

ST PIUS X, RAIWAQA, PARISH NEWSLETTER

TO RESTORE ALL THINGS IN CHRIST

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SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER IN CYCLE C: -01/05/16

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 – 6.00pm

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 are available at the Parish Office.

RCIA: Session every Sunday after the 7am Mass.

Sixth 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 at stpiusxfj.com. The Parish Newsletter is also posted on the website weekly.

Reflection for 6th Sunday of Easter - Looking for the Holy Spirit's Gifts: In our gospel, Jesus is taking his leave of his troubled disciples at the last supper. He tries to reassure them that, although he will soon be taken away from them, he will not be leaving them, since he will remain with them through the presence of his Holy Spirit. He assures his disciples that, through that coming of the Spirit, both he and his Father will make their home with them. That wonderful promise is also made to us who are his disciples today. We may not always be ideal disciples, but, at least, we desire to love the Lord and to demonstrate our love by keeping his word, by living as he showed us. What benefits do we look for, from the Holy Spirit? In the gospel the Spirit is called an Advocate, a kind of counsel for the defence. We look to the Holy Spirit to defend us, to protect us, in particular against all that would undermine our faith, all that would damage our relationship with the Lord. We are aware that the culture in which we live is not always supportive of that relationship. There are many who take delight in trying to undermine the Christian faith. We look to the Holy Spirit to confirm us in our relationship with the Lord when that relationship comes under attack. Jesus was aware that his disciples would experience the same hostility that he experienced. That is one of the reasons why he promised to send them an Advocate to plead their cause, who would stand alongside them to strengthen them when their faith was put to the test. We need his guidance as much in the 21st century as the disciples did in the 1st century. That is why we keep on praying 'Come Holy Spirit', why the church always needs to ask for a new Pentecost.

Welcome to the Christian Community: Julian Manawalala Colata, of 5 Tivitivi Lane, Bryce Street, who is being baptised today, 1st May 2016 in St Pius X Church, Raiwaqa.

Congratulations: to Elia Uluilakeba and Venaisi Pulini who were married yesterday. May the Lord be the centre of your relationship as husband and wife and as a family.

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: 4th session today May 01st at 10:00 - 11:30 am in the Church.

Training for Parish Lectors: The 4th session today May 01st at 10:00- 11:30 am in Hurley Hall. Thanks for Fr Felisiano for conducting these sessions for the last 3 weeks and for the Communities for providing the refreshments.

Recollection for Parish Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers: on 7 May, 9:30 am to 4:30 pm. Parish Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers who are preparing to be commissioned must attend this recollection.

Lists of Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers have already been finalized for commissioning. Thank you to all the participants for your commitment to serve the God's people.

Feast of St Peter Chanel: Expressed thanks to all who turned up and joined the celebration.

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 the Door of Mercy (at Sacred Heart Cathedral): is confirmed for 14 May at 2pm.

- a. **Pilgrimage Committee and Community Leaders:** Meeting with the Evangelisation Commission Head on 9 May, right after the 6:30 pm Mass.

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

Charismatic prayer meeting today at 3pm.

Community 4a (St Peter Chanel): Area Rosary (for the month of Mary) began on 30 April from the church at 7:30pm. All members are encouraged to participate.

Community 5b (St Columban): Area Rosary (for the month of Mary) begins today from the Tolanigadi's residence. All members are encouraged to come and join.

MERCY SEMINAR: *Sharing the mind of Year of Mercy (for priests, PPC members, Community Leaders, those involved in faith formation and sacramental preparation aiming to help us be better Instruments of Mercy in reaching out to families and marriages in irregular situations)* on 14th May, 2016 at St Joseph's Secondary School Hall to be facilitated by His Grace, Archbishop Peter Loy Chong. ***Please bring your lunch.***

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 [4b] St Patrick's for animating the Liturgy during the week and the clean-up of the church & compound yesterday. We invite Members of Community 4c St John the Baptist to continue from tomorrow 2nd May.

Details of last Sunday's Collections published here: First Collection - \$654.15; Second Collection - \$106.90 = \$761.05; Envelope Pledge \$360.00. Thank You so much.

Reading coming week 6th Sunday of Easter [01/05/16] Acts 15: 1-2, 22-29; Apocalypse 21: 10-14, 22-23; John 14:23-29; Mon [02/05/16] Acts 16: 11-15; John 15: 26—16:4; Tues [03/05/16] 1 Cor 15: 1-8; John 14: 6-14 (*Sts Philip and James, Apostles*); Wed [04/05/16] Acts 17: 15, 22—18:1; John 16: 12-15; Thurs [05/05/16] **ASCENSION OF THE LORD** Acts 1:1-11; Hebrews 9:24-28, 10: 19-23; Luke 24: 46-53; Fri [06/05/16] Acts 18: 9-18; John 16:20-23; Sat [07/05/16] Acts 18: 23-28; John 16: 23-28;

7th Sunday of Easter [08/05/16] Acts 7:55-60; Apocalypse 22: 12-14, 16-17, 20; John 17: 20-26