



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 Primary 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)



CHRISTCHURCH  
13 MARCH 2019

## Sixth Sunday of Easter

26 May 2019; Year C / Weekdays Year 1

### MASS TIMES

#### Sundays

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

#### Weekdays

##### Alexandra

Tuesday 5:00pm (NO MASS)  
Wednesday 9:00am (NO MASS)  
Thursday 9:00am (NO MASS)  
Friday 12:00pm (NO MASS)  
Saturday 9:00am (side chapel)

##### Roxburgh

Wednesday 5:15pm (NO MASS)

### ADORATION & BENEDICTION

##### Alexandra

Friday 11:00am—Noon  
(11:45am Benediction)

### RECONCILIATION

##### Alexandra

Saturday 11:30am-Noon  
(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 PARISH SUNDAY MASS TIMES

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

**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)

**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)

**Sunday Readings:** Acts 15:1-2,22-29; Apocalypse 21:10-14,22-23;  
John 14:23-29

### Responsorial Psalm

O God, let all the nations praise you!

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,  
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.  
Alleluia!

### Communion Antiphon

If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord,  
and I will ask the Father and he will send you another Paraclete,  
to abide with you for ever, alleluia.



**Died Recently**  
Josephine Sim

#### Anniversaries

Peter Paulin  
Maureen Skelton  
Myra Cahill  
Bishop Boyle  
Eileen & John  
Ferguson

Requiescant  
in Pace

**FR VAUGHAN ON LEAVE**—Mon-Friday this week. Hence, there will be no Mass these days; however, there will be Adoration on Friday at the normal time. If you are in need of a priest during this time please call his cell phone 027 385 9615.

**SEMINARIAN SPONSORSHIP NEEDED**—Bishop Michael is looking for a small group of parishioners from around the diocese who may be able to become sponsors of our seminarians over the next four years. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor please contact Fr Vaughan.

**OASIS OP SHOP**— Russell St, Alexandra, Hours: Tuesday-Friday 11am -3pm.

**WEEKLY HOLY HOUR**—Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament occurs in the Alexandra church of St John the Baptist each Friday, 11am-Noon (concluding with Benediction at 11:45am). Come along and spend some quiet time in prayer before the Lord.

**THE COMMUNITY PANTRY**—If you do wish to contribute, some needs at this time are: 2 Minute Noodles, sugar, table spread (or Margarine) and tomato sauce. Also, person hygiene needs such as soap, toothpaste, etc., are always welcome.

### ST GERARD'S SCHOOL YOUNG VINNIES BAKE SALE! THIS WEEK!

This year at St Gerard's we have a Young Vinnies Group, made up of 13 Year 7 and 8 students who volunteer their time to help in a variety of ways in our community. This Term, they have decided to have a Bake Sale! The bake sale is to raise money to help local initiatives, for example buying food that is needed for the Community Pantry.

**When:** Sunday 26 May **Where:** St John the Baptist Church (After Mass);  
cash sales only.

### ST FRANCIS XAVIER SCHOOL CENTENARY—25 & 26 October 2019

St Francis Xavier School, Mornington Dunedin is celebrating their 100th centenary at Labour Weekend 2019. Calling all past and present pupils, families and staff, come along and celebrate 100 years of our fantastic school community. There will be many opportunities to share your stories, photos and catch up with old friends over the two days. Follow us on Facebook: St Francis Xavier School Centenary Labour Weekend 2019 To register contact us by calling the school office on 03 4534446 or email [reunion@stfrancisxavier.school.nz](mailto:reunion@stfrancisxavier.school.nz)

## US: Bishop's Pro-Life Chair Applauds State Legislation

'The trend of states passing pro-life legislation is a very encouraging move toward ensuring that our society cherishes unborn children and their most basic right to life.'

24 May 2019—[ZENIT](#)

The chairman of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities, Archbishop Joseph Naumann of Kansas City, Kansas, has issued a statement regarding states recent passing of pro-life legislation.

The full statement follows:



"Every single human life has value. The trend of states passing pro-life legislation is a very encouraging move toward ensuring that our society cherishes unborn children and their most basic right to life. The pro-life movement has always had two critical goals: increasing support for mothers and children and eliminating the tragedy of abortion. Our march for justice and human rights for unborn children will not be complete until they are recognized and protected as persons by the law. Our ultimate objective, however, is for abortion to be unthinkable. As we celebrate these pro-life legislative victories, we reiterate our commitment to supporting all mothers with the care and resources they need. The Church stands ready to help and welcome them."



## Catholic Church Confirms Commitment to National Harmony in Sri Lanka

'It is painful to remember that the country suffered so much because of the civil war.'

23 May 2019—[ZENIT](#)

While Sri Lanka celebrated, on May 18, the 10th anniversary of the end of a war with the Tamil rebels, "the Catholics of Sri Lanka, in a moment of tension and fear after the Easter attacks, confirm their commitment to the common good, sustainable development, peace, security and reconciliation in the country", said to Fides News Agency Leo Fernando, a lay Catholic in Colombo.

Fernando told Fides: "It is painful to remember that the country suffered so much because of the civil war. In recent times that immense suffering has returned in our lives, with the Easter attacks that killed 258 people, and now we find ourselves having to face the challenge of religious extremism and terrorism."

The Sinhalese (majority) and the Tamils

(ethnic minority) are the two main groups that make up the nation. The civil war lasted 26 years, which started in 1983 and caused over 100,000 dead. Several cases related to this conflict are currently being examined by the UN Human Rights Council, which assesses human rights violations committed at the end of the war. Ten years after the end of the conflict, the United Nations estimated that 40,000 civilians were killed in the last few months of the fighting when the government launched the final attack on the Tamil Tigers and urged Sri Lanka to investigate alleged crimes of war committed by both parties. Meanwhile, in the nation, the disputes and claims existing between the two communities, Sinhalese and Tamil, continue to hinder the process of national reconciliation.

In this scenario, the Catholic Church is working hard to promote peace, harmony, and reconciliation, es-

pecially through Caritas Sri Lanka, and the Conference of Major Superiors in Sri Lanka.

"The Church's efforts have contributed to greatly improving relations between the two communities", highlights Fr. Edmond Thilakarathna, spokesman for the Church in Sri Lanka, to Fides. The Catholic Church in Sri Lanka has baptized both those who belong to the Sinhalese community and the Tamil communities. That is why "it helps promote harmony, peace, reconciliation, and brotherhood in a pluralistic society," he pointed out.

The National Commission for Justice, Peace and Human Development of the Bishops' Conference of Sri Lanka has launched numerous innovative initiatives to contribute to reconciliation. The apostolate as a whole, which includes activities in the fields of education, health, social development, and other pastoral activities, is oriented towards the meeting between the two communities, to heal the wounds of the past and promote friendship, mutual trust, and reconciliation.

Sri Lanka is a multi-ethnic country with 22 million inhabitants, mostly Buddhists, but includes Christian, Muslim, and Hindu minorities. Muslims represent almost 10 percent of the population; Christians 7.4 percent (6.1 percent Catholics and 1.3 percent Protestants).

### NEXT WEEK

**2 June Readings:** Acts 1:1-11 ; Ephesians 1:17-23; Matthew 28:19. 20

### 2 June Rosters

**Greeters:** T Schaumann (Alex); (Roxb).

**Projector:** Joan (Omak); J Dunlay (Alex); (Roxb).

**Altar Servers:** Tara Mulholland, Joshua Brown, Dilan Wijetunga (Alex).

**Intro/POF:** M Eastwood (Alex).

**Readers:** J Paulin (Omak); C Sawers (Alex); (Roxb).

**Offertory:** W Donnelly (Omak); Brown Family (Alex); (Roxb).

**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:** J Kinney (Omak);

T Eastwood, J Parbhu, C Grieve (Alex); (Roxb).

**Sacristan:** J Dunlay (Alex).

**Cleaning:** W Donnelly (Omak); P O'Connor, C Mackie (Alex); (Roxb).