

ALEXANDRA CATHOLIC PASTORAL AREA



[Incorporating
St John the Baptist
(1924), Alexandra;
St Peter's (1870),
Omakau;
St Dunstan's (1903),
Clyde;
St Patrick's (1892), St
Bathans;
Our Lady of Peace
(1950), Roxburgh.]
09 JUNE 2024

10th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

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SCRIPTURE READINGS TODAY

(1) *Ezekiel 17:22-24*. The prophet Ezekiel brings comfort to God's people with the promise that their fortunes will be restored. This work comes about only by God's loving act, through the same power that makes great and beautiful trees grow from small shoots.

(2) *2 Corinthians 5:6-10*. Paul reminds us that it is not through our own sight and certainty that we can have confidence about what lies ahead, but through faith in Jesus. Walking in this faith we find our peace in Christ, whatever the condition of our life.

(3) *Mark 4:26-34*. Jesus longs to bring his disciples into an understanding of the kingdom of God. The stories he uses for his friends are stories of the mystery of growth and fruitfulness in creation, the mystery of God's loving presence at work in the world.

SCRIPTURE READINGS NEXT SUNDAY

(1) *Isaiah 49:1-6*

(2) *Acts 13:22-26*

(3) *Luke 1:57-66. 80*

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Died Recently: Anita Greer (formerly Paulin); Patricia O'Connor; Sebastian Waldron.

Anniversaries: Bridget Glackins
'May they rest in peace.'

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CONGRATULATIONS: To Ruby and Angus McNeill and their pre-school brother Oscar, and to Connor O'Hagan, who celebrate reception of the sacrament of Baptism at 9am Mass in Alexandra this Sunday.

NB: Everyone is welcome to join in Morning Tea afterwards in the foyer.

SACRAMENTS PROGRAMME 2024

Preparation and reception dates:

30 June – Reconciliation presentation for parents and pupils after 9am Sunday Mass.

26 June and 24 July – Pupils' reconciliation preparation at St Gerard's, 11:40am-12:45pm.

30 or 31 July - 1st Reconciliation for pupils, at St Gerard's (time to be finalised).

18 August – Confirmation presentation for parents and pupils after 9am Sunday Mass.

22 & 29 August – Confirmation preparation for pupils, at St Gerard's 11:40am-12:45pm.

20 October – Confirmation at 9am Mass, Bp Michael Dooley presiding.

03 November – 1st Holy Communion presentation for parents and pupils after 9am Sunday Mass.

13 & 20 November – 1st Communion preparation for pupils, at St Gerard's, 11.40am-12.45pm.

24 November – Pupils' 1st Holy Communion at 9am Sunday Mass.

(NB: For parents who would still like to enrol their child(ren) in the programme, please contact Fr Brendan asap and note the dates and times above.

DAY OF PRAYER FOR REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS

- Next Sunday 23 June: Caritas Aotearoa NZ encourages everyone to make next Sunday a day of reflection and prayer for people displaced or forced to migrate due to the impacts of climate change. As Pope Francis has said, "We are faced with not two separate crises, one environmental and one social, but rather with one complex crisis which is both social and environmental." More information and resources can be sourced from the website www.caritas.org.nz/day-prayer-refugees-and-migrants.

CARITAS 'YCC' DAY: 'YCC' stands for 'You and Caritas Combined; Also, 'Young Catholics Care'. Last year through the mufti and gold coin day at our schools, more than \$32,000 was raised to help Oecusse School in Timor Leste to fix their toilets. This year YCC Day will be on Friday July 5, in support of Holy Trinity School in Papua New Guinea, to help provide new desks, chairs and resources for the students there. See the promotional video at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UqEsNb22Dg>.

ST KEVIN'S COLLEGE ENROLMENTS

2025: Applications for 2025 are now open. For more information please email visit the college home page at <https://www.stkevins.school.nz>, or email enrolment@stkevins.school.nz.

CATHNEWS NZ (<https://cathnews.co.nz>):

(1) June 3. Catholics must understand financial systems in order to influence fiscal policy positively, said Pope Francis; he emphasised the need for Catholic social teaching to critique, comprehend and improve financial structures. The Church's social teaching is to serve as a "compass" in this area. However, for the financial compass to work, it is "necessary not just to admonish but to understand the workings of finance, identify weaknesses and propose concrete corrective measures" he said.

(2) June 7. Sacred Heart Cathedral in Wellington was reopened on Friday 7th June after having been closed for six years for earthquake strengthening and extensive renovations.

(3) June 9. Ukraine has experienced a surge in religious growth since February 2022 following the outbreak of the war there.

VATICAN NEWS

(1) June 12. The World Day Against Child Labour highlights the ongoing issue of nearly 1 in 10 children worldwide being subjected to child labour, particularly affecting marginalised communities like migrants, refugees, and trafficked children. "*A child who cannot dream, who cannot play, cannot grow up. It is robbing children of their future and therefore humanity itself. It is a violation of human dignity.*" (Pope Francis)

(2) The Vatican Observatory will host the Second international conference, 17-21 June, celebrating the legacy of Belgian physicist and priest, Msgr. Georges Lemaître, focusing on areas of research he pioneered that have led to new understanding of black holes, gravitational waves and space-time singularities.

(3) Pope Francis is to hold bilateral talks with world leaders at the G7 Summit in Italy on Friday, the first Pope to participate in a G7 Summit.

'THE COMMON GOOD' newspaper: Available free or via donation from church foyers. Headlines in the current Pentecost edition include '*Nature's Future – Our Future*'; '*Gaza – The only path to peace*'; '*Dorothy Day – prophet for troubled times*'; ...

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: "*I am not a Catholic, but I consider the Christian idea, which has its roots in Greek thought and in the course of the centuries has nourished all of our European civilization, as something that one cannot renounce without becoming degraded.*" (Simone Weil, 1909-43, French philosopher and peace activist, who strongly influenced Pope Paul VI).

HUMOUR: "Murphy, I'm stuck on 2 down in the crossword, a flightless bird from Iceland, 6 and 7 letters." ... "Paddy, ya numb scull, that's easy; frozen chicken."

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ANOINTING OF THE SICK:

March, June, September, and December, first Friday Masses (noon) in Alexandra, and first Wednesdays (5:15pm) in Roxburgh.

RECONCILIATION (Rite I) St John the Baptist, Alexandra, Saturdays 9:30-10am. Otherwise and elsewhere upon request.

EXPOSITION and BENEDICTION: Fridays, 11:30-11:50am, side chapel of St John the Baptist, Alexandra.

<u>MASS TIMES</u>	<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Weekdays</u>
St John the Baptist, Alexandra.	9am	5pm Tues; 9am Wed-Thur & Sat; Noon Friday.
Our Lady of Peace, Roxburgh	11am	5:15pm Wednesday
St Peter's, Omakau	Saturday Vigil 6pm	

PARISH CONTACT DETAILS

Parish Priest Fr Brendan Ward. 7 Killarney St, Alexandra 9320.

Ph: 03 448 8202, or 027 975 3272 (txting best).

Email: alexcatholic@xtra.co.nz

Parish Chairperson Mr Pat Cooney 027 768 9918

Finance Committee Mr Phil Peguero 027 499 0277

St Gerard's Principal Mrs Julie Flannery 03 448 8339

Catholic Social Services 0800 277 669 (toll-free); 03 448 5385 (Mon-Thu)