



# ST PIUS X, RAIWAQA, PARISH NEWSLETTER

## TO RESTORE ALL THINGS IN CHRIST

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### PENTECOST SUNDAY - YEAR B: 20.05.18

#### 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:** At 8.30am Mass on the first Sunday of the month.

Parents seeking baptism for their child make arrangements with Community Leader & Priests & Baptismal instructors.

**Matrimony:** Those preparing for marriage must contact a priest at least 1 month before and are required to undertake preparation sessions. Guidelines available at the Parish Office. **RCIA:** Session every Sunday after the 7am Mass.

#### Opening Mass of the Synod Year: National Stadium at 4.00pm

Our Archbishop pleads with us to support the opening of the Synod year by attending Mass this evening at the National Stadium. Let us

**Catholic Times in Office:** The new edition in the office today. Community Leaders or Community Finance Reps please collect the number allocated to your respective Community - \$1.00 per copy.

#### Sunday Reflection: Pentecost Sunday: What the Spirit does

There are two images of the Holy Spirit in this morning's first reading from the Acts of the Apostles. It says that all who gathered in one room heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven and 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, Luke does not say that there was an actual wind and fire at Pentecost. The Holy Spirit does not lend her/himself to *concrete representation*, because Spirit cannot be seen as such. Yet the Holy Spirit is *profoundly real*.

Rather than try to describe what the Holy Spirit looks like, the Bible says great things about what the Spirit *does*, how it impacts on life. Paul uses an image drawn from nature, speaking about the *fruits of the Spirit*. He is talking about the visible flowering of the Spirit in a person's life. We may not be able to see the Holy Spirit, but we can see the Spirit's impact on our outlook and behaviour, just as we cannot see the wind but can see the its impact on the world about us. Wherever we find love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, trustfulness, gentleness and self-control, the Spirit is there at work, made visible in and through these qualities and virtues. The person who most of all had those qualities was Jesus because he was full of the Holy Spirit, full of the *life of God*. That divine life and love was poured out at Pentecost, initially on the first disciples but through them on all who are open to receive this powerful and wonderful gift. Paul expresses it simply in his letter to the Romans, 'God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.' It is that Spirit of God's love we have received who bears the rich fruit in our lives that Paul speaks about in today's 2nd Reading. The Spirit is constantly at work in our lives, making us more like Jesus. The ordinary, day to day expressions of goodness and kindness, of faithfulness and self-control, of patience and gentleness, are all manifestations of the Spirit that has been given to us by God. We can recognize the Spirit's presence in the common happenings of everyday life. The spiritual is not something other-worldly; it is humanity at its best.

**In Loving Memory: Sr Mary Chris (Sweeney){96} Marist Sister Nadi:** From Ireland came to Fiji in 1954 - died on Ascension Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> May and was buried in Nadi after Requiem Mass at 9.00am.. May she rest in Peace

**Congratulations Grace Karesi Morrell and Semiti Tikomailondoni,** Block 1 Kia Project, Raiwai, who had their Marriage blessed and Convalidated here on Friday last 18<sup>th</sup> May. Prayerful good wishes to them and their family.

**Blessing of the Children after Communion:** The Archbishop suggested that a better time for this blessing in the liturgy is to have the children accompany their parents to communion and they be blessed at that time.

**The Tiling of the Church:** Once again we admire and thank the Men of the Parish and the men and cauravou from the East Club (which included 3 Methodists, a Seven Day Adventist and a member of the Latter Day Saints Church) for the wonderful work they carried out in such a short time in tiling the Church as part of the preparation for our Golden Jubilee. We also salute and thank the Men of the Parish for the Vakavinavinaka and the Magiti that they put on for the workers on the project on Saturday evening 12<sup>th</sup> May to round off the project in traditional Fijian Style. A fresh new

looking floor greeted the congregation at Masses last Sunday. The work of tiling of the church floor was completed with amazing speed and good workmanship. As stated in last Sunday's Newsletter – **the Parish is truly grateful.**

**Opening of the Synod Year: This Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2018 with 4.00pm Mass in National Stadium.**

**Thanks Expressed:** To those who stayed back after Mass on Ascension Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> May to receive the Synod Cross into the parish and participate in the seminar (mini synod) run in the parish by the Archdiocesan Preparatory Team with the Archbishop who stayed with us for 3 hours on the evening. Thanks all and Team. Also **thanks to all those who turned up to take Synod Cross from Parish to the Sacred Heart Cathedral** on Sat 12<sup>th</sup> May in procession: We were blessed with a beautiful fine evening. We were received graciously by the Cathedral Parish and we all stayed on for the 5.00pm Mass – Priests, Altar Servers and Parishioners.

**Synod Youth Vigil and Rally:** Is in progress right now until 1.00pm today when they will process to the National Stadium. Over 20 of our youth are taking part in this All Night Rally. The Mass at 4.00pm will be preceded by the presentation of Song and Dance and Music and Storytelling by students. The launching of the SYNOD theme and logo will also take place before Mass. **Thanks you also to some Women of the Parish and Liturgy Reps** who assisted yesterday 19<sup>th</sup> of May with the decoration of the Altar - flowers and floral arrangements etc. Vinaka Vakalevu.

**All Parish Meetings this Sunday deferred:** So we can all attend Fr Donald's second talk on 'Mary' after the 08.30am Mass. This is after all a part of the parish-based program aligned to the Renewal Process.

**PPC meeting for the month of May:** has been scheduled for Saturday, 26th May, at 4.00pm, in the AB Mataca Hall. (Note that this is our last attempt at Saturday meetings.) Another lack of quorum and it's back to our Sunday best.

**Parish Executive Meeting:** yester, 19th May to evaluate Fr John Fong's 1<sup>st</sup> Mass & Synod awareness by AB & Team.

**Parish Renewal/Photo Contest:** One of the suggestions for this month of Renewal, that each Community take photos of activities (e.g. rosary, community Mass, bible sharing, etc.). From these photos, each Community is asked to **submit (1) photograph** (the Best in High Resolution) depicting the *Spiritual, Family, and Cultural & Social* aspect of the event. Submit your photo to the Parish Office (soft copy) or email it in JPEG form to [spxsouvenirbooklet@gmail.com](mailto:spxsouvenirbooklet@gmail.com). Also, please provide a 2-line description of your entry. The committee will collect and print them for display on 1<sup>st</sup> June. Winning entries will be announced on 3<sup>rd</sup> June. Cash Prizes for the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> best entry.

**Columban Parish's Choir Competition for Centenary Year:** The Columban Centenary Committee are organising this for our 3 Parishes, Raiwaqa, Ba and Labasa - hopefully to be performed on the afternoon 30<sup>th</sup> June. Fr Pat Visanti has composed the lyrics. Each parish is invited to compose a melody for the hymn. Each parish is allowed only one (1) choir as their entry. Each choir is allowed a maximum number of 15 members including instrumentalists and conductor. The melody and music arrangement will be composed by the choir and interpreted during the competition. Each choir entry is allowed 8 minutes of stage time including entrance and exit. A substantial cash Prize for winning Parish.

**May – Month of Parish Renewal:** Thanks to all Communities who are following the Renewal Program. Great reports are coming in re the house to house evening prayers in all Communities. Community Masses have been a great success.

**Annual Parish Bazaar:** this year is on Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> July. The target per community is \$4,500.00.

**Painting of Church & Premises:** As we can see the next stage of renovation - the painting of the church inside and outside together with the painting of the exterior of Halls and Presbytery started on Mon 14<sup>th</sup> May. It is a 5/6 weeks Job. There is likely to be disruption within the church during the coming week due to painting and joinery works. Sorry folks.

**Important Present and Forthcoming Parish Events: Friday Night 18<sup>th</sup> May** - Open Form – Men of the Parish.

**Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup> May** - Talk on Adoration by Fr. Jonathan, SSCC. **Blessing of New Homes** erected by St Vincent de Paul in Nanuku and Wailea. At 4.00pm **Community Mass St Michael's 5A** – Fr John Fong.

**Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup> May:** Talk on Our Lady by Fr McIlraith & **Affirmation of Candidates for Confirmation at 8.30.**

**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> May** - Feast of Our Lady Mother of the Church. **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May:** Community Mass 4B at 8.00pm.

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May. Environment Awareness Mass at 6.30pm; Open Form Women of the Parish.**

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> May:** - Parish Environment Day (Clean Up) – See Handbook – Mass at 11.00am.

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> May:** Open Forum / Social - Parish Youth at 5.00pm. **Altar Servers Meet after 8.30 Mass.**

**Thanks:** To St Joseph the Worker Community (2) for animating the Liturgy during the week & cleaning of the Church & compound. We invite St Joan of Arc Community (3) to take over responsibilities tomorrow, 21/05/2018.

**Thanks for your generous Collections Last Week:** 1<sup>st</sup> Collection: **\$656.35** 2nd Collection: **\$100.20,**

Voluntary Envelopes: **\$15.00** Total Collection: **\$771.55**

**St Vincent de Paul Church Gate Collection:** For month of April = \$645.15. Society thanks all who contribute.

**Reading coming week: Pentecost Sunday** [20/5/18] Acts 2: 1-11; Gal 15: 16-25; Jn 15: 26-27, 16:12-15; Mon [21/5/18] James 3: 13-18; Mk 9: 14-29; Tue [22/5/18] James 4: 1-10; Mk 9: 30-37; Wed [23/5/18] James 4: 1-10; Mk 9: 30-37; Thurs [24/5/18] James 5: 1-6; Mk 9: 41-50; Fri [25/5/18] James 5: 9-12; Mk 10: 1-12; Sat [26/5/18] James 5: 13-20; Mk 10: 13-16; ***Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity*** [27/5/18] Deut 4: 32-34, 39-40; Rom 8: 14-17; Mt 28: 16-20.