



ST PIUS X, RAIWAQA, PARISH NEWSLETTER

TO RESTORE ALL THINGS IN CHRIST

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4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER-YEAR B: 22.04.18

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 1 months before and are required to undertake preparation sessions. Guidelines available at the Parish Office.

RCIA: Session every Sunday after the 7am Mass.

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. Those intending to go can give in your names to Tina Poate after Mass today and due date for payment of fare is 30.04.2018. **The PPC will sit on Wednesday night in a special meeting to finalize food contributions and the program for after Thanksgiving Mass on Sunday, 6th May.** His first Mass will be at **9.00am.**

Parish Renewal Handbook: On Sunday 29th April Parish Renewal Handbook will be launched during the 8.30am Mass. Every Liturgy Commission and Evangelisation representative is required to attend the Mass for the presentation on the above mentioned date. For the **opening Mass on the 29th April** please bring your Mother Mary Statues to the 8.30am Mass. Communities yet to confirm venues and dates for Community Masses please contact the parish office.

Sunday Reflection:

The fourth Sunday of Easter is also called Good Shepherd Sunday. In each of the three lectionary cycles, our Gospel is taken from the 10th chapter of the Gospel of John. In Cycle B, we hear the middle verses of this chapter.

In the portion of the chapter that we hear proclaimed today, Jesus describes his relationship with his followers as similar to the relationship between a good shepherd and his sheep. As a good shepherd will risk and lay down his life in order to protect his sheep, Jesus willingly sacrifices himself for the sake of his sheep.

Jesus contrasts the actions of the good shepherd with the actions of the hired shepherd who abandons the sheep in the face of danger. In the verses following Jesus' teaching, we learn that the Pharisees and the other religious leaders understand that Jesus is referring to them when he describes the hired shepherds.

As with so much of John's Gospel, one hears in this passage John's particular focus on Christology. As the sheep are known by the Good Shepherd, the Father knows Jesus and Jesus knows the Father. There is an essential unity between the Father and the Son. The freedom with which Jesus acts when he lays down his life is rooted in the unity that he shares with his Father.

In this context, Jesus also refers to others with whom he shares a relationship. By this reference, John probably understands the eventual inclusion of the Gentiles in the Christian community. Our modern ears hear this as a reference to Christian unity. The work of ecumenism is to restore unity among all Christians so that we form one flock under one shepherd, as God desires.

St Peter Chanel Priest's Day: The Mass to celebrate St Peter Chanel Feast / Priest's Day will be held on **Saturday, 28th April at 8.30am.** The Mass will be followed by Breakfast in the AB Mataka Hall with our parish priests. All are welcome to join. Please bring a plate for the Breakfast.

Employment Opportunity: Representatives from GRID Security will be in the parish after Mass today at 10.15am. All interested in seeking employment in the Security industry are welcome to attend the presentation by GRID.

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

Inviting interested parishioners to a **Weekend at the Ashram**, 15th-17th June. **Theme:** "COME AND MEET JESUS".

Registration: \$90.00 includes transportation, Accommodation, and food. Bus departs Sacred Heart 5pm on Friday 15th June. Pay registration at Nicholas House and payment due date is 1st June. Organisers are the Archdiocese Retreat Ministry.

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 sharing 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.

Commission for Social and Ecological Justice: Archbishop calls for the Church to respond to the issue of sexual violence in Fiji today. *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.*

St Vincent de Paul Raiwaqa Conference: Evaluation will be held this Wednesday 25th April at the AB Mataka hall commencing at 7.15pm. Members please be reminded.

Evangelization Commission: Prayer meetings continue as usual this afternoon starting with Marian Movement at 2.00pm.

Lectors: The Commissioning of those that have completed faithfully the formulated training, will take place today at the 8.30am Mass. All lectors please take note.

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.. The **Synod Cross** arrives in the parish from St Agnes Parish at **7.30pm** on Thursday, 10th May. It will depart the parish at 3.00pm on Sunday, 13th May for Cathedral of the Sacred Heart Parish. We are all asked to support this part of the Synod program as we build towards Pentecost Sunday.

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

Liturgy: Parish Choir & Youths choir practice at 4pm today, Sunday 22nd April.

Youth Encounter Day: will be on Saturday, April 28 at 8am. Please, register today for the Youth Encounter Day.

Youth Curry Night will be on Friday, May 4 at 7:30pm at Fr. Hurley Hall. Please, support our parish youth.

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

St Cecilia Community: Seven Steps this Tuesday at the Saverio's residence 7.30pm.

St Joseph the Worker Community 2: Small Christian Community praying using the seven steps will be held on Tuesday 24/04/2018 at Tina Poate's residence commencing 7.30pm.

Thanks: To St Paul Community 6 for animating the Liturgy during the week & cleaning of the Church & compound. St Jacob Community 7A starts tomorrow 23/04/2018.

Thanks for your generous Collections Last Week: 1st Collection: **\$678.00** 2nd Collection: **\$124.00**
Voluntary Envelopes: **\$130.00** Total Collection: **\$932.00**

Reading coming week: Fourth Sunday in Easter: Acts 4:8-12; 1John 3:1-2; John 10:11-18 Mon [23/4/18] **St George:** Acts (11:1-18); John (10:1-10); Tue [24/4/18] Acts (11:19-26); (10:22-30); Wed [25/4/18] **Saint Mark, Evangelist:** 1 Peter (5:5-14); Mark (16:15-20); Thurs [26/4/18] Acts (13:13-25); John (13:16-20); Fri [27/4/18] Acts (13:26-33); John (14:1-6); Sat [28/4/18] **Saint Peter Chanel:** Acts (13:44-52); John (14:7-14); **Fifth Sunday of Easter** [29/4/18] Acts 9: 26-31; 1 John 3: 18-24; John 15: 1-8

A Blessed Sunday to one and all.