



Alexandra Catholic Pastoral Area

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

Parish Priest

Rev Fr Brendan Ward
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Presbytery

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Parish Pastoral Council Chair

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Chair of Finance Committee Maintenance & Planned Giving

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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



Third Sunday in Lent 3 March 2024

Mass times

Stations of the Cross (throughout Lent)
Fridays 5: 10 pm Alexandra

Alexandra:

Tuesdays 5pm (chapel)
Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays 9:00am (chapel)
Friday 12. MD (chapel)
Sundays 9.00 am (church)

Roxburgh

Caritas reflection programme :after Mass each

Wednesday (in the presbytery)
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 1st Fri of the months of Mar, Jun, Sep, Dec @ noon

Roxburgh 1st Wed of the months of Mar, Jun, Sept, Dec @ 5:15pm

Today's Readings:

- Exodus 20:1-17:** *The Law was given through Moses*
- 1 Cor 1:22-25 :** *We are preaching a crucified Christ, a scandal to many, but to those who have been called, the wisdom of God.*
- Gospel John 2: 13-25** *Destroy the sanctuary and in three days I will raise it up*

Responsorial Psalm:

Lord you have the words of everlasting life

Gospel Acclamation:

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory
God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son,
That all who believe in him might have eternal life.
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory



Let us remember and pray for those who have
Died Recently
Sean Matheson
And for those who have

Anniversaries

Florencio Guardiaro
Neville Paul Sklenars
Annie Altenburg

Requiescant in Pace

Ten Petition Prayers for Lent

- Beauty, Light, Life, Truth, Liberty, Peace.
- Deliverance, Enlightenment, Conversion, Transformation, Sanctification.
- Integrity, Authenticity, Charity, Generosity, Fidelity, Respect.
- For purity of mind and heart, body and soul.
- For good, sincere, warm, respectful, and enduring friendships.
- For family and friends, associates and acquaintances: Watch over them all, grant them faith and salvation, keep them in your care, and bless them with your peace.
- Holy Mary, Mother of God, help of Christians, pray for us.
- St Joseph, carer of Christ, guardian of God, pray for us.
- St Joachim and St Anne, pray for us.
- All holy men and women, pray for us.

Ten Penitential Prayers for Lent:

- Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, for wrong I have done and good I have failed to do, have mercy on me a sinner and help me not to sin again.
- For those I have wronged and damaged by my sins, please, grant them healing and peace.
- Rescue and free me from all that binds and afflicts me.
- Make me aware of my sinfulness that I may seek your forgiveness and mercy.
- For freedom from deceit so that wisdom may flourish.
- That I may be forgiving and merciful in my judgement of human faults and failings, as I need to be.



National
Office for Professional Standards

Maria & Mike Noonan
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safeguarding@cdd.org.nz

Information can also be found on our website
www.alexatholic.nz

Next Week's Roster and Readings

March 9 & 10 March	Alexandra St John the Baptist Sunday 9am	Roxburgh Our Lady of Peace Sunday 11am	Omakau St Peters Saturday Vigil 6pm
Greeters	Liz Anderson Glenda Chapman	Margaret Card	Volunteer
OHP	Rosemary & Martin	Angela Compton	J Flannery
Intro/ POF	Coral Sawers	Volunteer	P Cooney
Readers	Brian McLean Barbara Grubb	Kylie Robb	M Snodgrass
Offertory gifts	Coral and John Sawers	Dave and John	Volunteer
Special Ministers	Barry Gibbons Margaret Bennie Martin O'Connor	John McKinnel	M Willaims
Sacristans Alex	Margaret & Nicole (Set Up) Jim & Donald (Tidy Up)	-	-
Altar Servers Alex	Paige Rachael Annie	-	-
Church Cleaners	Ann Rayner Sally Ferreira	Liyarachichi Family	R McNally

Next Week's Readings:
 4th Sunday of Lent
 1. Samuel 16: 1, 6-7, 10-13
 2. Ephesians 2: 4-10
 3. Gospel John 3: 14-21



Liturgy Questions answered by Fr Brendan
Why is there no spoken antiphon at Communion in Alexandra any more?
 Clause 87 of the General Instructions of the Roman Missal states (abridged): 'If there is no singing at Communion the antiphon may be recited.' i.e. Singing a Communion hymn (or playing an instrumental) replaces the antiphon. There is no need for both.

What are the Singing at mass priorities?
 The most important parts to sing, second to none, are the Gospel acclamation, the Eucharist acclamation and the Great AMEN, because the first highlights the Gospel the second the Eucharist and the third is the high point of the Mass, (because it is a prayer of praise addressed to the Trinity). ... please submit your questions to Fr Brendan

Vatican News (www.vaticannews.va)
 (25 Feb) Pope pleads for just and lasting peace in Ukraine; Children endure dire existence in Gaza. (28 Feb) In meeting with Armenian bishops, Pope Francis commented 'How many conflicts and massacres have we witnessed, always tragic and always pointless? ... Let us all take up the cry for peace'; Pope tells Argentinian judges to let Jesus guide efforts to protect rights.

NZ Catholic (Issue 679, 25 Feb, p6)
 The Collapse of Moral Reasoning: An opinion by Bishop Robert Barron (abridged). 'Recently, the presidents of Harvard, MIT, and Penn universities appeared before the US Congress to address the issue of anti-Semitism on their campuses. They were each asked "Would the calling of genocide of Jews constitute a violation of the code of conduct at your schools, yes or no?" Astonishingly each of them balked, insisting that it depended on the context. ... What has made this kind of moral opacity and muddle-headedness possible?

First, in the minds of far too many people today, the category of the intrinsically evil act has disappeared. When we lose a sensitivity to the intrinsically evil (e.g. slavery, rape, the direct killing of the innocent, and acts of terrorism) we fall, automatically, into a moral relativism, whereby even the most egregiously wicked act can be justified or explained away.

Second, there is the tendency to divide the world into the simplistic categories of oppressor and oppressed. So those grouped as oppressors are given the benefit of no doubt, while the oppressed the benefit of every doubt.

Might I suggest that the great tradition of Catholic social and moral thought would be a very healthy corrective to the errant speculations evidenced recently in Congress? Was Hamas' attack on Israel intrinsically evil? Yes. Does Israel have a right to defend itself? Yes. Can Israel, in the undertaking of its legitimate self-defense, do so disproportionately and indiscriminately? No. ... The answers given by the University presidents recently were nuanced when they shouldn't have been, and definitive when they shouldn't have been.'

Saint of the week.....

St John of God (1495 - 1550)
 — *St John of God with the Archangel Gabriel (c.1672), Bartolomé Esteban Murillo (1617-1682).*



He was born to a poor but devout family in Portugal in 1495. After serving as a soldier under the Emperor Charles V he devoted his life wholly to the service of the poor and the sick. He founded a hospital in Granada and a circle of disciples formed round him, which later became the Order of Hospitallers. He died on 8 March 1550, his 55th birthday.

Alexandra foyer library review.
 A review of the books and materials available from the foyer book shelves is to be undertaken by Fr Brendan over the coming week. If there is anything there that anyone would like to recover and retain please do so before Wednesday.

Community Pantry Donations: Thank you for your contributions
 Please continue to help us support the Community Pantry (food bank) with donations throughout the Lenten Period. Items for the bathroom and laundry and personal items would be very much appreciated. Along with any canned or packaged food.

What is on this Week:
Wednesday 6th 9am: School Mass— Alexandra
Wednesday Following 5:15pm Mass Roxburgh - CARITAS Reflection
 Programme: - Roxburgh in the Presbytery
Friday 5:10pm (note slightly later start): **Stations of the Cross this and each Friday of Lent** in Alexandra in the Church. This is a short