

# ST PIUS X, RAIWAQA, PARISH NEWSLETTER

## TO RESTORE ALL THINGS IN CHRIST

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## SOLEMNITY OF STS PETER AND PAUL, CYCLE C: 26/06/16

### 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.

*We extend our sincerest thanks to Frs Donal McIlraith, Ioane Gukibau, and Felisiano Fatu for celebrating our Masses (Weekdays and Sundays) whilst our parish priest was away. Moreover, we welcome back our parish priest, Fr John McEvoy from his short trip to his home country. Welcome back, Father John!*

### Reflection for the Solemnity of Sts Peter and Paul: Called to Serve

What singled Peter out from the other disciples was his God-given insight into the identity of Jesus. It was because of his unique insight that Jesus gives Peter a unique role among his followers. He is to be the rock, the firm foundation, on which Jesus will build his church. It is an extraordinarily significant role for Jesus to give to any of his disciples. Peter's role is further spelt out by Jesus giving him the keys of the kingdom of heaven. The image of the keys suggests authority. The nature of that authority is expressed in terms of binding and loosing. This is probably a reference to a teaching authority. Peter is being entrusted with the task of authoritatively interpreting the teaching of Jesus for other members of the church. Yet, this same Peter would try to deflect Jesus from taking the way of the cross, and when Jesus did take that way, Peter would deny any association with him. Jesus is portrayed by Matthew's gospel as giving a significant role to someone who remains very flawed.

If the gospel associates teaching with Peter, the second reading associates preaching with Paul. In that reading Paul refers to the Lord who "gave me power, so that through me the whole message might be preached for all the pagans to hear." Paul was the great preacher of the gospel to the pagans throughout the Roman Empire. He preached it for the last time further west, in the city of Rome, where, like Peter, he was martyred for his faith in Christ. The extract from his second letter to Timothy that is our second reading today may well have been written from his Roman imprisonment. It is a very stirring text, "I have fought the good fight to the end; I have run the race to the finish; I have kept the faith." The image of the fight and the race suggest that "keeping the faith" was a struggle for Paul; it did not come easy to him, just as keeping the faith did not come easy to Peter either.

Keeping the faith does not always come easy to any of us. Paul's letters show that he was very aware that keeping the faith was not due primarily to his own efforts; it was the Lord who enabled him to keep the faith. As he says in today's second reading, "the Lord stood by me and gave me power." It is the Lord who empowers all of us to keep the faith; his faithfulness to us enables us to be faithful to him; his faithful love encourages us to keep returning to him even after failure. The faithful witness of Peter and Paul speak to us ultimately of the Lord's faithfulness to us all. (Source: <http://www.associationofcatholicpriests.ie>)

**Jubilee for Catholic Men:** The Men of the Parish are to animate the liturgy on 10<sup>th</sup> July. Please coordinate with the Family Life Commission heads and Liturgy Commission head.

**Jubilee for the Youth:** is to be celebrated on 26<sup>th</sup> July.

**RCIA Classes** have started last 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2016. A few enquiries had been made—Community Leaders and Evangelisation reps, please take note of the date and inform those interested from your communities. Please see Mrs Sala Navuku.

**Commission on Liturgy and Sacrament:**

- (a) **Commission members** are reminded of their regular meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> July immediately after the 8:30 am Mass.
- (b) **Parish Lectors** are also reminded of their regular meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> July after the evening Mass. Please bring your Bibles with you.
- (c) **Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist** are requested to attend their meeting on Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> July after the 6:30 pm Mass.

**Parish Youth:**

- (a) You are requested to attend the Youth Meeting **today** immediately after the 8:30 AM Mass.
- (b) Also, please be reminded of the Choir Practise Schedule: **Monday 27 June @ 7:30 pm; Thursday 30 June @ 7:30 PM; and Saturday 2 July @ 4:00 PM**

**Finance Meeting Update:** Appreciation is extended to the community reps who attended the meeting on 20/6/16; meeting was about the preparation for the parish bazaar. Moreover, communities who were not represented that day are strongly encouraged to please attend on the **next Finance Meeting on Monday, 4 July, 8:00 pm at the parish hall; more important matters shall be discussed.**

**Marist Old Boys (MOB) – Raiwaqa:** Meeting on 30 June 2016, 8:00 PM at the Fr Hurley Hall. All members are encouraged to attend.

**St Joseph the Worker Community (2):**

- (a) **Prayer Meeting (7 Steps Bible Sharing)** on Tuesday, 7:30 pm at Mr and Mrs Lal’s residence. All members are invited to attend.

**St Columban Community (5B):**

- (a) **Prayer Meeting** on Tuesday, 28 June, 7:30 PM at the Naulu’s residence. All members are encouraged to come.

**Charismatic Prayer Meeting:** at 3:00 PM 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

**Visitation Schedule to Communities by Parish Team to deliberate on Small Christian Community:**

**Team 2**

Leader: Maria

Members: Master Dan, Ben, Rafa,

Responsible for Communities: **3, 6**

Dates: **Communities 3 & 6 leaders are sincerely requested to please notify the team on your desired schedule to be visited. Your full cooperation is much appreciated for the success of this endeavour.**

**Many thanks expressed to the communities who responded so far; your responses have been genuinely encouraging and inspiring. Feedback and furthers steps will be presented and discussed during the Evangelisation and Bible commission meeting.**

**Walk for Health:** Appreciation is also extended to those who participated the Walk for Health on 24/06/16 and to the Parish Youth Commission (Thomas-commission head, Terence-youth president and the parish youth) for helping out as well.

**‘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 Joseph the Worker Community (2) for animating the Liturgy during the week and the clean-up of the church & compound yesterday. We invite Members of St Joan of Arc Community (3) to continue from tomorrow 27<sup>th</sup> June, 2016.

**Details of last Sunday’s Collections published here:** **First Collection - \$ 578.40; Second Collection - \$ 72.70 = \$651.10; Envelope Pledge \$ 116.00. Thank You so much.**

**Readings for the coming Week:**

**STS. PETER & PAUL, Apostles [26/06/16]** Acts 12: 1-11; 2 Tim 4: 6-8, 17-18; Matt 16:13-19; **MON [27/06/16]** Amos 2:6-10, 13-16; Matt 8: 18-22; **TUE [28/06/16]** Tim 2: 22-26; John 17: 20-26; **WED [29/06/16]** Amos 5:14-15, 21-24; Matt 8: 28-34; **THURS [30/06/16]** Amos 7: 10-17; Matt 9: 9-13; **FRI [01/07/16]** Amos 8:4-6, 9-12, Matt 9: 9-13; **SAT [02/07/16]** Amos 9:11-15; Matt 9:14-17; **14<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time [03/07/16]** Isaiah 66: 10-14; Galatians 6: 14-18; Luke 10: 1-12, 17-20