama. Stones had been thrown through the window because of his call for civil rights for black people. His wife and children were in danger. He was already a respected academic and a promising career lay ahead. In prayer he found himself asking if it was right to put himself and them in danger. It was in that moment he decided to put the will of God and the welfare of his people before his own security and even that of his family. He chose to serve God by speaking out for those who were most oppressed. In a sense, he chose to die so that others could more fully live. It was a striking echo of what Jesus says in the gospel, that the grain of wheat must fall into the ground to yield a rich harvest. Jesus himself was the supreme expression of this principle. He is the grain of wheat that falls to the ground and dies, and in dying yields a harvest of life. He describes that harvest in prophetic words: “When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all people to myself.”

It was when some Greeks (i.e. foreigners) came to hear him speak that Jesus made this declaration; and then he asked: “What shall I say? Save me from this hour. No, it was for this reason I have come to this hour.” Each of us in different ways has to accept some significant loss if we are to remain true to our deepest and best self, true to what God is asking of us. At the end, for each of us, there is the final, unavoidable struggle to let go of our very life, with all the loss that is entailed in that. We trust and believe that, at the end of the day, after we have struggled through all our losses, the Lord will draw us to himself, and, when that happens, we will lack nothing.

In Loving Memory: Brother Eremodo Nadaku sm who died in the Home of Compassion on 9th March and buried after Requiem Mass in the Sacred Heart Cathedral 15th March in Lovonilase Cemetery, Suva. May he rest in Peace.

RCIA Candidates 3rd Scrutiny – Today at 7.00am Mass. The members are as follows: Mrs. Arieta Diana Daurewa, Mrs. Kalolaini Tatafu, Josephine Tatafu, Maria Tatafu, Fepikou Tatafu, and Mathius Kwansing.

Lectors Training Workshop: Continues this Sunday 18th March after the 8.30am Mass. There are 14 candidates in training at the moment. Thanks again Rev Martin Koroiciri and 100% attendance every Sunday is a requirement.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Thursday Last: Attendance last Thursday was much better – thanks to the attendance of Community 4a Can we suggest members of Community 4b to do the same for **Eucharistic Adoration on Thurs.** We will finish with Benediction.

Stations of the Cross: On Wednesday Evenings in Fijian and on Friday Evenings in English at 5.45pm before the evening Masses. The Community animating the liturgy will lead the Stations of the Cross. **The Stations of the Cross should end with one Our Father, one Hail Mary and a Glory be... for the Pope's Intension.**

Summary of Cultural/Ceremonies Sub Committee Meeting Monday 12th March: There was a reasonable good turnout of both the men and women of the parish as well as the Youth Legends: It was agreed that Rafa start working immediately on contacting the leaders of the different cultural groups to work out a welcome ceremony for the Archbishop and guests for our Golden Jubilee that is reflective of the diverse cultural backgrounds that make up the Parish of St Pius X. A report should be tabled at the next meeting of the PPC

on 24th March. The Budget meeting this Sunday should be hearing submissions from all the Sub Committees.

Palm Sunday: Next Sunday 25th March - Palm Sunday will be the Starting of Holy Week. All Parish Preparations are well on the way this year for the Easter Ceremonies. The Choir, Lectors, Liturgy Youth Drama are in full swing preparing. It is wonderful to see such commitment by so many in our Jubilee year. (**2nd Mass at 9.00am next Sunday.**)

- **All communities are asked to bring their palms** on Sat afternoon next – to be blessed before 7.00am Mass in the AB Mataca Hall next Sunday. After the Blessing of the Palms – Procession to the Church will take place.
- **Washing of the Feet on Holy Thursday:** All Liturgy Community & Youth Reps please submit your names for washing of the feet.
- **Adoration hours after Holy Thursday Mass...Mass time 7:00 to 8:30 pm approx.**
8:30-9:30 pm - Communities 5A, 5B, 6, 7A, 7B (one hour straight after mass); 9:30 - 10:00 pm - Communities 2 & 4C; 10:00 - 10:30 pm - Communities 1B & 3; 10:30 - 11:00 pm - Community 4A; 11:00 - 11:30 pm - Community 4B; 11:30 - 12:00 midnight – Youths.

Evangelization: Cenacle @ 2pm, Divine Mercy @ 3pm, Charismatics @ 3.30pm. WAF @ 4.00pm.

Charismatic Group meets at 5pm after prayer meeting in the hall. Members please attend meeting.

Animator's meeting/evaluation of 7 steps on 26/03/2018 after evening Mass. Animators please note.

Altar Server's Meeting – Today at 4pm to discuss the Holy Week schedule. All altar servers please attend.

Choir Practice this Sunday afternoon at 4:00 pm for Holy Week & Easter

Youth Drama Practice for Good Friday: This afternoon at 5.00pm for one hour.

St Columban Community (5B) – PS members attend your monthly meeting today at 5pm in Ana Tolanigadi's home.

Meetings during the Week:

1. **Eucharistic Ministers** – Tomorrow Evening at 7.15pm to prepare for Holy week and Easter. PS all attend.
2. **World Apostolate Fatima meeting** on 19th March in Parish hall. Re Meeting in Samoa 2019 – Mere Avaiki.
3. **7 Steps: St Peter Chanel Community (4A)** - This Tuesday 20th @ 7.30am in the Kamikamica's residence.
4. **7 Steps: St Cecelia's Community (1B)** – This Tuesday 20th March in Joe and Joana's Residence.
5. **7 Steps: St Joseph's the Worker Comm. (2)** Tuesday 20th March at 7.30pm in Colata's Residence.
6. **Youth 7 Steps Bible Sharing** – at Carl Lowchee's house (1B) on Tuesday, March 20 at 7:30pm.

Youth Lenten Retreat: On March 24th Saturday at Marist Bros Vatuwaqa Registration \$2.00. Find own way there.

Chrism Mass: Tuesday 27th March at 5.00pm in the Cathedral. **No Parish Mass. Only Oils for the Sacraments.**

Gita Relief Music Festival (Tonga) 1st April – Lambert Hall 3pm -7.00pm. Contact Pita 8054906/Fr Roga 9828596.

Parish Easter Collection Envelopes: Should be in all Communities by now – for your Parish Easter Collection.

Archdiocesan Lenten Appeal Envelopes: To be returned Holy Thursday Evening Mass for the poor and Tonga.

Good Friday Collection: After the kissing of the Cross will go for the upkeep of the Holy Places.

Thanks: To Community 4a St Peter Chanel's for animating the Liturgy during the week & cleaning of the Church & compound. Community 4b St Patrick's starts tomorrow 19/03/2018.

Thanks to Community 4b St Patrick's for putting on Morning Tea yesterday in the Hall – Feast Day of St Patrick.

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

1st Collection \$742.50; 2nd Collection: \$200.20; Envelops \$30.00 = \$972.70. **We gave \$300 to AB for Tonga.**

Reading coming week: Fifth Sunday of Lent [18/3/18] Jer 31: 31-34; Heb 5: 7-9; Jn 12: 20-33; Mon [19/3/18] St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary: 2 Sm 7: 4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Rom 4: 13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1: 16, 18-21, 24a; Tue [20/3/18] Nm 21: 4-9; Jn 8: 21-30; Wed [21/3/18] Dn 3: 14-20, 91-92, 95; Jn 8: 31-42; Thurs [22/3/18] Gen 17: 3-9; Jn 8: 51-59; Fri [23/3/18] Jer 20: 10-13; Jn 10: 31-42 Sat [24/3/18] Ez 37: 21-28; Jn 11: 45-56; **Passion Palm Sunday** [25/3/18] **Blessing of the palms:** Mk 11: 1-10; **During the Mass:** Is 50: 4-7; Phil 2: 6-11; Mk 14: 1—15:47.

The Archbishop's – (10 pages) March Pastoral Letter can be found on Parish website www.stpiusxfj.com

Other Matters of News in his Pastoral: New Archdiocese Website www.archdioceseofsuva.org and on it is the **Diocesan Calendar** including parish events for some of the parishes – including St Pius X. Raiwaqa.

Catholic Education Week and Catholic Education Sunday on 7th – 13th May.

Catholic School Principals and Head Teachers Annual Conference: This year we are combining this conference with Fiji Catholic Teachers Association (FCTA) Seminary on April 25-27. This year's Conference and the FCTA seminar will focus on "The Vision of Catholic Education". I believe that once we are clear of the vision of Catholic Education then we will have correct policies and practices.

Monthly Financial Reports: All parishes should be sending in Monthly Parish Finance Reports. If we find that a parish is not sending reports it means that you need help and our finance team will do a support visit. All parish cheques should have three signatories – with the pastor and any other to sign. I request your cooperation.

Synod Renewal Program May 20th Launching Mass for the Synod 3pm, FMF Gymnasium; June 5-7 Clergy and Religious Seminar; June 8-10 Parish Lay Leaders Seminar; July 6-9 Central Eastern Region Seminar.