



**ALEXANDRA
CATHOLIC
PASTORAL AREA**
[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]

30 JUNE 2024

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

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SCRIPTURE READINGS TODAY

(1) *Wisdom 1:13-15; 2:23-24.* 'Death was not God's doing, he takes no pleasure in the extinction of the living.'

(2) *2 Corinthians 8:7,9,13-15.* St. Paul asks the Christians of Corinth in Greece to show the same generous kindness and compassion to their impoverished and suffering Jewish brothers and sisters in Jerusalem as Jesus had showed to all who came to him for healing.

(3) *Mark 5:21-24, 35-43.* The healing by Jesus of a woman who suffered from a chronic bleeding disease, and the returning of the dead daughter of Jairus to life, discloses that Jesus (God) will deliverance for humanity from all our afflictions, and desires life and peace for us.

SCRIPTURE READINGS NEXT SUNDAY

(1) *Ezekiel 2:2-5*

(2) *2 Corinthians 12:7-10*

(3) *Mark 6:1-6*



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Died Recently:

Anniversaries: Don Waldron; Bryan Kennedy; Dennis Kennedy.

'May they rest in peace.'

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SACRAMENTS PROGRAMME 2024



This Sunday 30 June – Presentation after 9am Sunday Mass in Alexandra for parents of pupils preparing to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time.

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ST KEVIN'S COLLEGE ENROLMENTS 2025:

Applications for 2025 are now open. For more info go to enrolment@stkevins.school.nz.

MATARIKI (June 27) is the Aotearoa Pacific New Year. Matariki, the seven-star cluster also known as Pleiades, rises over the horizon in late May. At the time of the first full moon after Matariki first appears, the Māori New Year begins – this year on June 27.

The word Matariki can be translated as Mata Riki (Tiny Eyes) or Mata Ariki (Eyes of God). These eyes watch over the land and her peoples. Matariki is a special time to celebrate our connection to the whenua (land) and admiration for Papatuanuku (our mother earth). It is time to remember our history and roots. Matariki is a time of growth and change, a time to celebrate what we have and what gifts we have to use. Matariki is a celebration of culture, language, spirit and peoples. May God bless us all. *(Wellington Archdiocese)*

NATIONAL CATHOLIC TEACHERS CONFERENCE (June 19-21, Wellington).

Over 650 teachers, all of our bishops and a few priests and religious attended the Conference. Some snippets:

(from Dr Sandra Cullen 21.6.24; Professor of Religious Education, Dublin City University)

**Much emphasis is, rightly, given nowadays to 'caring for the earth as our common home.' But Pope Francis speaks of the twin challenges of an integral ecology. i.e. 'Care for the earth' necessarily must go hand-in-hand with the 'building of human fraternity'.*

**'What do you most want to convey to your children?' ... 'That they matter!'*

(From Dr Joe Paproki, Dr of Ministry, Loyolla University, Chicago)

**'Catechists (teachers) are not teachers of a subject. They are facilitators of an encounter... We don't 'solve' human beings; we encounter them.'*

**'Faith formation is an apprenticeship in a lifestyle, a way of life.'*

**'Help children to encounter the Risen Christ; they need to be permeated by a climate of prayer. Help them to talk to him like phoning a friend.'*

**'Invite children to take the next step on their faith journey. A simple invitation can change a life.'*

**'Incorporate a language of mystery into your lesson.'*

**'The word 'Enthusiasm' comes from the Greek wording 'En Théo', meaning 'God filled'.'*

ST GERARDS SCHOOL NEWS



Visits by pupils are scheduled on the 4th Wednesday of each month (during school terms), when they pray with, sing for, and personally greet elderly residents. Their community service is much appreciated by all.

20,000 CHEESE ROLLS were produced recently by parents and staff of St Gerard's in support of pupil attendance at school camps. Congratulations to all involved; a great effort.

PETER'S PENCE: The annual 'Peter's Pence' collection is undertaken this Sunday. It "is a gesture of solidarity with the Pope as pastor of the universal Church and, in particular, the support of his humanitarian initiatives and social promotion projects" (USCBC).

For those who have Peter's Pence Special Collection envelopes, please include these donations in the Offertory collections over the next two weeks. Otherwise contributors can write their planned giving number and "Peter's Pence" on a blank envelope and place in the Collection baskets. Anonymous donations are also welcome. Thank you.

ALEXANDRA CHURCH HEATING: For those particularly feeling the winter cold, the side chapel heat pump will be on during the 9am Sunday Mass; there is seating there for up to 24 persons. The choir loft, due to its height, is also a bit warmer than the main body of the church. For everyone else, the absence of insulation in the church walls and a high roof spine made of a single layer of glass makes it difficult to heat the congregational space. i.e. As much as possible, wear multiple layers of warm clothing and solid footwear with thick woollen socks; bring rugs if you wish; the wearing of beanies or other warm hats would be prudent and appropriate. If you wear mittens or gloves it would be best to remove them when it comes time to receive Holy Communion, then to put them back on afterwards. -Fr Brendan.

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SAINTS OF THE WEEK (Solemnity of Sts Peter and Paul, 29 June: Pillars of the Church.)

Peter was a fisherman from Bethsaida on the Lake of Galilee. Jesus made him the leader of the apostles. Peter offered the decisive argument settling the question of Gentile converts and the Jewish Law at the first Council in Jerusalem. He wrote two epistles, and was martyred around 64 CE in Rome.

Paul, the 'Apostle to the Gentiles' (non-Jews) was born in Tarsus (southern Turkey). His original name was Saul; he was both a Pharisee and a Roman citizen. He studied Mosaic Law and was also a tradesman tent-maker. At first he was a zealous persecutor of Christians until his dramatic conversion on the road to Damascus. He wrote 14 epistles, converted many and established numerous Church communities. He was arrested, imprisoned and under house arrest for four years in Rome, being martyred there in 67 CE.

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| SUNDAY MASSES | Weekday Mass |
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| St John the Baptist, Alexandra, <u>9am</u> | <u>Alexandra:</u>
Tuesday 5pm.
Wed, Thur & Sat 9am. Friday, noon. |
| Our Lady of Peace, Roxburgh, <u>11am</u> | <u>Roxburgh:</u>
Wednesday, 5:15pm |
| St Peter's, Omakau, 6pm vigil (Saturday) | |

ANOINTING OF THE SICK:

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

RECONCILIATION (Rite I)

Alexandra, Saturdays 9:30-10am. Otherwise upon request.

EXPOSITION and BENEDICTION: Fridays, 11:30-11:50am, side chapel, Alexandra.

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PARISH CONTACT DETAILS

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| Parish Priest Fr Brendan Ward.
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Office Email: alexcatholic@xtra.co.nz. | |
| Parish Chairperson
Mr Pat Cooney;
027 768 9918. | Finance Committee
Mr Phil Peguero;
027 499 0277. |
| Maintenance (Alex)
Mr Morgan Williams;
027 415 7431. | St Gerard's Principal
Mrs Julie Flannery; 03 448 8339. |
| Catholic Social Services 0800 277 669 (toll-free); 03 448 5385 (Mon-Thu) | |