



ST PIUS X, RAIWAQA, PARISH NEWSLETTER

TO RESTORE ALL THINGS IN CHRIST

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3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER-YEAR B: 15.04.18

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.

Sunday Reflection: You are Witnesses

"It is I myself" (Luke 24:39)

The gospel for today has many similarities with the gospel for the Second Sunday of Easter (John 20:19-31). In both accounts the risen Christ appears to the disciples and stands "in their midst." In both, his first words are "Peace be with you," and then he shows them his hands, feet, and side. In both accounts the disciples move from terror to joy. Both stories end with a sending of the disciples in mission.

Despite the many similarities, the theological emphases in the two accounts are quite different. Luke's focus is on the identity of the risen Christ and his reality and tangibility. Unlike the story of Thomas in John's Gospel, which focuses on believing, in the Gospel of Luke, the reason for the disciples seeing and touching Jesus' hands and feet is to convince them that the Risen One is the same Jesus who was crucified, and who still bears the marks of this on his body, though he is real and alive.

Jesus is not just a memory that lives on, nor is he a haunting ghost; instead he is truly alive and tangible. Unlike the preceding Emmaus scene, where Jesus' eating with the two disciples is revelatory and eucharistic, in today's gospel Jesus' eating serves as proof that he is truly alive and tangible in bodily form.

PRAYING WITH SCRIPTURE

1. How is a deeper understanding of the Scriptures enabling you to be a witness to the risen Christ?
2. Allow the peace of Christ to heal any wounds you have.

Come and See: Program by the SMSM Sisters St Mary's Convent on 21st April from 9.00 – 3.30pm. Please contact 3311470 or 3301551 for more details.

Altar Servers meeting: Today at Fr Hurley Hall at 9.30am. Please bring along your 3B1 80 pages exercise book.

Youth Commission: Your 7 Steps this week with St Joan of Arc. Executive meeting on Wednesday, 18th April. Curry night postponed due to poor response.

Wheels of Time: Talanoa continues. Communities are being reminded again to hold talanoa sessions in your respective areas to discuss and reflect on the past 50 years of life in your communities. Special attention will be on the strengths of the community, 'the moments of grace', times of joy, achievements and events that have brought people together. Please keep a record of it for future generations and sharings in the parish hall with other communities. This should be properly organized and if possible, invite former members who may have moved from the area to share their experiences and have a reunion. You may invite the parish Jubilee team to your talanoa sessions for assistance.

Old Photos and Memorabilia: We continue to request your assistance in providing old photos and memorabilia of the parish. Please pass them in to the parish office or James Kamsoo (4B) for the parish history pictorial presentation during the Anniversary celebrations. This project ends in June. Please start bringing them in now.

Meanwhile, the Golden Jubilee Committee meets in the Board Room tomorrow night to discuss further planning.

Reverend Deacon John Fong (MSC)

A bus will leave Raiwaqa for the **Ordination** at Our Lady of the Assumption Parish, **Lomary**, on Saturday, 5th May, at 7.00am. The return fare is \$10. It will be on a first-come-first-serve basis. You can start paying in your fare in the parish office, but no later than 30th April. **Choir practice for his first Mass** will be held at 4.00pm today in the AB Mataca Hall. All are welcome.

The next meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council will be held in the AB Mataca Hall on Saturday, 21st April at 3.00pm. Rev John's first Mass on 6th May and the program afterwards will be finalized at the meeting.

Commission for Social and Ecological Justice: Barbara Edwards, Georgina Kivi, Ema Mua and Veronika Rausuvanua represented the parish at last Saturday's awareness program organized by the *Women at the Well Ministry* in response to the Archbishop's call for the Church to respond to the issue of sexual violence in Fiji today. The attendees will form a nucleus of the same in the parish. *Speakers comprised of representatives from the Women's Crisis Center, Department of Social Welfare, Methodist Women's Group, Sr Mariana and Fr Josefa Tuimavule.* The incidence of rape has continued to increase, particularly in Fiji. Most worrisome is the fact that the female folks have increasingly become victims of vicious rape in the country and nothing concrete appears to have been done to check the ugly trend, as most perpetrators of this heinous crime are often not brought to justice. A recent study on rape reveals that all these cases involve persons of both sexes within the sexually active adolescent bracket. Similarly, reliable sources disclose that no week passes without reports of rape cases and that rape matters are either not reported or are under reported, essentially due to cultural or social reasons.

Evangelization Commission news: The Commission meets after the 8.30am Mass today in the AB Mataca Hall. Evangelization reps please take note. A big thanks to Fr Carlo and parishioners for the very good turnout to the Divine Mercy procession and Mass last Sunday despite the weather. The talk on Adoration is moved to 19th May; more information to be published later. A big vinaka vakalevu to all members who turned up for yesterday's Seven Steps workshop. Ten out of the eleven communities were represented making it twenty five attendees in total. Prayer meetings continue as usual this afternoon starting with Marian Movement at 2.00pm. The Commission meets on Sunday, 15th April, after the 8.30am Mass.

Women of the Parish: Their *kati* was held last Saturday, 7th April, in the Parish hall at 11.00am. The list of winners can be found published at the back of the church. Thank you very much for your generous support of the WOP. The Women of the Parish will meet after the 8.30am Mass today from 10.00 – 11.00am. Parish Disaster Management Team Post Disaster Briefing this evening from 5.00pm – 6.00pm. CSEJ meeting tomorrow night from 7.30pm – 8.30pm. All members please take note.

Men of the Parish: 1st Pledge - \$4961; 2nd Pledge - \$4935; Special collection - \$112.85; Anonymous donor (volunteer for tiles) - \$3000. Total Men's Pledge - **\$13,008.85**. The project of the tiling of the church floor commences on Monday, 7th May. MOP requests the assistance of experts and specialists in rubber or PVC for the bottom of the bench frames to protect the proposed ceramic tiles. Failing this we will revert to the use of rubber tiles for the floor.

Lectors Training: The last session will be held after the 8.30am Mass today. All trainees please take note. Their Commissioning will take place on Sunday, 22nd April at the 8.30am Mass

Synod Launching Mass will be held on Pentecost Sunday, 20th May. Further details on the event will be published once information comes in from the Archdiocesan Liturgy Commission. Please keep reading this space for more.

Photo-shoot Session for Golden Jubilee Souvenir Magazine: Today, 22nd April from 10.00am – 11.00am, taken in front of the church. If the weather is not favorable the photo-shoot will be done inside the church. Other Commissions and Golden Jubilee Committee will have their pictures taken the following week. Today's photo-shoot is for:

- i) PPC Executives with the Parish Priest and Assistant Parish Priest
- ii) Parish Pastoral Council with the Parish Priest and Assistant Parish Priest
- iii) Liturgy Commission (Ministry leaders and community representatives) with PP and APP.
- iv) Evangelization Commission (Ministry leaders and community representatives) with PP and APP

Bibles for Sale: New Testament in Fijian (Na Veiyalayalati Vou ni Katolika) \$7.00 & Community Bible \$20.00.

Parish Renewal Program: will be opened on Sunday, 30th April during the 8.30am Mass. All Communities are asked to choose a date for Masses in their respective communities as part of the Renewal program and inform the office.

St Cecilia: Seven Steps this Tuesday at the Qalo's residence.

Kadavu St Pius X Parishioners: Choir practice after Mass on Wednesday, 19th April, in the parish hall. Mass is at Holy Eucharist Parish on Saturday, 21st April at 3.00pm. Special invitation to the '*vasus*'.

Fr Clement Wanesebua : Sends Easter greetings from San Miguel Parish in the USA. Columban seminarians Tekari and Mini have left Peru last Sunday for Fiji via Manila. Hope they will arrive back safely in Fiji this Sunday.

Thanks: To St Columban Community 5B for animating the Liturgy during the week & cleaning of the Church & compound. Community 6 starts tomorrow 16/04/2018.

Thanks for your generous Collections Last Week: 1st Collection: **\$680.10** 2nd Collection: **\$56.80** Voluntary Envelopes: **\$25.00**
Total Collection: **\$761.80**

Reading coming week: Third Sunday of Easter: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19; 1John 2:1-5; Luke 24:53-48 Monday 16/4: Acts 6:8-15; John 6:22-29 Tuesday 17/4 Acts 7:51—8:1; John 6: 30-35 Wednesday 18/4 Acts 8:1-8; John 6:35-40 Thursday 19/4 Acts 8:26-40; John 6:44-51 Friday 20/4 Acts 9:1-20; John 6:52-59 Saturday 21/4 Acts 9:31-42; John 6:60-69 **Fourth Sunday in Easter:** Acts 4:8-12; 1John 3:1-2; John 10:11-18