

Parish Priest
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Presbytery
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Parish Pastoral Council Chair
Mr Pat Cooney
Cell: 027 768 9918
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**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



Second Sunday of Advent 10th December 2023

 **Mass times**
Friday 15th Mass @ 9am

School Prize Giving @10.30am

St Gerard's Graduation Mass
Thursday 14th @ 5pm

Alexandra:
Tuesdays 5:00pm (chapel)
Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays 9:00am (chapel)
Friday See above
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

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)

Sunday Readings:

1. Is 40 : 1-5, 9-11 "Prepare the way of the Lord"
2. 2 Peter 3 : 8-14
3. Gospel of Mark 1 : 1-8

Responsorial Psalm:

Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your Salvation.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!
Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God.
Alleluia!

Communion antiphon:

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.



Let us remember and pray for those who have
Died Recently

And for those who have
Anniversaries
About this time:
Johnny McMahon
Jack Kennedy
Lyn Anderson
Kath Collins

**Requiescant
in Pace**



THE ADVENT CANDLE

Today We light the second
advent candle it too is
Purple
It reminds us to prepare
and to be peaceful

*Dear Jesus, help us
focus on you during
this busy season.*

*May we stay aware of
the joy you bring into our lives. We want to
find you in the everyday moments and come
with hearts of gratitude to your manger on
Christmas. Amen.*

On Sale now

**COLUMBAN
ART
CALENDARS
\$12 EACH**
(From Church Foyer)

**An ideal
Christmas gift**



Roster and Readings for next week:

16th & 17th December	Alexandra St John the Baptist	Omakau St Peters Saturday Vigil	Roxburgh Our Lady of Peace
Greeters	Sue and Kevin MacKenzie	Volunteer	Rod Dyson
OHP	Mulholland Family	Julie Flannery	Kylie Robb
Intro/ POF	Amy Delport	Leo Van Boxtel	Volunteer
Readers	Kevin MacKenzie Addie Mulholland	Leo Van Boxtel	Margaret Card
Offertory gifts	Glenda Chapman Gerard Rogatski	Volunteer	Dave and John
Special Ministers	Dona Foley Barry Gibbons Rosemary Bond	Jill Paulin	Rod Dyson
Cleaners	Nicole Heward Glenda Chapman	Win Donnelly	Angela Compton
Sacristans Alex	SU: Margaret TU: Donald / Jim/ Nicole Heward	-	-
Altar Servers Alex	CB: Olivia CH: Stefan CH: Annie	-	-

Next Week's Readings: 3rd Sunday of Advent

1. Isaiah 51: 1-2, 10-11
2. 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24
3. Gospel of John 1:6-8, 19-28

Catholic Social Services

Recently Mike Tonks spoke to a group of 100+ caring people in Dunedin about the work CSS does. Following on from this the group, who wanted to help, set up a "Give a Little Page" for this purpose.

<https://givealittle.co.nz/fundraiser/100and-people-who-care-or-dunedin-22-november-2023>

If you know anyone else that would like to support us, you are free to pass this on.

Laudato Si' and Laudate Deum



*Kindness and truth shall meet;
justice and peace shall kiss.
Truth shall spring out of the earth,
and justice shall look down from heaven. (Psalm 85)*

So it's not about creating something that is not there. It's about watering a seed that is already in our fertile ground and watering it to the extent that it can carry over longer periods of time and geography, so that we can feel the responsibility toward future generations, and we can feel responsibility toward people in other corners of the planet. Christiana Figueres (<https://onbeing.org/programs/christiana-figueres-ecological-hope-and-spiritual-evolution/>)

As the global Climate Conference, COP28, finishes this week, we pray that the seed of compassion within us all grows throughout our world.

- Nicky Chapman

Titipounamu—Study and Joy

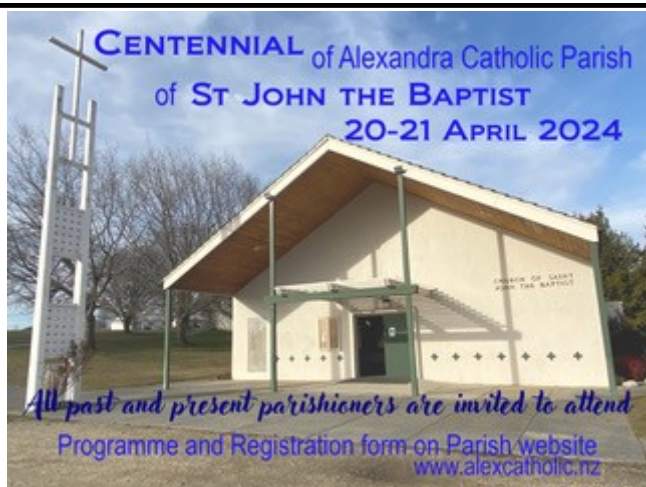
Christmas Story with Prof Thomas O'Loughlin:

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2021/12/23/the-christmas-story/>

YouTube Recordings

YouTube and Muffin Talk recordings are available online at:

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/category/resources/muffin-talk/> Our next Zoom sessions will be in February/March on the theme of **Miracles**.



All Past and Present Parishioners are invited to attend our Parish Centennial Celebrations.

The Programme and Registration forms are available on the **Parish Website: www.alexatholic.nz**

Paper registration forms are also available in the church foyer, Please complete and leave in the box provided.



SAVE the DATE

Friday 26th January 4pm

(for a very special wedding—

Here in our parish) More details to follow including how you can be involved