

# ST PIUS X, RAIWAQA, PARISH NEWSLETTER

## TO RESTORE ALL THINGS IN CHRIST

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### PENTECOST SUNDAY - CYCLE A: - 04/06/17

#### 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.p.m

**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.

#### **Pentecost Sunday**

**Today the Archbishop will issue a Decree to formally announce The Archdiocesan Synod. The Synodal Year will be from Pentecost Sunday next year 2018 to Pentecost Sunday 2019.**

Items for Newsletter should be in Parish Office by Thursday midday or email [mcevoyfj@gmail.com](mailto:mcevoyfj@gmail.com) before midday Thursday.

**Reflection for Pentecost Sunday:** Imagining the Spirit: When you look around our church you will find that there is no shortage of images, mostly in the form of statues, paintings. They are mostly images of Jesus, Mary and of the saints. The Holy Spirit, whose feast we celebrate today, does not lend itself all that easily to imagery. The traditional image of the Holy Spirit is the dove. That is drawn from the gospel accounts of the baptism of Jesus. There are two other images of the Holy Spirit in this morning's first reading from the Acts of the Apostles. There again the language is very tentative. Luke says that all who gathered in one room heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven; he goes on to say that something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire. Just as the evangelists do not say that there was an actual dove at the baptism of Jesus,

We have an example of humanity at its best in today's first reading. On that first Pentecost, there was a wonderful communion between people from all over the Roman Empire. They were united in hearing in their own native language the preaching of the first disciples about the marvels of God. In spite of differences of language and culture there was a profound communion among them. Wherever we find such communion of heart and spirit today among those who are strikingly different, there the Holy Spirit is at work. Unity in diversity is the mark of the Spirit. In the gospel Jesus points out another manifestation of the Spirit, and that is the pursuit of truth. Jesus declares that one of the Spirit's roles is to lead us to the complete truth. If someone has a genuine openness to truth, a willingness to engage in the search for truth, there the Spirit is at work. In John's gospel Jesus declares himself to be the truth. One of the roles of the Spirit is to lead us towards the complete truth, in all its dimensions and manifestations.

**Welcome to the Christian Community:** Sakaraia Theophilus Vunisa, Lot 11 Kapadia Place, Raiwai (7b) who was baptised here today during the 8.30 Mass.

**Welcome Rev Pat Visanti:** He attended as Deacon at the 7.00am Mass today. He will be doing some pastoral work in the parish.

**Marist Brothers Bicentenary (200 Years) F.M.S:** Today we salute and congratulate the (Marist Brothers of the Schools) who this year celebrate 200 years since their foundation by Fr Marcellin Champagnat (2<sup>nd</sup> Jan 1817) a young Marist Priest, in a parish near Lyon, France for the education of young people especially those most neglected, who were illiterate and had no knowledge of their faith in France after the French Revolution. Today the Marist Brothers (circa 3,000) are located in 79 countries and some 600,000 students attend their schools each year. Marcellin's motto was "To educate children you must love them and love them all equally" The first Marist Brothers came to New Zealand in 1838 and to Fiji in 1888. Their first task in Fiji was to teach children of European settlers. But by the turn of the century they had opened two schools for Fijians and one for the Indian population in Suva who up until then had no opportunity for education. Since 1888 the Brother have taught in Suva, Cawaci, Naililili, Wairiki, Napuka and Savarekareka. Today the Marist Brothers have 5 educational institutions in Suva: Marist Brothers High School, Marist Brothers Primary School, Suva Street, St Marcellin Primary School, Champagnat Institute (special needs vocational school) and Marcellin's Angels (kindergarten) in Vatuwaqa. Today we salute and congratulate the Marist Brothers living in our Parish at Vatuwaqa, Bros Sam, Fergus and Kees – on Bicentenary of their foundation and 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Marist Brothers High School.

**Decree From the Archbishop:** Today Pentecost Sunday (4<sup>th</sup> June) the Archbishop will issue a Decree to formally announce our Archdiocesan Synod. The synodal year will be from Pentecost Sunday 2018 to Pentecost Sunday 2019. A Diocesan Synod is an assembly that brings the bishop together with his priests and his people to assist him in governing his diocese. The Synod will engage the entire Catholic population in sharing their needs. The Synod will come up with an overall diocesan pastoral plan, address acute pastoral problems requiring pastoral responses and help the Bishop to Discern for the future.

**Parish of St Pius X – Chosen for Synod Pilot Project:** The Parish Team humbly request 100% cooperation from Community leaders and Catholic Families and Parish Organizations in this Pilot Project. The Project is in the form of a questionnaire to be filled out in families, or by groups e.g. Youth, St Vincent de Paul, SCC Groups etc or individuals. These Questionnaires are ready for collection today (4<sup>th</sup> June) by Community Leaders to be distributed to every family in the Parish Boundary. The Questionnaire is in 3 parts: **(Part 1 - Our Family)** {a}What brings us/me Joy as a family; {b}What brings me Sorrow, sadness or unhappiness and {c}What hopes and dreams do we/me have for our family?

**(Part 2 - Our Country)** {a} What brings us joy and happiness as members of Society in our country; {b}What difficulties so we encounter with people and events in our country; {c}What are my dreams and hope and what I would like to see happening in Fiji and Rotuman in years to come.

**(Part 3 – Our Church)** {a}What brings us/me Joy in our Christian Life, as members of the Parish, as members of Small Christian Community, as members of the Archdiocese? {b}What difficulties do we have with the Church in our Parish {c}What hopes we have for ourselves and for the Church in Fiji and Rotuma?

It is recommended that families take 3 nights to fill out the Questionnaire - one section per night. An organisation or an individual could do it all in one sitting. And there is a short Scripture reading that can also be used for each section if so desired. All Questionnaires must be back in the office before 18<sup>th</sup> June. So, full cooperation is required by Community leaders and from every Catholic Family in the boundaries of the Parish. The Questionnaire can be answered either in English, Fijian or Gilbertese Thanking you all in anticipation... *Fr John McEvoy and Parish Team.*

#### **Forthcoming Seminars and Workshops:**

1. **JPHD Workshop:** One day workshop is being organised on the 8th June (World Ocean Day) in St Joseph's Hall from 8.30am to 4.00pm by the Archdiocesan JPHD on Catholic Social Teaching re care for Vanua and raise social consciousness on Social and Economic Problems in view of the forthcoming elections.
2. **Parish Family Life Commission:** Is organising a Breakfast Seminar for Single Parents 10<sup>th</sup> June. Invitations issued.
3. **New RCIA Approach:** To be now more Community based rather than class-room like approach. The workshop that was due to take place on the 4<sup>th</sup> June – postponed to the Christmas Holidays. In the meantime, old programme to be followed. Our RCIA Parish team has been named.
4. **One Day Workshop: To look at Guidelines for dealing with cases of Sexual Abuse** - on 4th July in St Joseph's Hall from 8.30am to 5.00pm - to create awareness of sexual abuse cases and to provide Safe Environment Training.

#### **Meetings Today Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

1. **Evangelisation Commission** meets after the 8.30am today. **Word of appreciation to communities** who carried Our Lady statue from house to house during May. Now in June, we hope the same enthusiasm will be channelled towards 7 STEPS. Community leaders and evangelisation reps are encouraged to continue with the 7 STEPS in your communities.
2. **Liturgy and Sacraments Meeting:** Today Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June after 8.30am Mass.
3. **Charismatics** today at 3.00pm. Followed by **Divine Mercy**. Followed by **The World Apostolate of Fatima** at 4.00pm.

#### **Meetings during the Week:**

1. **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June:** Social and Sports Committee after the 6:30pm mass.
2. **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June:** Animators meeting after evening Mass on Monday 05/06
3. **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June: Most Communities (7 Steps).** Brochures for 7 Steps Method of Prayer now available.
4. **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June: Meeting of the Parish Financial Council with Community Financial Reps at 7.30pm.**
5. **Youth Prayer Meeting (7 Steps)** Friday straight after the 6:30 pm Mass. Followed by Executive Meeting.
6. **Get Fit – Stay Healthy: Zumba Dance Exercise:** Every Saturday Morning Vuiyasawa Park from 6 - 7am.

#### **Other Parish Activities for the Month of June:**

Corpus Christi Sunday Procession (Mass at 0900)	18/06/17	Evangelization / Liturgy
Information Sharing (Government Agencies)	23/06/17	Justice and Development
Catholic Social Teachings for PPC members	29/06/17 (1915 – 2130)	Justice and Development
Mt Korobaba Trek and Hike – National Youth Day	30/06/17	Youth

**Parish Council Meeting Last Sunday:** Was well attended and good reports from all 6 Commissions: The need for a multimedia system for the parish has never been more pronounced: to enhance all facets of communication at CCD, Workshops, Seminars, Commissions and PPC levels. A few issues were aired at the meeting that was more a matter for the Parish Financial Council.

**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Parish:** The 50th Anniversary Launching is Scheduled for the Feast of St Pius X this year the launching will focus on the Mass and the dedication of Archbishop Mataca Hall. The evening will conclude with some refreshments and sharing under the new banner. A simple yet meaningful occasion to set the tone for greater things.

**The Logo Competition:** While the logo competition is well underway, the subcommittee responsible will determine the outcome and chose what's in the best interests of the spirit of the celebration. If they decide to display and possibly sell.

**Thanks, and Appreciation:** To Community (5a) St Michael's for animating the Liturgy during the week and for cleaning of the Church & compound. We invite Community 5b St Columban's, to continue from tomorrow 5<sup>th</sup> June.

**Thanks too for your generous Collection for last week. The following is a summary:**

**1<sup>st</sup> Collection \$548.95; 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection \$80.60 and Envelope Pledge: \$55.00 = \$684.55**

**Reading coming week: Pentecost Sunday (4/6/17)** Acts 2: 1-11; 1 Corinthians 12: 3-7, 12-13; John 20: 19-2; Mon (5/6/17) Tobit 1: 3, 2: 1-8; Mark 12: 1-12; Tue (6/6/17) Tobit 2: 9-14; Mark 12: 13-17; Wed (7/6/17) Tobit 3: 1-11, 16-17; Mark 12: 18-27 Thurs (8/6/17) Tobit 6: 10-11, 7:1, 9-14, 8: 4-9; Mark 12: 28-34; Fri (9/6/17) Tobit 11: 5-17; Mark 12: 35-37; Sat (10/6/17) Tobit 12: 1, 5-15, 20; Mark 12: 38-44; **Trinity Sunday (11/6/17)** Exodus 34: 4-6, 8-9; 2 Corinthians 13: 11-13; John 3: 16-18.