



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)



## Feast of the Most Holy Family

30 December 2018; Year C / Weekdays Year I

### MASS TIMES

#### Sundays

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

#### Weekdays

##### Alexandra

|           |         |                |
|-----------|---------|----------------|
| Tuesday   | 9:00am  | <b>CLYDE</b>   |
| Wednesday | 9:00am  | (side chapel)  |
| Thursday  | 9:00am  | <b>NO MASS</b> |
| 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

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| <b>Ranfury</b> | 5:00pm (Sun) or<br>4:00pm during daylight<br>savings |
|----------------|--|

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

|                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Queenstown</b> | 6:30pm Vigil (Sat) |
|                   | 9:00am             |

|                  |         |
|------------------|---------|
| <b>Arrowtown</b> | 11:00am |
|------------------|---------|

|                |         |                       |
|----------------|---------|-----------------------|
| <b>Garston</b> | 11:00am | (2 <sup>nd</sup> Sun) |
|----------------|---------|-----------------------|

|                  |         |                       |
|------------------|---------|-----------------------|
| <b>Glenorchy</b> | 11:00am | (4 <sup>th</sup> Sun) |
|------------------|---------|-----------------------|

|                 |         |   |
|-----------------|---------|---|
| <b>Cromwell</b> | 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)                   |

|               |         |   |
|---------------|---------|---|
| <b>Wanaka</b> | 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:** 1 Sam 1:20-22, 24-28; 1 John 3:1-2, 21-24;  
Luke 2:41-52

### Responsorial Psalm

They are happy who dwell in your house, O Lord.

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Open our heart, O Lord,  
to listen to the words of your Son.  
Alleluia!

### Communion Antiphon

Our God has appeared on the earth,  
and lived among us.



### Died Recently

#### Anniversaries

Joseph Tohill  
Patrick Tohill  
Mary Ellen Taylor

### Requiescant in Pace

**NEW YEAR'S DAY MASS**—Tue 1 Jan, Feast of Mary Mother of God. 9:00am Mass will be celebrate in St Dunstan's Church, Clyde. **Please note:** No 5pm Mass in Alexandra that day. There will also be no 9am Mass in Alexandra on Thursday this week.

**PARISH HALL**—The Parish Finance Committee, in consultation with St Gerard's School and the Diocese, are in the process of integrating the Hall into the school buildings. This means the running costs and maintenance of the hall will be paid by Government building grants, whilst the parish could still use the Hall when occasionally needed. This is a great option that has only recently been opened to the Parish and is ideal as Hall costs outweigh income for the parish and is rarely used. It is a great asset for the School and integration will allow for much needed upgrades. If you have questions, please contact Fr Vaughan or Mr Doug Stanaway 448 6744.

**MANY THANKS** to Kathleen Fahey for her tireless work on the church flowers in Alex for many years. Kathleen is retiring after Christmas. If you have skills in flower arranging and would be happy to assist for major feast days, please contact Fr Vaughan.

### CLERGY APPOINTMENTS 2019

**Fr Jaewoo Lee:** Assistant Mosgiel/Green Island, Chaplain to CWL, Wakari Hospital & Ashburn Hall

**Fr Cipriano Fernandes:** Weekend Gore Mass Supply & Chaplain to Calvary Hospital (North Inver')

**Fr Vincent Smith:** Retired & Supply (North Inver')

**Fr Pat McGettigan:** Parish Priest of Central & South Inver' (Central Inver')

**Fr Vaughan Hook:** Pastoral dues South Inver' & Verdon College Chaplain (Central Inver')

**Fr Martin Flannery:** Vicar for Clergy (Cromwell)

### ST KEVIN'S OAMARU, 1960 3RD FORM CLASS REUNION

A class reunion is being organised for 2020 for men who were in the 3rd form class of 1960 at St Kevin's College, Oamaru. As it is 20 years since the last reunion and as this is likely to be our last, we would like to contact as many as possible; however, some people have moved so we are having difficulty finding contact details for everyone.

Anyone who was in the 1960 3rd form class or who knows people who started at St Kevin's at that time is asked to get in touch. Most would have come from Otago, Southland or Canterbury. A list of names we have no contact for is available from John Burke: [johnburke@xtra.co.nz](mailto:johnburke@xtra.co.nz) 142 Main Road, Tawa, Wellington, 04 232 4477.

## ANNUAL BOOK FAIR FOR OUR LADY OF PEACE CATHOLIC CHURCH, ROXBURGH

Raffle – Awesome hampers to be won

Children's Books  
Magazines  
Jigsaw Puzzles  
White Elephant  
Cake Stall (Friday)



Friday 11<sup>th</sup> Jan 9:00 -6:00  
Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> Jan 9:00 - 4:00

Teviot Union Church Hall, Scotland Street, Roxburgh

**HAMPER DONATIONS NEEDED** If you would like to donate Cash or New Items for the Hamper please contact Kylie Ph 4468 556

## 2019 Pastoral Area Parish Mass & Picnic

advanced notice

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> February

The Parish Pastoral Council encourages you to write this date in your diaries and mark your calendars, as this will be a wonderful event for our pastoral area.

The picnic will begin with an outdoor 10:00am Mass at Pioneer Park, Alexandra, followed by traditional picnic games for all ages, with a BBQ lunch to follow (BBQ lunch provided by the parish) with shared salads and desserts.

More information coming early February.



## Pope's 'Urbi et Orbi' Blessing

25 December 2018—ZENIT

Dear Brothers and Sisters, Happy Christmas!

To you, the faithful of Rome, to you, the pilgrims, and to all who are linked to us from every part of the world, I renew the joyous proclamation of Bethlehem: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those whom he favours" (Lk 2:14).

Like the shepherds who first went with haste to the stable, let us halt in wonder before the sign that God has given us: "A baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger" (Lk 2:12). In silence, let us fall to our knees and worship.

What does that Child, born for us of the Virgin Mary, have to tell us? What is the universal message of Christmas? It is that God is a good Father and we are all brothers and sisters.

This truth is the basis of the Christian vision of humanity. Without the fraternity that Jesus Christ has bestowed on us, our efforts for a more just world fall short, and even our best plans and projects risk being soulless and empty.

For this reason, my wish for a happy Christmas is a wish for fraternity.

Fraternity among individuals of every nation and culture.

Fraternity among people with different ideas, yet capable of respecting and listening to one another.

Fraternity among persons of different religions. Jesus came to reveal the face of God to all those who seek him.

The face of God has been revealed in a human face. It did not appear in an angel, but in one man, born in a specific time and place. By his incarnation, the Son of God tells us that salvation comes through love, acceptance, respect for this poor humanity of ours, which we all share in a great variety of races, languages, and cultures. Yet all of us are brothers and sisters in humanity!

Our differences, then, are not a detriment or a danger; they are a source of richness. As when an artist is about to make a mosaic: it is better to have tiles of many colours available, rather than just a few!

The experience of families teaches us this: as brothers and sisters, we are all different from each other. We do not always agree, but there is an unbreakable bond uniting us, and the love of our parents helps us to love one another. The same is true for the larger human family, but here, God is our "parent", the foundation and strength of our fraternity.

May this Christmas help us to rediscover the bonds of fraternity linking us together as individuals and joining all peoples. May it enable Israelis and Palestinians to resume dialogue and undertake a journey of peace that can put an end to a conflict that for over seventy years has rent the land chosen by the Lord to show his face of love.

May the Child Jesus allow the beloved and beleaguered country of Syria once again to find fraternity after these long years of war. May the international community work decisively for a political solution that can put aside divisions and partisan interests, so that the Syrian people, especially all those who were forced to leave their own lands and seek refuge elsewhere, can return to live in peace in their own country.

My thoughts turn to Yemen, in the hope that the truce brokered by the international community may finally



bring relief to all those children and people exhausted by war and famine.

I think too of Africa, where millions of persons are refugees or displaced and in need of humanitarian assistance and food security. May the Holy Child, the King of Peace, silence the clash of arms and allow a

new dawn of fraternity to rise over the entire continent, blessing the efforts of all those who work to promote paths of reconciliation in political and social life.

May Christmas consolidate the bonds of fraternity uniting the Korean peninsula and help the path of rapprochement recently undertaken to continue and to reach agreed solutions capable of ensuring the development and well-being of all.

May this blessed season

allow Venezuela once more to recover social harmony and enable all the members of society to work fraternally for the country's development and to aid the most vulnerable sectors of the population.

May the Newborn Lord bring relief to the beloved land of Ukraine, yearning to regain a lasting peace that is slow to come. Only with a peace respectful of the rights of every nation can the country recover from the sufferings it has endured and restore dignified living conditions for its citizens. I am close to the Christian communities of the region, and I pray that they may develop relationships of fraternity and friendship.

Before the Child Jesus, may the inhabitants of beloved Nicaragua see themselves once more as brothers and sisters, so that divisions and discord will not prevail, but all may work to promote reconciliation and to build together the future of the country.

I want to mention, too, all those peoples that experience ideological, cultural and economic forms of colonization and see their freedom and identity compromised, as well as those suffering from hunger and the lack of educational and health care services.

A particular thought goes to our brothers and sisters who celebrate the Birth of the Lord in difficult, if not hostile situations, especially where the Christian community is a minority, often vulnerable or not taken into account. May the Lord grant that they, and all minorities, may live in peace and see their rights recognized, especially the right to religious freedom.

May the little Child whom we contemplate today in the manger, in the cold of the night, watch over all the children of the world, and every frail, vulnerable and discarded person. May all of us receive peace and consolation from the birth of the Savior and, in the knowledge that we are loved by the one heavenly Father, realize anew that we are brothers and sisters and come to live as such!

### NEXT WEEK

**06 Jan Readings:** Isa 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6;  
Matt 2:1-12

### 06 Jan Rosters

**Greeters:** Fonseca Family (Alex); B Robb (Roxb).

**Projector:** Gerard (Omak); M O'Connor (Alex); G Dyson (Roxb).

**Altar Servers:** Jacob and David Fonseca (Alex).

**Intro/POF:** K MacKenzie (Alex).

**Readers:** R Kilkelly (Omak); Ellen Middendorf (Alex); M Clarke (Roxb).

**Offertory:** R McNally (Omak); Fonseca Family (Alex);

Dave & J McKinnel (Roxb).

**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:** M Matheson (Omak);

R Bond, M Bennie, B Mclean (Alex) B Clarke (Roxb).

**Sacristan:** D Lamont (Alex).

**Cleaning:** R McNally (Omak); P O'Connor, C Mackie (Alex);

M Sale (Roxb).