

ST PIUS X, RAIWAQA, PARISH NEWSLETTER

TO RESTORE ALL THINGS IN CHRIST

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EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME, CYCLE C: 31/07/16

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.

**A BIG VINAKA VAKALEVU
TO EVERYONE FOR A
SUCCESSFUL ANNUAL
PARISH BAZAAR.**

Reflection on Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary: 'Vanity of Vanities'

Poverty breeds its own virtues. "Necessity is the mother of invention." For the generation who grew up after the great depression of the thirties and the rationing of the Second World War, the great virtue was "waste not, want not." Life then seemed to be one great salvage operation. There was a Jacob's biscuit tin on every mantelpiece, where all sorts of bits and pieces were stored, like buttons and safety-pins and pieces of string. It was a holdall wherein was stored the wherewithal to repair the wear and tear of daily life. Hoarding then was a virtuous necessity rather than a vice. Garbage disposal was no problem then. Most things had disintegrated long before they got that far. Even the ashes from the fire were used in the garden to kill slugs and worms in the rhubarb patch. Clothes were patched and woollen socks were darned out of recognition and when they could no longer be worn they began life anew as dusters and mops. Toilet paper had not been invented then; yesterday's newspaper served the purpose more than adequately. For those who came in the middle of families, most of their clothes were hand-me-downs. Sizes tended to be approximate rather than exact. Hems alternated between being "let down" or "turned up."

Nowadays we are locked into a consumerist society and the era of the disposable. Cities and governments spend millions on the collection and disposal of waste. Garbage bags figure on every shopping list. Television shows us harrowing pictures of children and families, foraging for survival in the public dumps of Rio de Janeiro and Manila. Whole shanty-towns have grown up round them. It is a vivid illustration of the ever-widening gap between the "haves" and the "have-nots", between our avarice and their destitution.

St Paul puts it bluntly in the epistle: "That is why you must kill everything in you that belongs to the earthly life, and especially greed, which is the same thing as worshipping a false god." "You can't take it with you" was a common expression one time in Ireland about money. Which proves, if it proves nothing else, that the Irish knew their gospel. "Fool, this night do I require your soul of thee." For those who seek God, the church has always recommended poverty, chastity and obedience?" and in that order. The hand that reaches out for God must be empty.

Youth Jubilee of Mercy Celebration A Success: On Tuesday, 26th July as the Church celebrated the feast day of Sts Joachim and Anne, the loving parents of the Blessed Mother, the St Pius X Parish youth also celebrated the Youth Jubilee of Mercy. This is in conjunction with the WYD celebrations held at the moment in Krakow, Poland. The parish celebration began with a Mass at 6:30 pm animated by the youth themselves. It was followed by a short yet encouraging program that was well attended by the young people together with their parents and guardians. The theme of the celebration is the same the same theme used at the WYD 2016 celebrations: "*Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.*" Many thanks to all responsible for this wonderful celebration.

First Friday Calls: During this week (probably Wed, Thurs, and Fri (August 3-5, 2016.) the Parish Priest will do his best to visit the sick and the housebound in the Parish. Thus they can have Confessions and the Anointing of the Sick.

Sexual Abuse of Children in the Church: Fr Hans Zollner, SJ from Rome, an authority on the protection of children from sexual abuse in the church will give a public talk on this subject at the Pacific Regional Seminary (PRS) hall next Sunday, 7th August, 2016 at 7:30 pm. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to come and hear this expert on this very important subject. He will also talk to the priests and religious of the Archdiocese on Monday, 8th August, 9:00 am – 4:30 pm.

Catholic Women's League: will be drawing their chicken kati on Saturday, 6th August after the 8:30 am Mass, in the parish hall. Moreover, they are also making an appeal to all parishioners for a \$1.00 donation after the two masses on Sunday, 7th August. CWL Members will be the gate to receive donations. Thank you.

RCIA Classes: Classes have begun. For inquiries, please contact Mrs Sala Navuku.

Commission on Youth:

- (a) **Many thanks** to all the youth who came to celebrate the Youth Jubilee of Mercy last Tuesday, 26th July, 2016. Sincerest appreciation to all the organizers, the youth executives, parents, and commission head for this successful program. We shall keep on encouraging our young people to bring light to our families, communities and parish.

Commission on Liturgy & Sacrament:

- (a) **ALL (Old and New) Eucharistic Ministers: Meeting** on Wednesday on 3rd August, 7:30 PM at the Parish Hall. Your attendance is highly requested.
- (b) **Parish Lectors: Regular Meeting** on 1st August, 7:30 pm @ the Parish Hall. Your attendance is highly requested.
- (c) **Commission Meeting:** Reminding all the members of the Liturgy Commission of your meeting on 7th August, straight after the 8:30 am Mass. Ministry Heads and Community Reps, please take note.

St Michael Community (5A):Prayer Meeting continues every Wednesdays at 7:00 PM;

St Peter Chanel Community (4A):Prayer Meeting (Women) at the Parish Hall, 7:30 PM every Tuesday.

Charismatic Prayer Meeting: at 3:00pm in the church. Invitation is extended to interested parishioners as well.

Faith Formation Commission News: CCD continues after the 8:30 am Mass.

- (a) **First Holy Communion** classes in the hall (10:00-10:45)
- (b) **Pre-Confirmation** classes in the church

Application Forms from St Marcellin Vatuwaqa: (Entry to Class 1-2017) are now available at the school office. It is of the utmost importance to pick up and return this form to the school office immediately if you need a place for your children in Marist Vatuwaqa in 2017.

From the Ministry of Health: Parishioners are informed that the ministry is preparing to send a nurse or two to the parish offering the following services: a) **Mondays and Fridays** (every week) – Pap smear and baby clinic; b) **Quarterly** – Talks on different topics regarding health, Pre-Screening, and Kindergarten visitation.

'MisericordiaeVultus' 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 St Michael Community (4c) for animating the Liturgy during the week and the clean-up of the church & compound yesterday. We invite Members of St Columban Community (5B) to continue from tomorrow 1st August, 2016.

Details of last Sunday's Collections published here: First Collection - \$ 858.55; Second Collection - \$ 59.25 = \$917.80; Envelope Pledge \$ 215.00. Thank You so much.

Readings for the coming Week:

18th Sunday of the Ordinary Time [31/07/16] Eccles 1:2, 2: 21-23; Col 3: 1-5, 9-11; Luke 12: 13-21; MON [1/8/16] *St Alphonsus Mary Liguori:* Rom 8: 1-4; Matt 5:13-19; TUE [2/8/16] Jer 30: 1-2, 12-15, 18-22; Matt 14: 22-36; WED [3/8/16] Jer 31: 1-7; Matt 15: 21-28; THURS [4/8/16] *St John Mary Vianney:* Ezekiel 3: 16-21; Matt 9: 35—10:1 FRI [5/8/16] Nahum 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7; Matt 16: 24-28; SAT [6/8/16] *Transfiguration of the Lord:* Dan 7: 9-10, 13-14; 2 Peter 1:16-19; Luke 9: 28-36; **19th Sunday of Ordinary Time [7/8/16]** Wisdom 18: 6-9; Hebrews 11: 1-2, 8-19; Luke 12: 32-48

Up and Coming Events for the Month of August: AGM for the Catholic Women's League in Lautoka; The Jubilee for Women – Year of Mercy and Parish Feast day 21st August.