



Diocese
of Dunedin

Alexandra Catholic Pastoral Area

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



Parish Priest

Rev Fr Sani Lam
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Presbytery

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Parish Pastoral Council Chair

Mr Pat Cooney
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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 Julie Flannery

Director of Religious Studies
Mrs Neroli Laidlaw

Board Chair
Mrs Kerrie Fahey
Ph: 03 448 8339
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Gaudete Sunday

Third Sunday of Advent—13 December 2020

MASS TIMES

Sundays

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

This Week

(15th to 20th December 2020)

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

Roxburgh
Wednesday 5:15pm (presbytery)

ADORATION & BENEDICTION

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

RECONCILIATION

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

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Quarterly

Alexandra
Friday Noon
(1st Fri of the months of Mar, Jun, Sep, Dec)

Roxburgh
Wednesday 5:15pm
(1st Wed of the months of Mar, Jun, Sep, Dec)



Readings: Is 61:1-2,10-11; 1 Thess 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8,19-28

Responsorial Psalm

My soul rejoices in my God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me:
he sent me to bring the Good News to the poor.
Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon

Say to the faint of heart: be strong and do not fear.
Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.



Died Recently

—

Anniversaries

Heather McElligott
Gordon Cossens Snr

**Requiescant
in Pace**

ALEXANDRA CHURCH—DONATIONS OF FLOWERS FOR CHRISTMAS

Donations of fresh flowers to help decorate the church would be gratefully received. Flowers could be left in the buckets at the back of the church, on Wednesday 23rd or Thursday 24th. Many thanks.

ADVENT APPEAL 2020

As we enter into the season of Advent in preparation for the feast of Christmas we are encouraged to pray and also to act by doing practical things to help those in need. This is a very meaningful way for us to prepare for Jesus. By supporting our annual Advent Collection, you are able to provide the means for groups to continue carrying out works of service and mercy to those who are vulnerable and in need in our local community. In recent years your generosity has allowed the Advent collection to support services such as refugee support, the night shelter, hospice care for the dying and providing of accommodation for families. I thank you for your support of the Advent appeal this year as in the spirit of Jesus we look to support those in our community who are in need.

+Michael Dooley
Bishop of Dunedin

COLUMBAN CALENDARS 2021

On sale now in church foyer for \$12 each.

PRISON CHAPLAINS NEEDED

Sr Veronica Casey, PBVM, our Catholic Senior Prison Chaplain, is always seeking suitable people for the volunteer and paid prison chaplaincy roles she supports, but often can't find enough of them. To help, Sr Veronica has produced a special booklet on Prison Ministry and How to Get Involved. Prison ministry is service to some of society's most rejected people and is very valuable work. Look out for a copy of the booklet at your local parish church, think about how you could serve, and contact Sr Veronica.

For full information visit: www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/prison-chaplains-needed/

FOOD FOR FAITH FOR ADVENT

Father John O'Connor's popular Food for Faith page will have daily reflections for Advent.



Go to his site and sign up to get the reflections daily by email during December: www.foodforfaith.org.nz

NZpray2day

The Church's National Centre for Religious Studies (NCRS) is delighted to announce the launch of the NZpray2day app for iPhones and other Apple devices. This follows the earlier launch of the now much-beloved Android version.



A statement about this is online at: www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/nzpray2day-apple/

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Thursday, 24 December Christmas Eve

Omakau (Vigil) at 6:00pm
Carols from 5:30pm
Alexandra (Vigil) at 9:00pm
Carols from 8:30pm

Friday, 25 December Christmas Day

Alexandra at 9:00pm
Roxburgh at 11:00am

ADVENT CONFESSION TIMES IN

ALEXANDRA (Rite I)

Sunday, 20 December from 1:00 to 1:30pm

FINAL ASSIGNMENT:

RETIREMENT PARTY!

AFTER OVER 40 YEARS, MRS CHRIS BEILBY IS FINALLY GRADUATING FROM SCHOOL!

PLEASE JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE & HONOUR HER DEDICATION TO TEACHING AND HER SERVICE AND CONTRIBUTION TO ST GERARD'S!!

MONDAY · DECEMBER 14TH · 2PM

ST GERARD'S SCHOOL HALL.
ALEXANDRA

THIS IS A SPECIAL ASSEMBLY FOR MRS BEILBY

150 YEARS OF DOMINICAN SISTERS IN NEW ZEALAND

18 February 2021 will mark 150 years since ten Dominican sisters arrived from Ireland to begin the congregation in New Zealand. The sisters are taking this opportunity to remember with gratitude all those who have enabled and supported our life in this country: family, friends, women who have shared our life, former pupils, parishioners, benefactors and supporters in prayer and ministry.

A public mass will be held at St Mary's Church, Mosgiel, at 10am on Saturday 20 February, to which all are welcome.



NEXT WEEK

20 December Readings: 2 Sam7:1-5,8-12,14, 16; Rom16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38

19/20 December Roster:

Greeters: S & K MacKenzie (Alex); A McElligott (Roxb)
Projector: J Kinney (Omak); J Dunlay (Alex); Volunteer (Roxb)
Altar Servers: Tara Mulholland, Milla O'Kane, Bella Donaldson
Intro / POF: L VanBoxtel (Omak) K Donaldson (Alex); G Dyson (Roxb)
Readers: L VanBoxtel (Omak); K MacKenzie (Alex); G Dyson (Roxb)
Offertory: Volunteer (Omak); P O'Connor & G Chapman (Alex); A McElligott & A Compton (Roxb)
Extraordinary Ministers: M Matheson (Omak) C Grieve, J Parbhu, L Fonseca (Alex); N Taylor (Roxb)
Sacristan: L Fonseca / J Hogue (Alex)
Cleaner: M Matheson (Omak); (M Paulin & L Fonseca (Alex); K Robb (Roxb)