



# ST PIUS X, RAIWAQA, PARISH NEWSLETTER

## TO RESTORE ALL THINGS IN CHRIST

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### PALM SUNDAY- CYCLE B: 25/03/18

#### 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.

Today we begin the greatest week in the liturgical year. Centuries ago it was called the 'Great Week'. Nowadays Catholics call it 'Holy Week'. We follow Jesus every step of the way. We start with his triumphant entry into Jerusalem, where he is welcomed, by a big crowd. Holy Thur. Good Friday and Easter Sat/Sun completes his Paschal Mysteries.

Frs. Carlo & McEvoy will visit the housebound & sick on Tuesday and Wednesday this week.

#### Palm Sunday Reflection: Looking on from a distance

There is great hostility in the story of the Passion of Jesus we hear on Palm Sunday - all of it directed against Jesus. There is the hostility of the chief priests, of the Roman soldiers, of those who passed by and jeered as he hung from the cross. Alongside the hostility of those who rejected Jesus, there is the failure of those who had been closest to him. His disciples all deserted him and fled; Judas betrayed him and Peter denied him publicly. Yet, there were a few people who responded to Jesus in that dark hour faithfully and nobly. There was the anonymous woman who in an extravagant gesture of love and respect anointed the head of Jesus. Then there was the Roman centurion, who looked on as Jesus died and exclaimed, 'this man was son of God.' Joseph of Arimathea took the bold step of going to Pilate to ensure Jesus had a dignified burial. The women disciples who looked on from a distance noted where Jesus was buried and went away to prepare spices to anoint his body at the earliest opportunity. All of these people men and women saw Jesus with eyes of faith and love. The account of Jesus Passion and death differ from Gospel to Gospel. **None is starker than Mark's Gospel:** all who knew Jesus have failed him; his only "helper" is a complete outsider, Simon, the unknown passer-by. *Let us pray: 'O Lord, we tell again of the death of your Messiah, Jesus the Christ. In his story we see the story of your love as you reach out to us in the darkness of tragic death and tremendous suffering. Touch our hearts again with your compassionate love that we may be return to you with all our hearts.*

#### **St. Pius X Raiwaqa Parish - Programme for Holy Week**

1. **Palm Sunday:** Blessing of the Palms @ 7.00am in the Hall followed by Procession of Palms to the Church to commemorate Christ triumphant entry into Jerusalem. **Our Second Mass today will be at 9.00am.**
2. **Chrism Mass - Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March:** Sacred Heart Cathedral @ 5.00pm. **No evening Mass in Raiwaqa.**
3. **Holy Thursday:** Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7.00pm with the washing of feet and adoration until midnight.
4. **Good Friday:** Stations of the Cross dramatized by the Youth at 10.00am. Passion of the Lord at 3.00pm.
5. **Holy Saturday Easter Vigil:** Starts at 9.00pm, Liturgy of Light, Word, Baptism and Eucharist.
6. **Easter Sunday Morning:** Mass of the Lord's Resurrection @ 9.00am
7. **Easter Monday Morning:** Parish Mass on this day (as per bank holidays) @ 8.30am.

#### **Roster for Adoration on Holy Thursday Evening:**

<b>From 8.30 – 9.30</b>	Com. 5A, 5B, 6, 7A, 7B	<b>From 10.30 – 11.00</b>	Community 4A	<b>Invitation to</b>
<b>From 9.30 – 10.00</b>	Communities 2 & 4C	<b>From 11.00 – 11.30</b>	Community 4B	<b>Watch with</b>
<b>From 10.00 – 11.00</b>	Communities 1B & 3	<b>From 11.30 – 12.00</b>	The Youth	<b>Jesus in Prayer</b>

10.30

**Commission for Social and Ecological Justice:** In response to the Archbishop's March Newsletter where he mentioned the alarming sexual violence and Rape that is on the rise in Fiji – he says the church cannot be silent any longer on these issues and must address the reasons why sexual abuse is happening. The above Commission is organising a half day awareness programme on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> April in St Joseph's Hall from 8.30am to 1.30pm. Each parish in the Central Eastern Division are requested to send 3 women to attend this Awareness who can come back and probably form a nucleus of the same in their own parish. 'Women at the Well' are such a group that has already been formed and meeting in Suva Parish. They will be a part of the participants on the day. (Morning tea and lunch will be provided).

**Family Commission: Marriage Preparation Course:** Archfam is starting its 2018 programme and will be conducting a Pre Marriage Course 14<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> April in St Joseph's Hall for couples who are not married and intend to get married. This is the second such preparation weekend and eventually will become the standard Pre Marriage Course in the Archdiocese. We extend an invitation to all couples now thinking of getting married to register at the parish office or let our Marriage instructors know about your intention. This will be your official preparation for your marriage. Registration is \$20.00 to cover meals and stationary. The parish may help if a couple cannot afford to pay. Family Commission Heads and Marriages instructors ought to attend also. We need names of those attending before 6<sup>th</sup> April.

**Rev John Fong's Ordination and First Mass:** God Willing John will be ordained on Saturday May the 5<sup>th</sup> and he has requested to have his **First Mass here in the Parish on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2018.**

**Thanks expressed to Gaetane Austin** (Pure Fiji) for gifting us with a most beautify scented liturgically decorated Pascal Candle this year. She also gifted other Parishes in Suva with the same. Please pray for her intentions.

**Lectors Training Workshop:** Continues this Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Youth Retreat yesterday in Champagne Institute:** Thanks for those who came for this Lenten Retreat and those who supported the parish youth especially the HOC and Parents.

**Washing of Feet Holy Thursday:** Community Liturgy & Youth Reps please submit names for washing of the feet.

**Good Friday:** A day of Fast and Abstinence. (No meat and only one full meal – with two light meals).

**SVDP Members Visitation:** to Nabukavesi (Holy Spirit Parish) last Saturday was successful. They are now working in partnership with that parish helping them to form a new branch of the Society there. SVDP Members of Raiwaqa Parish will provide light refreshments for the Parish youth after the Drama on Good Friday – **(Fast Day Folks)!!!**

**Meetings today and during the week:**

**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.

**Altar Server's Holy Week Practice** – Servers appointed for Easter Ceremonies today at 5.00pm (Refreshments).

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

**Youth Drama Practice for Good Friday:** This afternoon at 6.00pm for one hour.

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

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

**Central Eastern CCIM:** On Thursday, April 5<sup>th</sup> at 5pm in the Church.

**Columban Come and See Weekend:** Saturday April 7<sup>th</sup> at the Columban Formation Nasese. Contact Fr Carlo.

**Commission for Social & Ecological Justice** (CSEJ) will meet in Parish Hall tomorrow 26<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30 Repls Note.

**Women of the Parish:** To provide refreshments for the newly Baptised on Holy Saturday Night (Please bring a plate).

**WOP Kati (\$20.00) a card:** will be drawn on Easter Monday 2/4/18. This is their last fund raising for Parish GJ Project.

**Collections during Holy Week:** Archbishop's **Lenten Collection** is taken up on Holy Thursday (Envelopes Supplied).

**Collection for Holy Places** – take up after kissing Cross on God Friday. **Parish Easter Collection** – taken up on Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday Morning (My Easter Collection Envelopes Supplied) via Community leaders and Fin Reps.

**Thanks:** To Community 4b St Peter Chanel's for animating the Liturgy during the week & cleaning of the Church & compound. Community 4c St John the Baptist starts tomorrow 26/03/2018.

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

**1<sup>st</sup> Collection \$761.70; 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: \$124.30; Envelops \$47.00 = \$933.00.**

**Reading coming week:** *Palm Sunday* [25/3/18] *At the blessing of the palms:* Mk 11: 1-10; *During the Mass:* Is 50: 4-7; Phil 2: 6-11; Mk 14: 1—15:47 Mon [26/3/18] Is 42: 1-7; Jn 12: 1-11; Tue [27/3/18] Is 49: 1-6; Jn 13: 21-33, 36-38; Wed [28/3/18] Is 50: 4-9a; Mt 26: 14-25; *Holy Thursday* [29/3/18] Ex 12: 1-8, 11-14; 1 Cor 11: 23-26; Jn 13: 1-15; *Good Friday* [30/3/18] Is 52: 13—53:12; Heb 4: 14-16; 5: 7-9; Jn 18: 1—19: 42; *Holy Saturday (Easter Vigil):* Gen 1: 1, 26 - 31a; Ps 104; Ex 14: 15—15:1; Ex 15 Ez 36: 16-17a, 18-28; Ps 42 & 43; Rom 6: 3-11; Ps 118 Mk 16: 1-7; *Easter Sunday* [1/4/18] Acts 10: 34a, 37-43; Col 3: 1-4; Jn 20: 1-9