



# ST PIUS X, RAIWAQA, PARISH NEWSLETTER

## TO RESTORE ALL THINGS IN CHRIST

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### 6<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER-YEAR B: 06.05.18

#### 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:** 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 month before and are required to undertake preparation sessions. Guidelines available at the Parish Office. **RCIA:** Session every Sunday after the 7am Mass.

**Special Synod Prayer:** *Jesus, fill the Archdiocese of Suva with Your Holy Spirit, so that connecting In You and our neighbour, we be Your Heart and Mind, Eyes and Ears, Hands and Feet to all Creation. Amen.*

**Annual Parish Bazaar:** this year is on Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> July. The target per community is \$4500.

#### Sunday Reflection: Choosing and being chosen

The experience of being specially chosen by someone can be a welcome one. It might be as simple as someone choosing us to be on their team; or, some years later, to be their referee, when applying for a job; they trust us to give them a good reference. But being chosen can be even more significant still. At the root of every happy marriage is the fact that two people once chose and then kept on choosing each other. At the heart of every true friendship is a similar choice. Two people choose to be friends with each other; they valued their relationship as special and worthwhile. As in marriage, the choice must be mutual if the friendship is to last. When the choice is one-sided, there can be heartbreak for the one not chosen in return. One of life's really painful experiences is unrequited love.

In the gospel today Jesus uses this language of choice and friendship. He tells them (and us), "I chose you," "I call you friends." We can each hear those words as addressed to us. The disciples here represent us all. He has handed over his life for us all. Like St. Paul we can each say that the Son of God loved me and gave himself for me. In giving his life for us, Jesus chose us, personally, called each of us his friend. His words are to us, "You are my friends." The Mass makes present the self-giving death of Jesus in every generation, to every community that gathers for the Breaking of Bread. Right here and now he continues to speak those same words from the last supper, "You are my friends," "I chose you." But here's a thing: In our personal lives, choosing one means not choosing another. This is not the case with the good Lord, who is able to choose each of us equally. As Peter says in the first reading, "God does not have favourites."

**Sympathy Expressed:** To **The Kado Family** on the death of their mother Agnes who died on Sat. 28<sup>th</sup> April and was buried in the family plot in Rewa after Requiem Mass at Holy Eucharist Parish on Friday last 4<sup>th</sup> May. Agnes lived with her Daughter Cecelia in Milverton Road for some time. She is the mother of 14 children including Frs Fred (Australia and Paul USA. May she rest in peace.

**Congratulations: Belinda Fong and Edwin Gardner,** Melbourne Australia who were married here yesterday 5<sup>th</sup> May. They are wished happiness, and a long and blessed married life together.

**Congratulations to Fr John Fong MSC** on the occasion of his Ordination to the Priesthood in Lomary yesterday, Sat 5<sup>th</sup> May, and who celebrates his 1<sup>st</sup> Mass today in St Pius X Church Raiwaqa He is wished every blessing for many happy and fruitful years in God's Vineyard. You are all invited to the parish hall after Mass for formalities and lunch.

#### **The following is the proposed Programme for today:**

9.00am Mass;  
10.30am Gathering in the Hall;  
10.45am Sevusevu (St Michael's);  
11.15am Speech (Parish, Fr John Fong, Family)  
12.00pm Cutting of Ordination Cake, Presentation of Gifts  
12.30pm Lunch;  
1.30pm 1st Blessing by our newly ordained priest (Music Room);

**3.00pm End of Program.**

**The Logistics for the Day:**

**M.C. at the beginning of Mass in the Church – Tina Poate and in the Hall, Master Dan.**

**Kitchen staff – Women of Parish (WOP);**

**Serving of Lunch - Controlled Buffet (WOP)**

**Decoration/Preparation of Hall - WOP and St Michael's Community;**

**Juice / Water station - Marj and Joana;**

**Cutting of Cake and presentation of Gift - after speeches (before lunch) members of St Michael's involved; MOB.**

**Children have their food in the Fr Hurley Hall and must be (supervised)**

**Mixing grog Men of St Peter Chanel Community**

**We pray that it will be a great day's Celebration and Blessings. Vinaka Vakalevu.**

**May – Month of Parish Renewal:** Thanks to all Communities who have begun following the Renewal Program in earnest after last Sunday's launching. Please, check with your community leaders for the time and venue for Mass in your Community during this month. The first Community Mass was celebrated at St Cecilia's last Friday night. The Parish Elders Open Forum last Sunday was well attended too and was filled with rich sharing of personal experiences by senior members among others present. Meanwhile keep filling in the required details in your community booklets.

**Invitation to Ethnic Community Leaders:** The GJ Committee invites a representative, or two, from the following communities: Kiribas, Tongan, Rotuman, Samoan, Indo Fijian, I Taukei, Asian, and European to a special meeting on Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> May, at 1000 in the parish car port. The meeting is to discuss welcome ceremonies for the Archbishop during the Golden Jubilee in August. Meanwhile all communities are invited to start preparing a cultural entertainment item for the Jubilee celebrations main day program.

**Care and Respect for Parish Facilities:** While doing our utmost to maintain and improve on the look of parish facilities it is important that we in turn show care and respect for them. Please take responsibility over our parish assets and exercise maturity over their maintenance and upkeep. Kindly observe parish facility closing hours. Vinaka vakalevu.

**Church Tiling Project** as part of build up for GJ, commences tomorrow morning (Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> May) at 0830. The Men of the Parish are calling on parishioners who have time on their hands to join them in stripping the old tiles in preparation for the new. This is the most difficult part of the job, so the more hands, the better, please.

**CCD Classes** for Term 2 resume after the 0700 Mass next Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> May. All candidates preparing for the Sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Communion please take note.

**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.

**Synod Launching Mass** will be held on Pentecost Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> May. **The Synod Cross** arrives in the parish from St Agnes Parish at 7.30pm on Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> May. (But maybe in time for our 7.00pm Mass on this feast of the Ascension – negotiations are ongoing It will depart the parish at 3.00pm on Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Evangelization:** Prayer meetings continue as usual this afternoon starting with Marian Movement at 2.00pm – 4.00.

**Altar Servers Meeting:** Every Sunday after 8.30 Mass. Please bring your exercise books with you.

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

**Seven Steps** in all small Christian communities on Tuesday evening, 8<sup>th</sup> May, as part of Parish Renewal Process.

**St Peter Chanel Community 4A** house to house Rosary will continue with the procession of our lady except for Tuesdays when combined with 7 Steps Bible sharing.

**Thanks:** To St Theresa of the Child Jesus Community 7B for animating the Liturgy during the week & cleaning of the Church & compound. We invite St Cecelia's Community 1B to take over responsibilities from tomorrow, 07/05/2018.

**Thanks for your generous Collections Last Week:** 1<sup>st</sup> Collection: **\$709.35** 2nd Collection: **\$106.90**

Voluntary Envelopes: **\$38.00** Total Collection: **\$854.25**

**Reading coming week: Sixth Sunday of Easter** [6/5/18] Acts 10: 25-26, 33-35, 44-48; 1 John 4: 7-10; John 15: 9-17; Mon [7/5/18] Acts 16: 11-15; Jn 15: 26-16:4; Tue [8/5/18] Acts 16: 22-34; Jn 16: 5-11; Wed [9/5/18] Acts 17: 15, 22—18:1; Jn 16: 12-15; Thurs [10/5/18] **Ascension of the Lord** Acts 18: 1-8; Jn 16: 6-20; Fri [11/5/18] Acts 18: 9-18;

Jn 16: 20-23; Sat [12/5/18] Acts 18: 23-28; Jn 16: 23-28; ***Seventh Sunday of Easter*** [13/5/18] Acts 1: 15-17, 20a, 20c-26; 1 Jn 4: 11-16; Jn 17: 11b-19