



Diocese  
of Dunedin

# Alexandra Catholic Pastoral Area

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



## Parish Priest

Rev Fr Sani Lam  
Cell: 021 840 259  
[sunctuslst@gmail.com](mailto:sunctuslst@gmail.com)

## Presbytery

7 Killarney Street  
Alexandra 9320  
Ph: 03 448 8202  
[alexatholic@xtra.co.nz](mailto:alexatholic@xtra.co.nz)  
[www.alexatholic.nz](http://www.alexatholic.nz)

## Parish Pastoral Council Chair

Mr Pat Cooney  
Ph: 03 4489455  
[cooneys@xtra.co.nz](mailto:cooneys@xtra.co.nz)

## 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  
[office@stgerards.school.nz](mailto:office@stgerards.school.nz)

# Fourth Sunday of Advent

20 December 2020

## MASS TIMES



### Sundays

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

### This Week

(22nd to 26th December 2020)

#### Alexandra

Tuesday, 22nd 5:00pm (side chapel)  
Wednesday, 23rd 9:00am (side chapel)  
Thursday, 24th 9:00am **NO MASS**  
9:00pm (Christmas Eve)  
Friday, 25th 9:00am (Christmas Day)  
Noon **NO MASS**  
Saturday, 26th 9:00am (side chapel)

#### Roxburgh

Wednesday, 23rd 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)

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Readings: 2 Sam 7:1-5,8-12,14, 16; Rom 16:25-27;  
Lk 1:26-38

### Responsorial Psalm

For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the servant of the Lord;  
may his will for me be done.

Alleluia!

### Communion Antiphon

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son;  
and his name will be Emmanuel.



### Died Recently

—

### Anniversaries

Tony Breen  
Mary Paulin  
Craig Duffy  
Colleen O'Neill

### Requiescant in Pace

**SEMINARIAN PETER CHADWICK**—Peter, who has been in our Pastoral Area for the last four months will now be taking the next steps in his journey as he moves on from Alexandra.

His last Sunday here is 27th December. There will be a card on the table in the Alexandra church foyer that you are most welcome to sign. Personal cards and messages may be placed in the box that will also be on the same table, or these could be handed to Peter after Mass.

There will be a card each at the Omakau and Roxburgh parishes as well.

**MASS TIMES THIS WEEK**—Please note the times of Masses over the next week, (on the side of this page) and Christmas Mass times are on the extra sheet of this newsletter. **Reconciliation (Rite I)** this Sunday, 20th from 1:00 to 1:30pm.

**ALTAR SERVERS**—This last week, twelve children were trained to be Altar Servers. We now have an impressive number of thirty Altar Servers and they all do such an amazing job.

Please continue to offer them and their parents a word of encouragement when you see them after Mass—it is wonderful to have our students from St Gerard's helping at Mass in this way.

## DONATIONS OF FLOWERS FOR CHRISTMAS—ALEXANDRA CHURCH—

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.

## PARISH COUNCIL BI-ANNUAL REPORT

The Parish Council have met three times since COVID-19 restrictions were lifted. The brief Report below reflects what the Council have been involved in over this period of time.

### Parish:

- Fr Sani has had 5 Baptisms
- Several funerals for parishioners from the Alexandra Pastoral Area.
- Fr Sani, Peter Chadwick and Anna-Lisa White prepared 21 children for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Holy Communion.
- Parish hosted Christmas Carols on 8th December.
- Morning tea was organised after Family Mass on Sunday, 22 November.

### Acknowledgements:

- Brian McLean (6 years as Parish Council Chairperson).
- Billie Tohill on receiving the Queen Service Award.
- Claire Dwyer (St Gerard's School DRS)
- Christine Beilby (retiring teacher at St Gerard's School).

### Oasis Outreach:

- Continues to support Catholic Social Services.
- Assistance to some school families.

### Seminars/Meetings:

Council had representatives attend the Reflection Day Seminar in Mosgiel, as well as at the Finance / Property meeting earlier this month in Cromwell.

School / Parish—working together:

- Family Mass was held on 22nd November prior to Year 8 students going to camp at Stewart Island.
- Class Liturgy presentations at Sunday Masses.

**Fr Sani and The Parish Council wish all parishioners a Happy and Holy Christmas.**



**Congratulations to James Fahey and his family on his Baptism on Saturday, 12 December 2020.**

**May God bless you always - Fr Sani**



### NEXT WEEK

**27 December Readings:** Gen: 15:1-6, 21: 1-3; Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk: 22-40

### 26/27 December Roster:

**Greeters:** Fahey family (Alex); K Robb (Roxb)  
**Projector:** A White (Omak); L Fonseca (Alex); Volunteer (Roxb)  
**Altar Servers:** Aurelia Lanham, Mackenzie Fahey, Dani Irving-Dowling  
**Intro / POF:** P Cooney (Omak); N Lanham (Alex); M Clarke (Roxb)  
**Reader:** P Cooney (Omak); C Lanham (Alex); M Clarke (Roxb)  
**Offertory:** Volunteer (Omak); Fahey family (Alex); Dyson family (Roxb)  
**Extraordinary Ministers:** J Paulin (Omak); M Bennie, L Fonseca, R Bond (Alex); B Clarke (Roxb)  
**Sacristan:** L Fonseca / D Lamont (Alex)  
**Cleaner:** R Kinney (Omak); J Paulin & M Stanaway (Alex); M Clarke (Roxb)

## 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 TIME IN ALEXANDRA (Rite I)

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



Alexandra, Cycle, Leader  
Union Parish

Rotary  
Club of Alexandra  
FUNDING PARTNER

# Alexandra Community Christmas Day BBQ Lunch 2020

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25<sup>TH</sup>  
FREE EVENT: ALL WELCOME

ST ENOCH'S CHURCH GROUNDS 12 CENTENNIAL AVE

REGISTER TO ATTEND  
OR VOLUNTEER

ALEXCHURCH.ORG.NZ/CHRISTMAS

OR PHONE  
ALEXANDRA COMMUNITY  
ADVICE NETWORK  
03 448 77771



MAKE  
SUMMER  
UNSTOPPABLE



Unite  
against  
COVID-19

## 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](http://www.foodforfaith.org.nz)



food for faith

Christ the King  
November 21, 2020

All Souls  
November 2, 2020

All Saints  
November 1, 2020

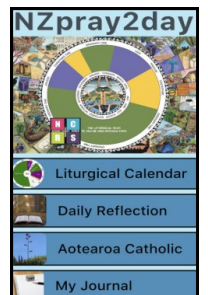
Halloween  
October 31, 2020

Lake  
October 24, 2020

## 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/](http://www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/nzpray2day-apple/)



NZpray2day

Liturgical Calendar

Daily Reflection

Aotearoa Catholic

My Journal

## 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