



# ST JOSEPH'S CATHEDRAL

## AVARUA RAROTONGA

# PARISH NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 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 Cathedral Parish Council:**

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

#### **Sunday Readings for July:**

**Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> September.** 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time.

#### **Readings:**

1. Numbers 11: 25 - 29
2. James 5: 1 - 6
3. Mark 9:38 - 43, 45, 47 - 48

**Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> October: 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time.**

#### **Readings:**

1. Genesis 2: 18 - 24.
2. Hebrews 2: 9 - 11.
3. Mark 10: 2 - 16

**Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> October: 28<sup>th</sup> Sun. in Ordinary Time**

#### **Readings:**

4. Wisdom 7: 7 - 11
5. Hebrews 4: 12 - 13.
6. Mark 10: 17 - 30

**Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> October : 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time.**

**Mission Sunday**

#### **Readings:**

1. Isaiah 53: 10 - 11

2. Hebrews 4: 14 - 16

3. Mark 10: 35 - 45.

**Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> October: 30<sup>th</sup> Sun. in Ordinary Time**

#### **Readings:**

1. Jeremiah 31: 7 - 9.
2. Hebrews 5: 1 - 6
3. Mark 10: 46 - 52.

### **APPRECIATION**

Meitaki maata:

Our sincere thanks to the **Tutakimoa Tapere**, Mamas who looked after the cleaning of the Cathedral inside and its environs during September.

Thank you too our **catechists** for the Eucharistic services. Thanks also to the altar **servers, music ministry and readers** who turned up faithfully each morning.

Our gratitude to those too who prepared evening devotions on Cook Islands Radio, earlier in the month.

Congratulations to **Nukutere College** for their drama evening using the theme for the Year of Consecrated life "Wake up the World". Also the focus on the values of the college arising out of its catholic character.

During October it will be the turn of **Ruatonga Tapere** to clean the church and compound.

**EUCCHARISTIC SERVICES. (October)**

**27<sup>TH</sup> September:** Sacred Heart Matavera.

**4<sup>th</sup> October.** None, as Fr John Rovers will be on Rarotonga.

**11<sup>th</sup> October.** St. Paul's Titikaveka.

**18<sup>th</sup>. October.** St. Mary's Arorangi Service  
St.Paul's Mass 9.00 am.  
Sacred Heart Matavera  
Confirmation mass at 10.30 am.

**25<sup>th</sup> October.** Cathedral 9.00 am.

**The Month  
of October—  
Traditionally  
the Month of  
the Rosary**

**Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary Said on Mondays and Saturdays.**

The Joyful Mysteries are taken mostly from St. Luke's Gospel in the New Testament. They involve the joyful events of Jesus' childhood. The most joyful event in all of human history is the Incarnation or when God became man and dwelt among us.

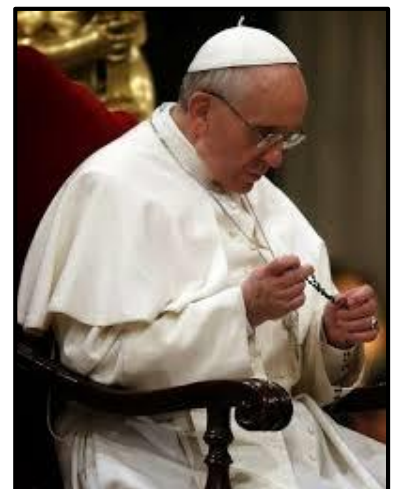
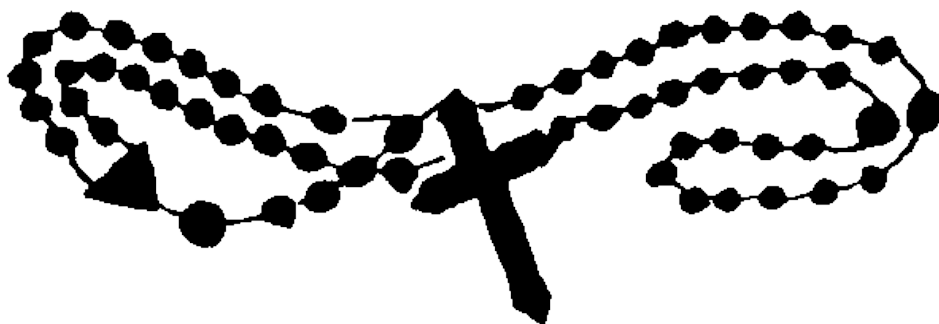
**Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary Said on Thursdays.**

What a gift the Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary are. Meditating on these Mysteries of Light bring even deeper understanding of the public life of Jesus. They fill in the blanks between Jesus' childhood and His suffering and death on the cross.

**Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary Said on Tuesdays and Fridays.** The Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary remind you of how much Jesus loves you. He suffered and died for you. "Greater love than this no man hath, that a man lay down his life for his friends." -John 15:13. You are loved by Jesus

**Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary Said on Wednesdays and Sundays.**

The Glorious Mysteries are the crown of Jesus' triumphs. How exhilarating to know that Jesus is God and that He rose from the dead, making you an heir to Heaven. Reminding yourself of these glorious events as you pray the Rosary prayer will keep your faith alive and strong



## SACRED MUSIC AT LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS

At the recent meeting of our CEPAC bishops in Suva we had a day's workshop on the influence of new religions on the traditional religions such as our own Catholic Church. The big question asked was: "Are we losing our faithful to these new religions and what can be done to prevent it?" One means of prevention is to ensure our liturgical celebrations such as the mass are done well.

I share with you an email I received last month from a visitor who attended mass in the cathedral while visiting the Cook islands. "It was our family's great pleasure to attend a mass at St Joseph's in Avarua while holidaying in Rarotonga in June this year. We have been fortunate to visit the island a number of times over the years - it feels like a second home to us, and going to St Josephs is always a highlight. This particular mass stood out, the music and singing were beautiful, and your homily most thought provoking and educational. I left the church that day feeling the presence of God, not wanting to speak, just somehow staying in the magical bubble ... this was never going to happen as we had our five children with us!

While aware of the maxim that if something is working well, don't touch it, my aim in writing today is not asking for change. My purpose is to explain some guiding principles that may help those in the music ministry and those overall preparing liturgies as it is not a matter of anything goes.

### What is sacred music?

"Sacred music is "that which, being created for the celebration of divine worship, is endowed with a certain holy sincerity of form," Sacred music surpasses merely religious music when it is joined to the liturgical rite to become "a necessary and integral part of the solemn liturgy," whose purpose is "the glory of God and the sanctification of the faithful" .

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"As a manifestation of the human spirit," Pope John Paul II said in 1989, "music performs a function which is noble, unique, and irreplaceable. When it is truly beautiful and inspired, it speaks to us more than all the other arts of goodness, virtue, peace, of matters holy and divine. Not for nothing has it always been, and will it always be, an essential part of the liturgy."

### What are the characteristics of sacred music?

"Pope Saint John Paul II urged us to revisit and learn from St. Pius X. Pope Pius X distinguished three characteristics of sacred music:

1. it must possess holiness and beauty of form:
2. from these two qualities a third will spontaneously arise — universality".

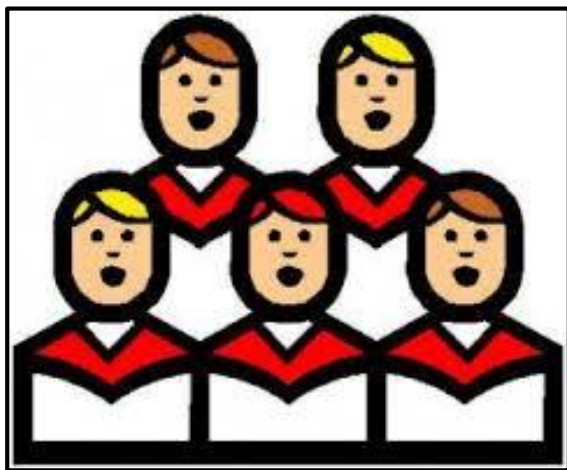
" **Concerning holiness**, for music to be sacred means it is not the ordinary, not the every-day. It is set aside for the purpose of glorifying God and edifying and sanctifying the faithful. It must therefore exclude all that is not suitable for the temple — all that is ordinary, every-day or profane, not only in itself, but also in the manner in which it is performed. The sacred words of the Liturgy call for a sonic vesture that is equally sacred. Sacredness, then, is more than individual piety; it is an objective reality".

“Concerning *beauty*, the Latin speaks more precisely “excellence of forms.”

This refers to the tendency of sacred music to synthesize diverse ritual elements into a unity, to draw together a succession of liturgical actions into a coherent whole, and to serve a range of sacred expressions. Excellence of forms also serves to differentiate those elements, to distinguish the various functions of liturgical chants by revealing their unique character”.

“Sacred music must be *true art*, says Pope Pius, “otherwise it will be impossible for it to exercise on the minds of those who listen to it that efficacy which the Church aims at obtaining in admitting into her liturgy the art of musical sounds.” Beauty is what holds truth and goodness to their task. Beauty, as expressed in the Church’s liturgy, synthesizes diverse elements into a unified whole: truth, goodness, and the human impulse to worship”

“Concerning **universality**, sacred music is supra-national, equally accessible to people of diverse cultures. The Church does admit local indigenous forms into her worship, but these must be subordinated to the general characteristics of the received tradition. By insisting on the continuous use of her musical treasures, especially chant, the Church ensures her members grow up hearing this sacred musical language and receive it naturally as a part of the liturgy.”



**Let me conclude by summarizing the main points:**

1. Sacred music is created for the liturgical celebration of divine worship.
2. Sacred music is not an incidental addition.
3. Sacred music is distinguished from other religious music, which uses non liturgical forms, styles or texts.
4. Sacred music must be true art.
5. The music of the Church has proved itself accessible to people of diverse cultures.
6. The liturgy engages the whole person in all his or her faculties, elevating the spirit and senses to convey truth.
7. The liturgy has its own criteria apart from personal tastes.
8. Not all musical forms or texts are suitable in liturgies, such as the mass.

Our music ministry in our liturgies enables us to worship God fittingly. St. Augustine stated “ He who sings prays twice”. It encourages those attending, not do so passively, but to participate and belong. So good liturgy unites. Done well, it attracts outsiders..

I end by thanking all our liturgists, musicians and sacristans for their generosity in order that we might have good liturgy.

The quoted parts of this article are taken from the Catholic Liturgical Library in an article written by Msgr. Richard Schuler.

