



# ST JOSEPH'S CATHEDRAL

## AVARUA RAROTONGA

# PARISH NEWSLETTER

MAY 2015

PHONE: (682) 26113

**SUNDAYS MASSESS**

9.00 AM      Maori  
 10.30 AM     English  
 5.30 PM      ADORATION/BENEDICTION

**WEEKDAY MASSES**

7.00 AM      MON.-FRI.  
 8.00AM       SATURDAY  
 CONFESSIONS AFTER MASS

**St Joseph's Cathedral Parish**

**Parish Priest:** Bishop Paul Donoghue,sm

Phone: (682)20817 – Office

(682)20692 – Residence

**St Joseph's Caathedral Parish Couoncil:**

Chair:            Carl Glassie  
 Assistants:      Joe Caffrey/Ron Patia  
 Treasurer:      Unakea Kauvai  
 Assistant:       Julie K. Cowan  
 Secretary:       Mousie Skews  
 Assistant:       Ruta Tomokino

**The Month of May:** Witin the cycle of a year, the Church unfolds the whole of the mystery of Christ, from his incarnation and birth until his ascension, the day of Pentecost, and the expectation of blessed hope and of the Lord's return....

In celebrating this annual cycle of Christ's mysteries, the Church honours with special love **Mary, the Mother of God**, who is joined by an inseparable bond to the saving work of her Son. In her the Church holds up and admires the most excellent effect of the redemption and joyfully contemplates, as in a flawless image, that which the Church itself desires and hopes wholly to be. SC 102,103.

**During the Month of May Rosaries will be recited daily in the Cathedral before Mass.**

**Mondays – Fridays:**    6.30 a.m.  
**Saturdays:**            7.30 a.m.  
**Sundays:**                8.30 a.m.

**Marian Procession:** There will be a procession of Our Lady on 31<sup>st</sup> – the last Sunday of May, beginning from Nukutere Colledge, to St Joseph's Grotto, to

St Joseph's Community Hall and ends at St Joseph's Cathedral.. This will begin at 5.00 p.m.

**Taperes responsible for the different venues.**

**Nukutere Home Science:** Takuvaine/Tutakimoa

Mysteries of the Rosary: Joyful

**St Joseph's Grotto:** Nikao/Panama:

Mysteries of the Rosary: Sorrowful

**St Joseph's Community Hall:** Tupapa/Marairenga

Mysteries of the Rosary: Mystery of Light

**St Joseph's Cathedral:** Avatiu/Ruatonga

Mysteries of the Rosary: Glorious

**Each Tapere is also responsible for decorating the alta/shriner.**

**Mother's Day: Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May:**

We wish all Mothers a very Happy Mother's Day. May you be surrounded by all your loved ones during this special day of yours. May Mary, our Mother, and Model of all Mothers, grant you abundant graces and blessings as you try to model your life according to hers. Thank you for your great love in nurturing your family like that of the Holy Family of Nazareth. Have a Wonderful and a very Happy Mother's Day!

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**Feastdays during the Month of May**

Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> May: St Joseph the Worker the husband of Mary.

Sat. 2<sup>nd</sup> May: St Athanasius, Bioshop

Wednes. 13<sup>th</sup> May: Our Lady of Fatima

## NEWS FROM BISHOP PAUL DONOGHUE

Fr Epiloka Pahia has been recalled by his Bishop, Soane Patita Paini Cardinal Mafi, and has taken up an appointment as parish priest in his home parish. Dioceses like Tonga which are blessed with vocations to the priesthood, come under pressure from various sources to share their priests. At this time, the more urgent need than ours is to train priests to staff the Pacific Regional Seminary in Suva. This year Tonga has five priests overseas training as seminary professors. Without professors for the seminary the seminary would not function. It is no longer possible to rely on professors from overseas, as they are simply no longer available. This is much the same for missionaries from the traditional sending countries. They too have a shortage of vocations.

Already, I have indicated to you that the short term solution to this situation of shortage of priests in our diocese is to have a Eucharistic Service led by a catechist. By taking this path, we are able to maintain not having to drop any of the current mass times. Each parish, whether large or small, has built up over the years a strong identity of itself and it would be a shame to lose this identity at this time. However, be warned that if numbers started to drop off at any of the present times, then the path taken in the likes of New Zealand and Australia, to first merge masses and secondly to merge parishes will become a possibility we have to face as a priest is limited to the number of masses he can celebrate in one day.

However, I hope it will not come to that drastic measure, as the third missionary of the Philippines priest should arrive in

July or August this year. And the diocese of Tonga has not abandoned us completely. When their situation improves, they will reconsider their commitment to the Diocese of the Cook Islands.

### **What is the difference between a Eucharistic Service and Mass?**

The first difference is that a Eucharistic Service is led by a non ordained minister and the mass is celebrated by an ordained minister such as the priest or the bishop himself.

The Liturgy of the Word in both the Eucharist Service and the Mass is nearly the same. That is from the entrance hymn until the Prayers of the Faithful. Strictly speaking when the priest preaches it is a **homily**. When a non ordained minister preaches it is said to be a **reflection**.

The major difference now comes in the celebration of the Liturgy of the Eucharist. A non ordained minister can not change the bread and the wine into the Body and Blood of Christ. He has not received the power to do this, which is received at the ordination of a priest. So in a Eucharistic Service you will notice no hosts or wine come up in the offertory procession. And there is no Eucharist prayer. This means after the collection the Eucharistic Service takes up with the Our Father. This is the main reason why a Eucharistic Service will be much shorter than a mass.

**The second major difference** occurs at communion. Ideally the host we receive at communion should have been consecrated at the mass we are attending and not taken from the tabernacle which

are the hosts of a previous mass. The reason is that the host that comes forward in the offertory procession is to be viewed as my personal gift, my offering. The words of the prayer used by the priest explains it well, "fruit of the earth and work of human hands". Whose hands? Yours. It is my placing myself on the altar to be offered by Christ. My offering is changed into the Body of Christ at the consecration and Christ comes back to me at communion. Ideally at a mass the host you eat has been consecrated at that mass. At a Eucharistic Service it will be a host from a previous mass.

I note in liturgical books Eucharistic Ministers are not to give blessings to people who can not receive communion. The Cathedral is already correct in this practice where all who wish to receive a blessing come to the priest. If there is no priest, which will be the case in the Eucharistic Service, those wishing to receive a blessing come to the Catechist who is representing the priest. I will write a formula for this blessing so that it is different from the words used by the priest.

### **Vocations.**

This is the year of the Consecrated Life, which means we are aware of the importance of religious life in our diocese, as witnessed by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny (sjc) , the congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary (ss.cc) , (Fr Damian and Fr. John), myself a Marist (sm) and formerly the Christian Brothers (cfc) and Daughters of Charity (dc). We are praying for vocations for all these congregations.

However, more importantly is the question of vocations to the Diocesan

Priesthood. Matavera parish asked the Nuncio when he was with them to talk about the lack of vocations. The Nuncio pointed out that today young people have many more choices than previously, which is a good thing and to be respected. It would be very wrong to put pressure on the young to be priests, brothers or sisters when they don't want to be. And not only for the individual involved but for the church itself. Recently Pope Francis warned religious not to accept unbalanced candidates as they will harm the religious order and the church. Selection of the candidate with the right motive is key here.

It is timely to remind myself as your bishop, the priests and Sisters to live our respective lives joyfully so that our life does look attractive to the young. And I ask you the parents and guardians to point out the value of priesthood or religious life to your children and present them positively. And perhaps timely to remind Nukutere College and St. Joseph's that one of your reason for existing is to be a source of vocations to the Diocese of Rarotonga.

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### **Prayer to St Joseph the Worker**

*Joseph, by the work of your hands  
And the sweat of your brow  
You supported Jesus and Mary –  
And had the Son of God as your fellow worker.*

*Teach us to see in my fellow workers  
The Christ who desires to be in them,  
That I may always be charitable  
And forbearing towards all.*

*Grant me to look upon the work with the eyes of  
faith so that I shall recognize in it, my share in  
God's creative activity and in Christ's work of our  
redemption,  
And so take pride in it.*

*And when it is burdensome, teach me  
To offer it to God in reparation for my sins*

*And the sins of the world. Amen .*

**Sunday Readings during May:**

**Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> May: 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter.**

**Readings:**

1. Acts 9: 26 – 31
2. 1 John 3: 18 – 24
3. John 15: 1 – 8

**Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> May: 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

**Readings:**

1. Acts 10: 25,26,34-35,44-48
2. 1 John 4: 7 – 10
3. John 15: 9 – 17

**Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> May: The Ascension of the Lord**

**Readings:**

1. Acts 1: 1 – 11
2. Ephesians 1: 17 – 23
3. Mark 16: 15 – 20

**Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> May: PENTECOST SUNDAY**

**Readings:**

1. Acts 12: 1 – 11
2. Galatians 5: 16 – 25
3. John 20: 19 – 23

**Sunday, 31<sup>st</sup> May: The Most Holy Trinity**

**Readings:**

1. Deuteronomy 4: 32-34, 39-40
2. Romans 8: 14 -17
3. Matthew 8: 16 – 20

**Feastdays during the month of May: (Cont.)**

**Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> May: St Matthias, apostle.**

**Wed., 20<sup>th</sup> May: St Bernadine of Siena**

**Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> May: Our Lady Help of Christians**

**Wed. 27<sup>th</sup> May: St Augustine of Cantebury**

## **APPRECIATION**

*A lot of things have taken place in our Parish and diocese since our last newsletter. The first thing that comes to mind is the visit of the Apostolic Delegate, His Excellency Archbishop Martin Krebs, to our shores. Many of you were involved in the preparation for his visit as well as the welcome reception at the Cathedral for the celebration of the Eucharist and the meals afterwards. To all we say thank you for the part you played to help with the smooth running of our function.*

*The Holy Week was on top of us soon after the Nuncio left our shores. All hands were on deck in the preparation of the Holy Week – young and old. The preparation of the Holy week was time consum-*

*ing, and the reward ? It was a grace-filled time for all as we entered into the spirit of the triumphant entry of Jesus to Jerusalem, His Last Supper with His Apostles, His suffering and death on the Cross and his Rising in Glory on Easter Sunday. In other words, it helps us to fully participate in the Liturgy of the Holy Week . So a big meitaki maata to all who contributed from the preparation of the liturgy, Music Ministry, altar servers, , all Taperes for cleaning the Cathedral and decorating the Church – all these, although insignificant they may be, help us all to fully participate to all the different ceremonies during the Holy Week. Last, but the most important of all, our sincere thanks and a big meitaki maata to Bishop Paul for leading us through during the Holy Week ceremonies, helping us to enter into the spirit of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ through your powerful, inspired and thought provoking homilies and sermons. Thank you Bishop for the challenges.*

*Accompanying Bishop Paul at all the services during the Holy Week and afterwards was Fr Damian who had served the people of the Cook Islands for more than sixty years. His quiet, and prayerful presence everyday at the celebration of the Eucharist is an inspiration to us all . Thank you Father for your life of prayer, dedication and service.*

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**Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> May: St Joseph the Worker, Husband of Mary.**

**Dignity of Work:**

*For St Joseph , his work as a carpenter was not merely a way of contributing to the support of the Son of God and his Virgin Mother, but created the environment for the life of the Holy Family itself. Thus work entered into the mystery of the incarnation, becoming an instrument of redemption. “All the work – bench where he plied his trade together with Jesus, Joseph brought human work closer to the mystery of the Redemption. This must be our starting point if we want to understand the deepest meaning of human work. God Himself wanted to make it his own.*

*Dear St Joseph – Pray for us and our families.*