

## Parish Priest

Rev Fr Sani Lam

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## Presbytery

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## Parish Pastoral Council Chair

Mr Pat Cooney

Cell: 027 768 9918

[cooneys@xtra.co.nz](mailto:cooneys@xtra.co.nz)

## Chair of Finance Committee Maintenance & Planned Giving

Phil Peguero

Ph: 0274990277

## Catholic Social Services

0800 277 669 (toll-free)

Ph: 03 448 5385 (Mon-Thurs)

## St Gerard's Primary School

Principal

Mrs Julie Flannery

## Director of Religious Studies

Mrs Neroli Laidlaw

## Board Chair

Mr Nathan McLean



# The 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time 9 July

## Mass times

### Alexandra:

Tuesdays 5:00pm (chapel)

Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays

9:00am (chapel)

Fridays 12:00pm (chapel)

Sundays 9:00 am (church)

### Roxburgh

Wednesdays 5:15pm (presbytery)

Sundays 11.00am (church)

### Omakau:

Saturdays Vigil Mass 6pm

## ADORATION & BENEDICTION

Alexandra (chapel)

Fridays 11:00am

(11:45am Benediction)

## RECONCILIATION

### Alexandra

Saturday 11:30—Noon or by request

## ANOIDING OF THE SICK

Quarterly

### Alexandra

Friday Noon

(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)

## Sunday Readings:

1. Zechariah 9: 9-10

2. Romans 8: 9, 11-13

3. Gospel Matthew 11: 25-30

## Responsorial Psalm:

I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

## Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth:

You have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia, alleluia!

## Communion antiphon:

Taste and see how gracious the Lord is



Let us remember and pray for those who have

### **Died Recently:**

Fr Merv Hanifin

Fr Michael Hill IC

And for those who have

### **Anniversaries**

About this time:

Miriam McLean

Esther and Kevin Holland

Isobel Power Su Mechan

### **Requiescant**

**in Pace**

## Notices from Titipounamu Study & Joy

**Mary in the Scriptures** with Kieran Fenn  
fms.Mondays, 03 and 10 July, 7-8.30pm. ZOOM.  
Fee: free. Donation/Koha appreciated.

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2023/04/25/mary-in-the-scriptures/>

**Beauty in Islam** with Dr Christopher E. Longhurst  
Saturday, 22 July, 10.00-11.30pm. ZOOM.  
Fee: \$25/session.

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/events/beauty-in-islam/>



"LEARN FROM ME, FOR I AM MEEK" - Mt 11:25-30).

## Roster and Readings for next week:

15th & 16th July	Alexandra St John the Baptist	Omakau St Peters Saturday Vigil	Roxburgh Our Lady of Peace
<b>Greeters</b>	Donald Lamont Donald Foley	Volunteer	Averell McElligott
<b>OHP</b>	Jim Dunlay	Ruth	Glen Dyson
<b>Intro/POF</b>	Varna Sim	Volunteer	Volunteer
<b>Readers</b>	Kathleen O’Kane Barry Gibbons	A White	Michelle Clarke
<b>Offertory gifts</b>	Maire and Gerald Healey	Volunteer	Neil and Rod
<b>Special Minister</b>	Margaret Bennie	Jill Paulin	Bill Clarke
<b>Cleaners</b>	Marie Paulin Dona Foley	C Morris	Kylie Robb
<b>Sacristans Alex</b>	SU: Margaret TU: Donald and Jim	-	-
<b>Altar Servers Alex</b>	CB: Freddy Ryan CH: Liberty CH: Curtis	-	-

Next Week’s Readings: 15th week, Ordinary time

1. Isaiah 55:10-11
2. Romans 8:18-23

### Website for Catholic Enquiry Centre

Visit it to find out about faith, explore Catholicism, order booklets or make a donation: <https://www.catholicdiscovery.nz/>

## St John the Baptist Parish Centennial

20 – 21 April



2024

Saturday 20 April -Dinner at Alexandra District Club  
Sunday 21 April - Centennial Mass 9am followed by morning tea.

The organising committee are keen to have a display of photos and articles relating to our Parish. If you have any we could borrow please let one of our organising committee know.

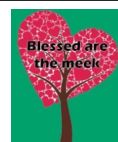
Spread the word to past parishioners.

Organising Committee: Kevin MacKenzie, Brian McLean, Margaret Bennie, Teresa Hughes, and Fr Sani

## Reflection on today’s Gospel Reading

by Fr. Rolly Arjonillo

**For I am meek.....**



Today we could focus on one of the many virtues which Our Lord taught us: **Learn from me for I am meek.** Our Lord tells us in one of the Beatitudes: **“Blessed are the meek for they shall inherit the earth.”**

**But what does it mean to be meek?** A meek person is one who endures injury, hardships, insults, injustice with patience and without resentment, without giving into anger or violence.

He remains serene and steadfast in the midst of difficulties without giving into discouragement, revenge, and anger whether in thought, word or deed.

- Opposite to meekness are: arrogance, imperiousness, Over-bearingness, scornfulness.
- The meekness which Our Lord asks from is far from having lack of courage or bravery to react to unjust situations. Rather, Christian meekness requires a strong character to overcome irritability, air of superiority, and violence, and paves the way towards an attitude of forbearance and forgiveness.
- At times, it may give into anger, as Our Lord himself did when he expelled the merchants from the temple, to underline the respect the house of God deserves as a house of prayer. But it is a holy anger.

As seen above, the virtue of meekness is indispensable in our Christian life. We could ask ourselves if we struggle to be meek.

- When insulted or offended, do I get angry and return the insult and the offense? Or do I try to pray for that person and offer to God the hurt in a silent way?
- Am I always irritable, manifesting it in my conversation, in my facial expression or gestures?
- St. Josemaria: *Don’t say: ‘That’s the way I’m made... it’s my character’. It’s your lack of character: Be a man (TW 4).*
- It is more difficult to be meek than to be impulsive. Meekness requires self-mastery and control, whereas speaking or acting with anger and irritability is so easy and common: it is for the impulsive, and proud.
- Pope Francis said: *If we are constantly upset and impatient with others, we will end up drained and weary. But if we regard the faults and limitations of others with tenderness and meekness, without an air of superiority, we can actually help them and stop wasting our energy on useless complaining. Saint Thérèse of Lisieux tells us that “perfect charity consists in putting up with others’ mistakes, and not being scandalized by their faults”*
- How many relationships among family members, spouses, siblings, friends, have been broken because of anger, because of lack of meekness, which is always rooted in pride.
- Let us remember: It is better to be silent than to give into anger and to say hurtful words which we would always regret having said.
- It is better to be kind than to be right.
- It is better to be humble than to be proud, arrogant and violent.

***The meek “shall inherit the earth”...***