



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 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 Julie Flannery

Acting DRS

Mrs Neroli Laidlaw

Board Chair

Mrs Kerrie Fahey
Ph: 03 448 8339
office@stgerards.school.nz



Third Sunday of Lent

15 March 2020

MASS TIMES

Sundays

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

Weekdays [this coming week]

Alexandra

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

Roxburgh

Wednesday 5:15pm (church)

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

Roxburgh

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

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OTHER CENTRAL OTAGO PARISH SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Ranfurly

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

Cromwell

11:00am (1st, 3rd, 5th Sun)
9:00am (2nd, 4th Sun)

Wanaka

9:00am (1st, 3rd, 5th Sun)
11:00am (2nd, 4th Sun)

Queenstown

6:30pm Vigil (Sat)
9:00am

Arrowtown

11:00am

Garston

11:00am (2nd Sun)

Glenorchy

11:00am (4th Sun)

Sunday Readings: Exodus 17:3-7; Romans 5:1-2, 5-8; John 4:5-16, 19-26, 39-42

Responsorial Psalm

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world; give me living
water, that I may never thirst again.
Glory and Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon

For anyone who drinks it, says the Lord, the water I shall give
will become in him a spring welling up to eternal life.



Died Recently
Betty Williams

Anniversaries
Peter Chote
Kathryn Lucas
Pat & Dennis Flannery

Requiescant
in Pace

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE—The latest update on COVID 19 (Coronavirus) is on the back of this newsletter and some additional information on International Comparisons and Statistics, in the church foyer. Please feel free to have a copy of this information.

WEDNESDAY MASS—Please note that there **will not** be a Wednesday mass this week as Fr Sani will be attending a Priests Council Meeting in Dunedin that day. The mass in Roxburgh that evening at 5:15pm will still be held.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL—Thank you to Loretta Fonseca and Jen McLean who are our new Parish Council members. Their willingness to commit to representing the Parish for the next 3 years is appreciated.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS—On Fridays during Lent, the Stations of the Cross will be prayed in the Alexandra Church at 5:00pm—everyone welcome.

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 SALVATION ARMY & THE COMMUNITY FOOD BANK—This is now operating out of the new Combined Churches Food bank at the back of the Salvation Army hall (37 Royal Terrace). There will be an official opening on Monday, 16th March at 10:00am. Anyone wishing to attend would be most welcome.

THE COMMUNITY PANTRY—Presently we are short of margarine, Vegemite/ Marmite (220-250g jars), peanut butter, 2-minute noodles, tinned spaghetti (440g), tomato puree / paste, pasta sauces. Donations received are greatly appreciated. Thank you for your continued support.

URGENT COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS UPDATE 13 March 2020

Guidance to dioceses and parishes, issued by the NZ Catholic Bishops under the advice of Fr John O'Connor Acting Director, National Liturgy Office.

Tēnā koutou katoa friends,

The National Liturgy Office and NZ Catholic Bishops have received important new advice today from the Ministry of Health.

This advice specifically says we should desist with “the sharing of Communion cups, shared holy water, and hand shaking.”

Having received this, we are now updating our previous advice on these matters. We now ask that:

- At the Sign of Peace, people should avoid shaking hands or other contact with one another, and instead smile, nod or bow to one another.
- Holy Communion is not to be distributed from the chalice.
- Communion is only to be distributed in the hand, not on the tongue.
- Holy water is to be removed from stoups and containers at the church door.
- Priests should not touch children’s heads when blessing them and then continue to distribute Communion.

The Ministry of Health has not asked for any restrictions on public gatherings, including Mass.

We are concerned there is a significant degree of fear among some parishioners, and it is essential that the Church is a safe place for people when they gather for Mass. We therefore ask each diocese, parish and Catholic community to respond with appropriate sensitivity to the fears that exists.

We wish again to emphasise the importance of good practices of hygiene, including regular washing of hands, covering coughs and sneezes with elbows not hands, staying at home if sick, and trying to keep a metre away from people who are unwell.

HOLY WEEK MASS TIMES (Alexandra Pastoral Area)

Reconciliation Rite II—Monday, 30 March in Alexandra at 5:00pm.

Chrism Mass—Holy Wednesday, 8 April at St Joseph’s Cathedral, Dunedin at 10:00am.

Alexandra

Holy Thursday—7:00pm

Good Friday—3:00pm

Easter Sunday—9:00am

Omakau

Holy Saturday—6:00pm (Easter Vigil)

Roxburgh

Easter Sunday—11:00am

OASIS OPPORTUNITY SHOP, Centrepont Mall, ALEXANDRA

The shop is open on Monday from 1 to 4 pm and from Tuesday to Friday from 11am-4pm.

NEXT WEEK

Readings for 22 March: 1 Samuel 16:1,6-7,10-13; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41

21/22 March Rosters

Greeters: Brown family (Alex); A McElligott (Roxb).

Projector: J Kinney (Omak); J Fonseca (Alex); Volunteer (Roxb).

Altar Servers: Joshua Brown, David Fonseca, Alia Ryan (Alex).

Intro/POF: Jen McLean (Alex).

Readers: L VanBoxtel (Omak); H Tait (Alex); G Dyson (Roxb).

Offertory: Brown family (Alex); Dyson family (Roxb).

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: R Kilkelly (Omak); C Grieve, J Flannery, B McLean (Alex); A Compton (Roxb).

Sacristan: L Fonseca / J Hogue (Alex).

Cleaning: R McNally (Omak); (Alex); M Sale (Roxb).