



Alexandra Catholic Pastoral Area

Omakau (1870) St Bathans (1892) Clyde (1903) Alexandra (1924)

Fourth Sunday in Lent – 10th March 2024



Today's Readings:

1) **2Chronicle 36:14-16. 19-23**
The people of Israel brought about their exile through their repeated infidelities, until God used a pagan ruler to restore them to Jerusalem and rebuild their Temple.

2) **Ephesians 2:4-10**

God's generosity is shown by the gift of life, of salvation, bestowed freely on people who do not merit or deserve it.

3) **John 3:14-21**

God sent Christ into the world to bring it the gift of eternal life, to be accepted or rejected through people's free choice.

Today's Responses:

Psalm response:

'Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you.'

Gospel Acclamation:

'Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.'

Eucharistic acclamation:

'Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your cross and resurrection you have set us free.'

Next Week Readings:

- 1) Jer. 31:31-34
- 2) Hebrews 5:7-9
- 3) Gospel John 7: 40-52

Vatican News- 6th March

Pope Francis continues his catechetical series on virtues and vices, focusing on the sin of pride and stressing the need to combat it with the 'remedy' of humility.

Ahead of International Women's Day, Pope Francis said that the conference will bear fruit "in an ever-greater commitment on the part of all, in the Church and across the world, to promote respect for the equal and complementary dignity of women and men."

Pope Francis will preside over the Mass of the Lord's Supper at the Rebibbia women's prison on Holy Thursday.

Armed bandits storm a Catholic orphanage in Port-au-Prince and abduct three Religious Sisters. The Catholic religious sector in Haiti continues to suffer from acts of kidnapping and ransom

Holy Week Mass and Service Times (March 28-31)

Holy Thursday (Mar 28) -7pm 'Mass of the Lord's Supper', St John the Baptist, Alexandra. (NB: No 9am Mass that day).

Good Friday (Mar 29): -9am Ecumenical Service @ St Enoch's, Alexandra;
-3pm 'The Passion of the Lord', St John the Baptist, Alexandra:

-3pm service, Our Lady of Peace, Roxburgh.
-Easter Vigil Mass (Mar 30): -7:30pm Saturday vigil, 'The Service of Light' Mass, St John the Baptist, Alexandra. *This is the most important Mass of the Church's year*. (NB: No 6pm vigil Mass at Omakau)

-8pm Saturday vigil, Our Lady of Peace, Roxburgh. ((NB: No 11am Sunday morning Mass)

-Easter Sunday Mass (Mar 31): -9am. St John the Baptist.

Contacts People:

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Catholic Social Services

0800 277 669 (toll-free)
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Thank you everyone for your patience as we make changes to our newsletter.

Please remember to check your roster for church duties as they will no longer be published.

Margaret will email you a reminder each week.

Please Remember to register for our

PARISH CENTENNIAL

To be held over the weekend of

20-21st April
Details on Parish website

www.alexatholic.nz
Registration forms also available in the foyer

100 years is worth celebrating!

Notice of up coming

Diocesan and Special Collections

31 March Easter Offering

21 April Seminary Appeal

30 June Peter's Pence



**Please remember
in your prayers:**

Diane King, Margaret Mount

And Ian Frater

who died recently

And Herbert and Betty Williams,
Peter Chote, Kathryn Lucas,
who have anniversaries about
this time.

“May they rest in peace”

Please Note

**There will be a Requiem Mass
This coming Tuesday**

**At 1pm at St John the Baptist
Church, Alexandra for Diane**

***There will be no 5pm Mass
that day***

Cardinal John Dew allegations: (07 March 2024)

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

I am writing to you regarding recent media coverage of an allegation against Cardinal John Dew about events alleged to have taken place in the 1970s.

The New Zealand Police investigated the allegation. They have stated that they have concluded their investigation and no charges will be laid.

Cardinal John retired as Archbishop of Wellington in May last year on reaching age 75, the normal retirement age for Catholic bishops. In accord with our protocols, Cardinal John stood aside from all public church activities when the allegation was brought to the attention of the Church. Cardinal John has asserted his innocence throughout.

Inquiries by the Church are not run concurrently to those undertaken by the Police. Now that the Police investigation has concluded, Cardinal John continues to stand aside while Church inquiries proceed.

This has been a distressing situation for all involved. I would ask that we pray for all those affected and offer support where we can.

Yours in Christ.

+Paul Martin SM
Archbishop of Wellington.

For Sale

Cyclone exercycle, by Elite Fitness. Near-new, barely used.

Offers accepted; proceeds to support Catholic Social Services.

If interested see Fr Brendan

Humour:-

“When insults had class”

“He has Van Gogh’s ear for music” – Billy Wilder

“I’e had a perfectly wonderful evening. But I’m afraid this wasn’t it” Groucho Marx

- Fr Brendan

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the Community Pantry with your gifts of groceries throughout the Lenten Period.

Please leave your offering in the basket at the back of the church By Sunday each week.
Many thanks

Coming up this week:

Alexandra

Sunday- Mass @ 9am followed by morning tea – all welcome

Tuesday- 1pm: Requiem mass for Dianne King RIP (no 5pm Mass today)

Wednesday and Thursday:

9am – Mass in chapel

Friday – 11am Adoration (Chapel)

11.45am Benediction

5:10pm- Stations of the Cross

Saturday- 9am Mass (Chapel)

11.30 – Noon Reconciliation

Roxburgh

Wednesday –

Caritas Lenten Reflection Programme

Following 5:15pm Mass in the

Presbytery

Sunday – Mass 11am

Omakau – Saturday Vigil mass 6pm

CARITAS Lenten Appeal

With just over 3 weeks to go, we are halfway through the Bishops’ Lent Appeal ’24. We need your help to reach our crucial target.

We run the Bishops’ Lent Appeal every year and are always amazed at the generosity of our Catholic Community.

The Lent Appeal is our largest campaign and is crucial to ensuring our mission supporting the poor and vulnerable continues – that’s why we need your support to reach our crucial target.

A reminder too that our 2024 Lent Reflection Programme is available online this year.

A printable booklet is available from the site, also.

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to reach out. You can contact the Resource / Operations Manager Amanda Gregan via phone 0279399575 or by email at amandag@Caritas.org.nz

Nga mihi nui,

The Caritas Team

Visit our website: caritas.org.nz

National
Office for Professional Standards
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Information can also be found on our
website
www.alexatholic.nz



Please Join Us for Morning Tea

Today following Mass