

ST PIUS X, RAIWAQA, PARISH NEWSLETTER

TO RESTORE ALL THINGS IN CHRIST

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SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME, CYCLE C: 24/07/16

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.

2016 Parish Bazaar!

Theme: *“Proclaiming God’s Mercy through our Everyday Actions and Healthy Living”*

30th July, 2016, starting 9:00 AM onwards

@ Swann Park, Grantham Rd, cor. Milverton Rd

Come and join us on this big family day!

Reflection on Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary: ‘Ask, Seek and Knock’

“So I say to you: Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you”. Jesus knows what he’s saying since such is his experience: *everyone who asks, receives; everyone who seeks, finds; everyone who knocks will have the door opened.*

Ask is the proper attitude of the poor who need to receive from another what they can’t get by their own effort. Thus did Jesus imagine his followers: as men and women who are poor, conscious of their frailty and extreme poverty, without any indication of pride or self-sufficiency. It’s not a disgrace to live in a Church that is poor, weak and deprived of power. What’s deplorable is to try to follow Jesus today by asking of the world a kind of protection that can come to us only from the Father.

Seek isn’t just asking. It’s more: get going, step out to reach something that is hidden from us because it’s covered or concealed. Thus Jesus sees his followers: as «seekers of God’s Reign and God’s justice. It’s normal to live today in a Church that is confused in the face of an uncertain future. What’s strange is that we don’t mobilize ourselves to seek together new paths to sow the Gospel in our modern culture.

Knock is to make a loud noise for someone to whom we don’t feel close to, but we believe can listen to and attend to us. Thus Jesus shouts out to his Father in the loneliness of the cross. It’s understandable that today we find blocked the faith of not a few Christians who learned to talk about, celebrate and live faith in a pre-modern culture. What’s sad is that we don’t push ourselves more to learn to follow Jesus today, shouting out to God from the contradictions, conflicts and questions of the world we live in.

In Loving Memory: Mosese Dominiko (5b). Craig Place, Vatuwaqa (94 years) died on Sunday 17th July and was buried in Nasinu after 9.00am Requiem Mass in St Pius X Parish on 21st July, 2016. May he Rest in Peace.

Jubilee for Catholic Men: On 15th July, the ‘Parish Family Life Commission’ headed by Mr and Mrs Jacob Kivi lead a wonderful and well-attended *talanoa* session with the Men of St Pius X Parish--about 25 men and a few ladies who came to assist during the program. The topic of the conversation was *"A Man and His Family"*. An hour’s video by Fr Larry Richards, SJ was used as a springboard to get the event started. It captured everyone for the entire period. Fr Larry stated what the family could be and should be *"FAMILY"*: F - *Forgive/Faith*; A- *Affirmation*; M - *Making Memories*; I- *Intimacy*; L- *Love*; Y- *You*. Fruitful sharing in small groups followed. The program emphasized the role of men in the basic unit of the society, the *family*. Emphasis was also placed on St Paul’s message to husbands in his letter to the Ephesians (5:25-30): *Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the Church and gave himself to her that he might sanctify her’*

On Sunday morning, 17th of July, the Men of the Parish animated the 8:30am Mass with their wonderful singing – which was followed by a veiqarvi & morning tea provided for them by the ladies. A long discussion followed on the Formation of a group ‘The Men of the Parish’ Office Bearers were elected. We continue to pray for them as they continue to live out their vocation in their respective families, in their communities, and in the Church. (*Marjorie Engcoy*)

Jubilee for the Youth: is to be celebrated on 26th July on the feast of Sts Joachim and Anne, the loving parents of Our Lady. They will animate the 6:30pm Mass; followed by a program at 7:30- 9:00pm, in the Parish Hall. The celebration will be under the same theme with that of the WYD 2016 held in Krakow, Poland: “*Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.*” **ALL Parish Youth** are invited to come join this celebration.

Parish Bazaar: is on 30th July, 2016 at Swann Park. Many thanks to all the communities who have put so much effort in their fundraisings and community nights and to the Committee who have been working tirelessly preparing for this important annual parish event. We are all looking forward to another successful Parish Bazaar and Family Fun Day.

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

PPC: Meeting today, 24th July, 10:30 AM at the Parish Hall. ALL Community Leaders please attend.

Finance Committee: ALL Community Finance Reps Meeting on Monday, 25th July, 7:30 PM at the Parish Hall.

This is to make final preparations for the Parish Bazaar. Your attendance is highly requested.

Commission on Youth:

- (a) **Many thanks**, to all the youth who visited St Michael Community (5A) last Sunday. Your presence is such a gift.
- (b) **Choir Practice:** Monday, 25th July, 7:00 PM at the Parish hall in preparation for the Jubilee on the 26th July. All Youth is cordially invited to join.

Commission on Liturgy & Sacrament:

- (a) **ALL (Old and New) Eucharistic Ministers: Meeting** on Wednesday on 27th July, 7:30 PM at the Parish Hall. Your attendance is highly requested.
- (b) **Parish Thanksgiving Mass:** Only one Mass on 31st July at 9:00 AM and this will be animated by the Children (c/o Mrs N Buatava)

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.

St Joseph the Worker Community (2): Prayer Meeting at Mr P Loli’s residence on Tues 26th July, at 7:30 pm.

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.

‘**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 St John the Baptist (4c) for animating the Liturgy during the week and the clean-up of the church & compound yesterday. We invite Members of St Michael Community (5A) to continue from tomorrow 25th July, 2016.

Details of last Sunday’s Collections published here: **First Collection - \$ 688.20; Second Collection - \$ 119.40 = \$ 807.60; Envelope Pledge \$ 70.00. Thank You so much.**

Readings for the coming Week:

17th Sunday of the Ordinary Time [24/07/16] Genesis 18: 20-32; Col 2:12-14; Luke 11: 1-13; **MON [25/07/16]** *St James the Apostle:* 2 Cor 4: 7-15; Matt 20: 20-28; **TUE [26/07/16]** *Sts Joachim & Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary:* Ecclus 44:1, 10-15; Matt 13: 16-17; **WED [27/07/16]** Jer 15: 10, 16-21; Matt 13: 44-46; **THURS [28/07/16]** Jer 18:1-6; Matt 13: 47-53; **FRI [29/07/16]** *St Martha:* 1 John 4:7-16; John 11: 19-27; **SAT [30/07/16]** Jer

26: 11-16, 24; Matt 14: 1-12;**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