



# ST PIUS X, RAIWAQA, PARISH NEWSLETTER

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## **SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 16TH JANUARY 2022**

### Reflection for Second Sunday In Ordinary Time

#### SEEKING HAVEN OR HEAVEN

Another Mystery of Light to reflect upon!! This time it is the Wedding feast at Cana. We must look beyond the embarrassment of the couple getting married to the Marriage Feast of the Lamb as the priest invites at Mass “Blessed are those called to supper of the Lamb”. The time has almost come. He is the New Wine for he completes the promises of the Old Testament. He is the Bridegroom completing the bridal picture with his Bride, the Church. It is all there in the Book of Revelation.

“Let us rejoice and be glad; let us praise his greatness! For the time has come for the wedding of the Lamb, and his bride has prepared herself for it. She has been given clean shining linen to wear.” (The linen is the good deeds of God’s people).

Then the angel said to me, “Write this; Happy are those who have been invited to the wedding feast of the Lamb.” And the angel added, “These are the words of God” (19:7-9).

This awesome act at Cana led Jesus’ disciples to believe in him. We, too, are led to Jesus through marriage. If we are not married let us be inspired by those couples who find meaning in their married lives. For those who are married let them be lights to those who have difficulties in their marriages and to those preparing for marriage. We must do everything we can to support our Family Life Commission.

Jesus’ parable about building a house on rock or on sand can be for those who are preparing for marriage. (Mt. 7:24-7). Couples must be sure they are building their love on rock otherwise they could be heading for some very stormy weather ahead with disastrous results. Not even Governments want the breakdown of family life.

A couple that starts living together, for whatever reason, are they just seeking a safe place, a haven, for themselves or will they have to readjust their sights for Heaven? As Alice Cooper sings, “I want take you to heaven that would make my day complete. You and me aren’t no movie star. What we are is what we are. We share a bed, some lovin’ and TV, yeah.” Couples must really want to be on track for a fruitful marriage that will give joy, peace and meaning to themselves and good example to others. It is not that all graces of Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist have dried up it’s just that they haven’t been tried enough.

# THE SYNOD ON SYNODALITY?

## A brief Summary!

The entire Church throughout the world entered into a synod since October 2021. Pope Francis opened the synod in Rome and every diocese across the whole world was called to celebrate the opening of the synod at the local level on Sunday, October 17. The theme for this synod is “FOR A SYNODAL CHURCH: COMMUNION, PARTICIPATION, AND MISSION”.

This process of sharing, reflecting, and listening at all levels across the entire Church will end in 2023!

The aim of the synod:

- to put synodality into practice from now onwards, in every diocese, parish, and country across the whole world. This calls all of us, at every level of the Church working together moving forward.

So what is synodality anyway?

- Synodality is a way of renewing the Church from her deepest roots, in order to be more united with one another and better carry out our mission in the world.
- So, this basically refers to the involvement and participation of the whole People of God in the life and mission of the Church.

Through this synod, the Church is saying: the voice of EVERYONE matters because God can talk through ANYONE -- not only bishops, priests, deacons, brothers, or sisters but ALL OF US!

## VAKAMACALA LEKALEKA

Na uto ni vakanananu ni Sinoti levu qo, ya meda duavata, vakaitavi ka yalovata ena noda bula ni cakacaka taki na matanitu ni Kalou.

Na i naki ni Sinoti levu qo, aya me vakataucokotaki ka veitalanoataki na vei vakasama ni tosotoso vou vata vaka lewe ni Ekelesia.

The team that represented our parish at the Central Eastern Synodality workshop in Lami Parish. will now facilitate to focus groups.

Focus groups for Discussions are as follows

- 1.Men over 50
- 2.Men 30-50
3. Women over 50
- 4.Women 30-50
- 5.Youth in Schools institution 15-20
- 6.Young Adults 21-30
- 7.Socio Economic Hardship /Poverty
- 8.LGBTI /GBV / Single Parents etc
- 9.Non Vaccinated
- 10.Other groups



SCHEDULE FOR FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSIONS			
FOCUS GROUPS	DATE	TIME	VENUE
Men 30-50	22nd Jan	9:30am -11am	Fr. Hurley Hall
Men over 50	22nd Jan	9:30am -11am	ABP Mataca Hall
Women 30-50	29th Jan	9:30am -11am	Fr. Hurley Hall
Women over 50	29th Jan	9:30am -11am	ABP Mataca Hall

## REMEMBERING OUR DEPARTED LOVED ONES...

**Please pray for the repose of the soul of Brother Peter Brown**, who passed away in Auckland on January 6th, aged 75. Br Peter was the head teacher of St Marcellin when, in 1982, and at the request of the parishioners of Raiwaqa parish, it officially became a co-ed school. He was head of school from 1981 to 1988, the last Marist Brother to hold that position.

Rest in eternal peace!



Br. Peter at  
St. Marcellin  
Fiji (1982)



Br. Peter  
four years  
ago (2018)

We remember also the late Marika Nasegai, who was the father Debra Ratuyada, St Peter Chanel 4A Leader. He was laid to rest at his village in Nadroga yesterday. May his soul and the souls of the departed rest in peace.

## PARISH NEWS

- **Congratulations** to Iowana Mataka and Osea Lewai of St Patrick Community 4B for exchanging vows in the Sacrament of Matrimony on Friday 14th January.

## TC CODY DONATIONS DRIVE

The Parish will be organizing a donation drive for those affected by TC Cody in Ba and Labasa. All those willing to donate clothes and non-perishable items can do so by dropping the donated items at the parish office. Those who wish to make a monetary donation can do so and will be issued with a receipt from the parish. All donations will go to both our sister parishes in Ba and Labasa.

## THANKS & APPRECIATION

Thank you for your generous contribution and the breakdown are as follows:

New Years Collection:	\$229.00
Christmas Envelopes	200.00
Sunday 2/1/22	393.40
Crib	59.00
Pledges	244.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>: \$1,125.40</b>

We would like to thank St Peter Chanel community 4A for animating the liturgy from Monday to Friday and also the church cleaning. We now invite St Patrick community 4B to take on this important responsibility from tomorrow.

- Welcome **Francis Xavier**, a Columban Seminarian who will be in the parish from 17th January for a couple days.

## **POSITION VACANT - MAINTENANCE OFFICER**

The person is responsible to be a Cleaner, Gardener, Carpenter

Needs to be: Trustworthy, reliable, hardworking, & punctual

For further information: contact 8672760 @ Stella Maris Primary School

## Meetings:

- Family Life Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday 19th at 6pm in the parish car port
- Eucharistic Ministers meet on Friday 21st Jan 2022 at 6.30pm at the Parish carport. All concern please note.
- Parish Pastoral Council met yesterday after the 5pm Mass at the Archbishop Mataka Hall. This was the first PPC meeting for the new year 2022!

### LITURGY ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Date	Communities	5:00pm	
22nd January	St. Peter Chanel	<b>St. Patrick, Community 4B to animate</b>	
	St. Michael		
	<b>St. Patrick</b>		
23rd January	Communities 5B & 7B to animate	<b>7:00am</b>	<b>9:00am</b>
		St Jacob	<b>St Theresa of the child Jesus</b>
		St Paul	St Joseph the Worker
		<b>St Columban</b>	St Cecilia
		St John the Baptist	St Joan of Arc



### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

<b>16/01</b>	<b>2nd Sunday in Ordinary time</b> - Isaiah 62:1-5 / 1 Cor 12:4-11 / John 2:1-11
<b>17/01</b>	Saint Anthony, [Abbot, Memorial] 1 Samuel 15:16-23 / Mark 2:18-22
<b>18/01</b>	1 Samuel 16:1-13 / Mark 2:23-28
<b>19/01</b>	1 Samuel 17:32-33, 37, 40-51/ Mark 3:1-6
<b>20/01</b>	[Saint Fabian, Pope and Martyr; Saint Sebastian, Martyr] 1 Samuel 18:6-9; 19:1-7 / Mark 3:7-12
<b>21/01</b>	Saint Agnes, [Virgin and Martyr, red, Memorial] 1 Samuel 24:3-21 / Mark 3:13-19
<b>22/01</b>	2 Samuel 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27 / Mark 3:20-21
<b>23/01</b>	<b>3rd Sunday in Ordinary time</b> - Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10 / 1 Cor 12:12-30 or 12:12-14, 27 / Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21