



**ALEXANDRA  
CATHOLIC  
PASTORAL AREA**  
**[St John the Baptist**  
 (1924) Alexandra;  
**St Peter's**  
 (1932) Omakau;  
**St Dunstan's**  
 (1903) Clyde;  
**St Patrick's**  
 (1892) St Bathans;  
**Our Lady of Peace**  
 (1910) Roxburgh]

**13 October 2024**

**28th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B**

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**SCRIPTURE READINGS THIS SUNDAY**

(1) *Wisdom 7:7-11*. The Book of Wisdom was written a bare half-century before the birth of Christ, at a time when all hope of a personal Messiah in the line of David seemed remote. It advises the pursuit of a God-given gift of prudence in order to seek true wisdom and to distinguish it from vanishing earthly realities, like riches or political and social influence. God does not ask us to give up our riches, but He does ask us to use them wisely in His service, not allowing them to gain control over our hearts. God gives us time, talents, health, wealth, and riches that we may use them as good stewards in the service of others.

(2) *Hebrews 4:12-13*. We are accountable to God for our use, or misuse, of His blessings, and that the "living and effective word of God" is the foremost guide in evaluating our use of them.



(3) *Mark 10:17-30*. Reminding the rich man of the commandments that deal with relationships with others, Jesus challenged him to sell what he had and to give the money to the poor. The disciples were shocked by this challenge. But Jesus declared that true religion consisted in one's sharing one's blessings with others rather than hoarding and/or getting inordinately attached to them and possessed by them.

**READINGS NEXT SUNDAY:** (1) *Isaiah 53:10-11*;  
 (2) *Hebrews 4:14-16*; (3) *Mark 10:35-45*.

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**Died Recently:** Judith (Judy) Sutherland; Sr Judith Robinson OP  
**Anniversaries:** Hector Anderton.

**May they rest in peace.**

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**SUPPORT LIFE SUNDAY:** Today being the second Sunday in October, the Catholic Church in Aotearoa New Zealand holds its annual **Day of Prayer for Life**, otherwise known as **Support Life Sunday**. The theme for this year, developed by the Nathaniel Centre for Bioethics, an agency of the NZ Bishops Conference, picks up on the recent Vatican document, *Dignitas Infinita – On Human Dignity*.

**PRAYER FOR LIFE**

*"Lord, you call us, your pilgrim people, to be people of life and for life; to journey in confidence towards "a new heaven and a new earth" that is characterized by a commitment to the infinite dignity of every person.*

*Look down upon the vast numbers of those whose human dignity is daily being violated by war, poverty, exploitation, physical and emotional violence, premature death, abuse, prejudice and neglect. Grant that we who believe in you may proclaim the Gospel of life in what we think, say and do.*

*Obtain for us the grace to accept the Gospel as a gift ever new, the joy of celebrating it with gratitude, and the courage to bear witness to it resolutely so as to build, together with all people of good will, a world of justice, mercy, truth, compassion and love.*

*To the praise and glory of God, the creator and lover of all life."*

**SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION.**

Next Sunday at the 9am Mass in Alexandra 13 children will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, presided over by Bishop Michael Dooley. Please keep them and their families in your prayers. A light morning tea will be held in the church foyer afterwards; if anyone wishes to bring a plate with simple finger food, that would be much appreciated; coffee and tea provided.



**MARRIAGE PREPARATION WEEKEND:** A Marriage Preparation Weekend is coming up for engaged couples in the Diocese of Dunedin.

**When:** 1st-3rd November, (Friday evening to Sunday);

**Where:** Tirohanga Camp, 214 Tirohanga Rd, North Taieri;

**Cost:** \$250 per couple, which includes food and accommodation.

**Registration:** To register, contact Jo Krysa at [jokrysa@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jokrysa@hotmail.co.uk). For more information see the diocese's website [www.cd.nz](http://www.cd.nz).

**THE WISDOM YEARS - A Reflective Retreat Day for People 60 years+**, with a focus on life as the "Wisdom School", reflecting on Childhood, The Working Years, and Maturity.

When: Tuesday 22 October.

Where: Mercy Chapel adjacent to St Patricks Basilica, Macandrew Road, South Dunedin.

Time: 10 a.m. (prompt start) to 5.00 p.m.;

What to bring: Your lunch. Tea & Coffee provided.

Facilitator: Joy Cowley (Mother, Grandmother, Great Grandmother, Author & Spiritual writer.)

Cost: Koha for venue and the Nano Nagle Trust (which supports children attending Catholic schools)

Registration: Register interest by emailing [katieoconnor.nz@gmail.com](mailto:katieoconnor.nz@gmail.com), as soon as possible please.

**MISSION SUNDAY, 20 OCTOBER (next Sunday):**

World Mission Sunday is celebrated in every Catholic community in the world on this day. It is the mission of all the baptised to bring the Good News that God is with us and wants to give life abundantly (Jn 10:10). Mission Sunday is also a moment of grace to express solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Christ who are living in situations of poverty, violence and oppression. Every parish, school and community is invited to join this special event, and every cent and prayer you give to *Missio* helps missionaries everywhere continue their work of evangelisation and pastoral care. Donations may be made using envelopes already provided, or by using your own and posting to *Missio* Aotearoa, PO Box 4544, Christchurch Mail Centre, Christchurch 8140. Thank you.

**SAINT OF THE WEEK:** One of the great figures of Catholicism from the 19<sup>th</sup> Century is Cardinal St John Henry Newman (1801 – 1890) whose feast day was last Wednesday, 9 October. Newman was an English theologian, academic, philosopher, historian, writer, and poet, ordained first as an Anglican priest and then later as a Catholic priest. Among other things, he has been called the 'absent Father of the Second Vatican Council' because his writings on conscience, religious liberty, Scripture, the vocation of lay people and many other topics were extremely influential in shaping the documents of the Council. He was made a saint in the Catholic Church in 2019.

**CAR SOUGHT TO BORROW** (by Fr Brendan, Monday 21 to Friday 25 October): 'Would anyone have a spare car I could borrow over these dates please, as mine will be at the panelbeaters then. Will look to do minimum kms'.

**RECOMMENDED PODCAST:** 'The Rest Is History' podcast series is presented jointly by acclaimed British historians Tom Holland and Dominic Sandbrook. Two episodes of particular note are entitled 'Jesus Christ: The Mystery', and 'Jesus Christ: The History', episodes 287 and 288 respectively. ; each is about 50 minutes long. Tom Holland is a professed Christian, Dominic Sandbrook isn't. But they are respectful colleagues and engage in some refreshing banter. Some content is challenging but overall the presentations are informative and thought-provoking. -Fr.B.

**INTERNATIONAL NEWS** ([www.vaticannews.va](http://www.vaticannews.va)) '*Roles for women are changing in the Vatican*'; 'Holy See decries proliferation of illicit drugs and organ trafficking'; '*Hebrew-speaking Catholics in Israel unite with Pope in prayers for peace*'; 'The humanitarian situation in Haiti is desperate'; '*Four asteroids named after Catholic nun astronomers*; ...

**SUNDAY MASSES**

**Omakau**, St Peters: (Saturday) 6pm  
**Alexandra**, St John the Baptist: 9am  
**Roxburgh**, Our Lady of Peace: 11am.

**WEEKDAY MASSES**

**Alexandra:**  
 Tuesday: 5pm  
 Wed, Thurs, Sat: 9am  
 Friday: Noon



**Roxburgh:**  
 Wednesday 5:15pm (in presbytery):

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**RECONCILIATION (Rite I)**

**Alexandra:** Saturdays 9:30-10am;  
 Otherwise on request.



**ANOINTING OF THE SICK**

(March, June, September, December)  
**Alexandra:** First Friday Mass (noon)  
**Roxburgh:** First Wednesday Mass (5:15pm, in presbytery)

**EXPOSITION and BENEDICTION**

**Alexandra** side chapel, Fridays 11:30-11:50am.  
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**PARISH CONTACT DETAILS**

**Parish Priest:** Fr Brendan Ward.  
**Address:** 3 Killarney St, Alexandra.  
**Phone:** 03 448 8202, or 027 975 3272  
**Email:** [alexcatholic@xtra.co.nz](mailto:alexcatholic@xtra.co.nz)  
**Parish Council:** Mr Pat Cooney; 027 768 9918  
**Finance Chair:** Mr Phil Peguero; 027 499 0277  
**St Gerard's P'pal:** Mrs Julie Flannery; 034488339  
**Catholic Social Services:** 0800 277 669 (toll-free);  
 03 448 5385 (Mon-Thu).  
**Parish Website:** Out of order at the moment  
**Diocese Website:** [www.cdd.nz](http://www.cdd.nz).