



Diocese  
of Dunedin

# Alexandra Catholic Pastoral Area

Omakau (1870) Alexandra (1924) Roxburgh (1950)

[www.alexatholic.nz](http://www.alexatholic.nz)

**Parish Priest**  
Rev Fr Vaughan Leslie  
Cell: 027 385 9615  
[frvupleslie@yahoo.com](mailto:frvupleslie@yahoo.com)

**Presbytery**  
7 Killarney Street  
Alexandra 9320  
Ph: 03 448 8202  
[alexatholic@xtra.co.nz](mailto:alexatholic@xtra.co.nz)

**Parish Pastoral Council Chair**  
Mr Brian Mclean

**Finance Committee  
& Maintenance Team Chair**  
Mr Doug Stanaway

**Catholic Social Services**  
0800 277 669 (toll-free)  
Ph: 03 448 5385 (Mon-Wed)

**St Gerard's School**

**Principal**  
Mrs Trina Eastwood  
**Director of Religious Studies**  
Mrs Claire Dwyer  
**Board Chair**  
Mrs Ellen Middendorf  
Ph: 03 448 8339  
[office@stgerards.school.nz](mailto:office@stgerards.school.nz)



## Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Respect Life Sunday)

14 October 2018; Year B / Weekdays Year 2

### MASS TIMES

#### Sundays

**Omakau** 6:00pm Vigil (Sat)  
**Alexandra** 9:00am  
**Roxburgh** 11:00am

#### Weekdays

##### Alexandra

Tuesday 5:00pm (side chapel)  
Wednesday 9:00am (side chapel)  
Thursday 9:00am (side chapel)  
Friday 12:00pm (church)  
Saturday 9:00am (side chapel)

##### Roxburgh

Wednesday 5:15pm (church)

### RECONCILIATION

**Alexandra**  
Saturday 11:30am-Noon  
(or on request)

### ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Quarterly

**Alexandra**  
Friday 12:00pm  
(1<sup>st</sup> Fri of the months of Mar, Jun, Sep, Dec)

**Roxburgh**  
Wednesday 5:15pm  
(1<sup>st</sup> Wed of the months of Mar, Jun, Sep, Dec)

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### OTHER CENTRAL OTAGO PARISHES SUNDAY MASS TIMES

**Ranfury** 5:00pm (Sun) or  
4:00pm during daylight  
savings

(All pastoral care from South Dunedin,  
Parish Priest: Fr Gerard Aynsley, Ph: 03 455 8933)

**Queenstown** 6:30pm Vigil (Sat)  
9:00am

**Arrowtown** 11:00am  
**Garston** 11:00am (2<sup>nd</sup> Sun)  
**Glenorchy** 11:00am (4<sup>th</sup> Sun)

**Cromwell** 11:00am (1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Sun)  
9:00am (2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> Sun)  
**Wanaka** 9:00am (1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Sun)  
11:00am (2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> Sun)

**Sunday Readings:** Wis 7:7-11; Heb 4:12-13; Mark 10:17-27

### Responsorial Psalm

Fill us with your love, O Lord, and we will sing for joy!

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Happy the poor in spirit;  
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!  
Alleluia!

### Communion Antiphon

The rich suffer want and go hungry,  
but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.



**Died Recently**  
Moyra Mooney

**Anniversaries**

**Requiescant  
in Pace**

**CONFIRMATION / FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION**—Sessions are now running. A downloadable timetable is available at <http://www.alexatholic.nz/sacramental-programme.html> Session 4 Thurs 18 Oct, 6:30pm. **Please Note:** last session date has changed.

**ALEXANDRA CHURCH FLOWER ARRANGING**—We are in need of volunteers who would like to take turns arrange flowers in the church during the summers months. If you are interested please contact Kathleen Fahey: 03 448 5033.

**MARRIAGE PREPARATION WEEKEND FOR ENGAGED COUPLES AND ALREADY MARRIED COUPLES LOOKING TO DEEPEN THEIR RELATIONSHIP**—3-4 November at Tirohanga Camp near Mosgiel. Cost \$200 per couple which covers all food and accommodation. Children are welcome (there will be activities and care arranged for them). You can register online at [www.cdd.org.nz](http://www.cdd.org.nz). For more information please contact Jo Krysa at [jokrysa@hotmail.com](mailto:jokrysa@hotmail.com)

**LIGHT PARTY**— is **looking for volunteers** to help on Saturday 27 October with setting up the temporary fencing and any other jobs that might need doing. Depending on how many helpers we have, this should be finished by about 2pm. Please contact parish reps Sally Ferreira or Loretta Fonseca if you can help.

**OASIS OP SHOP**—Russell St (opposite Go Bus) Opening Hours Tues - Fri 11am-3pm. We now have a great range of Summer Clothing in store and clothing suitable for everyone.



### “WITH THE YOUTH WE PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL”

Next weekend our parish will be holding the annual Pontifical Mission Societies (MISSION-NZ) Appeal. This year we are invited to consider how we can answer Pope Francis' call to be a part of mission especially to the many youth of today, and how we can support mission globally. Please come prepared next weekend to give generously.

### COLLECTIONS September 2018

Alexandra & Omakau Parish	\$4,152
Roxburgh Parish	\$ 572
Pastoral Area Presbytery	\$2,368

## CANONISATION OF OSCAR ROMERO AND JUSTICE AND PEACE HUI

This Sunday, 14 October, is the day that Oscar Romero, the courageous South American champion of Social Justice, will be canonised.

**God's reign is already present on our earth in mystery. When the Lord comes, it will be brought to perfection. That is the hope that inspires Christians. We know that every effort to better society, especially when injustice and sin are so ingrained, is an effort that God blesses, that God wants, that God demands of us!**

*Archbishop Romero March 24, 1980 in the homily delivered moments before his death*

Oscar Romero can inspire us all in seeking a more just and peaceful world. Just Peace in Dunedin is exploring the possibility of hosting a Diocesan Justice and Peace hui, similar to the one held in Gore 10 years ago. While this is still only in the planning stages we invite you to set aside March 23, 2019.



**ALEXANDRA  
LIGHT PARTY**

**SATURDAY 27TH OCTOBER, 4-7PM**

**FOR CHILDREN IN SCHOOL YEARS 1-8: PARENT SUPERVISION REQUIRED**

**BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE COMBINED CHURCHES OF ALEXANDRA**

**PLEASE SUPPORT US BY PLACING WRAPPED LOLLIES OR BALLOONS IN THE BOX OR SEE YOUR CHURCH REPRESENTATIVE OF HOW YOU CAN HELP ON THE DAY**

## Respect Life Sunday Pastoral Letter

14 October 2018

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ ,

E te whānau whakaponu a te Karaiti

Praising God for the gift of life is common to all world religions. Deep down in the heart of every person is the knowledge that life is precious and often fragile.

The worldwide human family recently experienced this belief as we watched with bated breath the heart-warming rescue mission of the Thai boys trapped in a cave. How fitting it was that all the boys, soon after their rescue, went to a monastery for a month's retreat as an act of respect for the one who had sacrificed his life saving theirs.

Respect Life Sunday reminds us that every day is an opportunity to reflect on the insight that life, far from being random or an act of self-determination, is in fact a gift.

The beautiful gift of parenthood is a collaboration with God in the creation of a new person made in God's image and likeness. It is sometimes said that every child is the fruit of God's love and their parents' love, "given a name".

Sometimes, however, the gift of life is not experienced as this profound communion of love, family and joy. Parenthood can be shattered or tested in a number of ways that cry out for mercy, tenderness, accompaniment and deep understanding. When grief or loss or regret come between a parent and a child - or the hope for a child - we see human nature itself express her pain and anguish.

Today, as shepherds or hēpara, we stand close to those of you who carry the heavy pain and grief of an abortion. Sometimes that anguish, when shared, met with a cold

detached judgement. That was wrong. We encourage those of you who need the burden of regret lifted, to share your story, and, in the words of Jesus, "find rest for your soul" (cf. Mt 11:29-30).

Others carry the pain and grief of what we might call 'empty arms' in different ways:

perhaps the result of an inability to conceive; or the miscarriage of a deeply desired but never held baby;

perhaps a child still-born and held only in death; or the result of having parented embryos that will never be implanted;

perhaps a child given for adoption, a child given away into the arms of others;

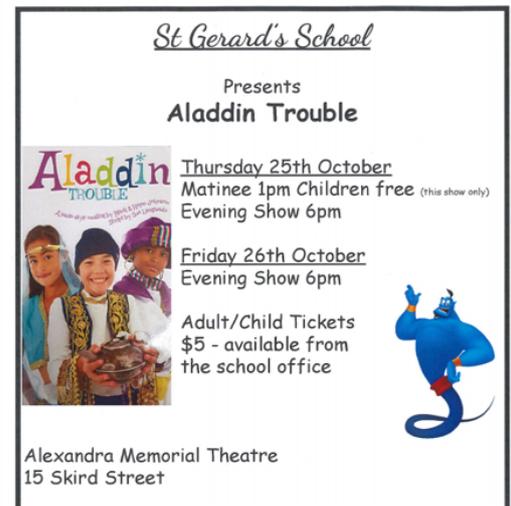
or a child who died prematurely through illness or accident, a child no longer present to be held; or perhaps a child now estranged or distant whom you entrust to the care of the Saints and the compassion of fellow human beings.

Pope Francis has called for a revolution of tenderness in our world. In that spirit, we offer today not explanations or answers but the assurance of listening hearts and humble prayers: for courage, for healing and forgiveness where needed, and for renewed purpose in our lives.

A burden or pain shared is one that is lightened. For some of you, telling your story to another person will bring forth a kind of sacred space of deep, respectful listening; an encounter in which you will feel God's healing love. We might mourn, we might marvel and above all – for all of us – may we come to experience anew that we are the deeply loved

family of God. And may we continue to build parishes where doors are open and all are made to feel at home.

- + Patrick Dunn, Bishop of Auckland
- + Steve Lowe, Bishop of Hamilton
- + Charles Drennan, Bishop of Palmerston North
- + John Dew, Cardinal Archbishop of Wellington
- + Paul Martin, Bishop of Christchurch
- + Michael Dooley, Bishop of Dunedin



*St Gerard's School*  
Presents  
**Aladdin Trouble**

**Thursday 25th October**  
Matinee 1pm Children free (this show only)  
Evening Show 6pm

**Friday 26th October**  
Evening Show 6pm

Adult/Child Tickets  
\$5 - available from  
the school office

Alexandra Memorial Theatre  
15 Skird Street

### NEXT WEEK

**21 Oct Readings:** Isa 53:10-11, Heb 4:14-16, Mark 10:42-45

### 21 Oct Rosters

**Greeters:** L Anderson (Alex); B Robb (Roxb).  
**Projector:** Jane (Omak); M O'Connor (Alex); G Dyson (Roxb).  
**Altar Servers:** Dani Irving-Dowling, Jacob Fonseca (Alex).  
**Intro/POF:** E Middendorf (Alex).  
**Readers:** A Kinney (Omak); A Kinney (Alex); K Robb (Roxb).  
**Offertory:** W Donnelly (Omak); A & J Kinney (Alex); Roos Family (Roxb).  
**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:** G Flannery (Omak); K Fahey, R Bond, J Parbhu (Alex); J McKinnel (Roxb).  
**To the Sick:** K Kahey, R Bond (Alex).  
**Sacristan:** J Hogue (Alex).  
**Cleaning:** W Donnelly (Omak); J Kinney, J Cossens (Alex); E Reid (Roxb).