



**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]

**17 NOVEMBER 2024**

**33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B**

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**SCRIPTURE READINGS THIS SUNDAY**

(1) *Daniel 12:1-13*. The first reading was originally given to comfort and give hope to the Jewish people suffering cruel persecution by the pagan Greek king, Antiochus Epiphanes. It also advises them to live wisely and justly in the present time.

(2) *Hebrews 10:11-14, 18*. The second reading challenges us to look to the future with hope and serenity because Jesus, having secured the forgiveness of humanity's sins and our sanctification through the sacrifice on the cross, sits forever at God's right hand as the Mediator between all humanity and God.



(3) *Mark 13:24-32*. Today's Gospel offered hope to early Christians persecuted by the Roman Emperor Nero, by reminding them of Jesus' promise of return to judge the living and the dead, and to gather to himself all made righteous through their love for God and neighbour.

**READINGS NEXT SUNDAY:** (1) Daniel 7:13-14; (2) Revelation 1:5-8; (3) Luke 9:11-17

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**Died Recently:**

**Anniversaries:**

Anne McDONALD; Mary BROWN

**'May they rest in peace.'**

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**ABUSE-IN-CARE APOLOGY:** At all Masses across New Zealand this weekend a letter will be read from the NZ Catholic Bishops Conference, in place of the homily, entitled 'Pastoral Letter on Occasion of the Prime Minister's Apology to Victims and Survivors of Abuse in Care.' Immediately after the pastoral letter there will be prayed a 'Litany of Lament', followed by kneeling for a minute's silence by all who can do so.

**1<sup>st</sup> HOLY COMMUNION NEXT SUNDAY:**



Next Sunday at the 9am Mass in Alexandra twelve local children will receive their first Holy Communion. For anyone who would like to help in the choir to celebrate this occasion, there is a practice this coming Wednesday, 7pm – 8pm in the church. Some school children will practice during school time over coming days, so to join in the choir also.

**JUBILEE HIKOI 2025:** Each year an anniversary Mass is celebrated at Hokianga, Northland, in remembrance of the first Mass in NZ by Bishop Pompallier in 1838. On 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> January next year all the NZ Bishops will be attending, including the Papal Nuncio, as part of the international Jubilee Year 2025 celebrations. For anyone wishing to attend, please go online to register at [www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/lifeinfaith/nga\\_tapuwa-ae-2025/](http://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/lifeinfaith/nga_tapuwa-ae-2025/). There is an online information evening this coming Wednesday 7pm - 8pm. See the flyer in church foyers for more information.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to baby Gianna, daughter of



Ralph Alban and Andrea Velasco, baptised at St Peter's Omakau on 6<sup>th</sup> Nov. And to infant Oliver, son of Andrew Wise and Anna Paulin, of Melbourne, baptised at St John the Baptist in Alexandra on 9<sup>th</sup> Nov.

**COLUMBAN CALENDARS 2025:** Are available for purchase from the church sacristies after Sunday vigil Masses at Omakau and Sunday morning Masses at Alex and Roxburgh. \$15 each. Great Christmas presents. Pages by month exhibit classic religious art with an accompanying explanation.

**SAINTS OF THE WEEK –18 Nov:** *Dedication of the Basilicas of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles.* This feast combines the celebrations of the dedication of St Peter's Basilica and the Basilica of St Paul Outside the Walls (of Rome), which were both built by the Emperor Constantine the Great during the 4th century. These sites had already been visited by pilgrims for over a century beforehand, given the apostles were traditionally believed to have been buried there. The basilicas were originally joined by a colonnade of several miles.

**CATHOLIC NEWS NZ** ([www.cathnews.co.nz](http://www.cathnews.co.nz). – 14 Nov 2024)

New Confession guidelines adopted by French Catholic bishops.

Calls for senior clergy to follow Welby and resign. Vatican and Microsoft use AI to bring St Peter's to the world.

High Court limits Catholic Church's liability in abuse cases.

Italy feels Catholic but Church needs to modernise.

US bishops to defend immigrants in Trump's second term.

Heritage protection expected for former seminary.

Gulls create mayhem at Christchurch diocese's demolished building.

'Chair of St Peter' on public display for first time in 150 years.

Stats NZ delivers on its commitment to measure persistent child poverty.

Parish finance manager faces federal time.

Mothers want forced adoptions included in national apology to abuse in care survivors.

Vatican Christmas tree at centre of controversy in Italy.

Vatican prohibits Traditional Latin Mass in Bishop Strickland's former cathedral.

**VATICAN NEWS** ([www.vaticannews.va](http://www.vaticannews.va))

*-Pope to share lunch with 1300 poor of Rome:* In his message for the 2024 World Day of the Poor, Pope Francis noted that war-driven "bad politics" generates new poverty and innocent victims. He urged everyone to pray with and for the poor, and highlighted that volunteers continue to devote themselves to serving the poorest in our cities, embodying God's response to their needs.

*-World Fisheries Day (November 21):* With over 58 million people involved in the field of fisheries and aquaculture around the world, Cardinal Czerny, the Vatican Prefect for Integral Human Development, warned against turning a blind eye towards actions that disregard care for the environment. He said, "the Church shares in the joys and hopes but also the sorrows and grief" of humanity who must now place an emphasis on fraternity rather than "globalization of indifference" to protect and preserve the environment.

*-Online Racism:* Vatican's permanent observer to the UN expresses concern over anti-migrant discrimination, religious intolerance, and online racism.

*-Nigerian persecution:* Over 15 Catholic parishes in Benue state have closed amid cries to end violence against Christians in Nigeria.

*-Anglican Archbishop Resigns:* Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, the leader of Anglicans worldwide, resigned "in sorrow" on Tuesday, saying he had failed to ensure a proper investigation into allegations of abuse by a volunteer at Christian summer camps decades ago. (ODT, 14.11.24)

**UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO THEOLOGY STUDIES:**

The University of Otago offers a wide range of theology courses and qualifications, all available via distance learning, including Biblical Languages, Biblical Studies, Chaplaincy, Christian Thought and History, and Pastoral Studies/Ministry. For further information see [www.otago.ac.nz/theology](http://www.otago.ac.nz/theology) or phone [0800 80 80 98](tel:0800808098) or [03 479 8639](tel:034798639). See <https://tinyurl.com/theologyotagovideo> for a brief video or find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/theologyotago](https://www.facebook.com/theologyotago). (Also, see the brochures in church foyers.)

**CENTRAL OTAGO REGIONAL CHOIR:** Is presenting its concert series of Christmas music. *Where and when?* Alexandra 24 November (next Sunday) at 2:30pm; Arrowtown 22 Nov 7:30pm; Wanaka 23 Nov, 7:30pm. *Tickets available* at Paper Plus Alexandra or at the door, cash only.

**HEALTH CENTRAL URGENT CARE CENTRE:**

This is a walk-in medical service for locals and visitors. Open 7 days, 8am to 6pm, for non-life-threatening illnesses and injuries. 105-107 Tarbert St, Alexandra. See the flyer on the church foyer noticeboards for more information.

**HUMOUR – A Dog Owners Prayer:** 'Dear Lord, help me to be the kind of person that my dog thinks I am' (☺) - Submitted by a parishioner

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**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:** [alexatholic@xtra.co.nz](mailto:alexatholic@xtra.co.nz)  
**Parish Council:** Mr Pat Cooney; 027 768 9918  
**Finance Chair:** Mr Phil Peguero; 027 499 0277  
**St Gerard's Principal:** Mrs Julie Flannery; 034488339  
**Catholic Social Services:** 0800 277 669 (toll-free); 03 448 5385 (Mon-Thu).  
**Parish Website:** [www.alexatholic.nz](http://www.alexatholic.nz)  
**Diocese Website:** [www.cdd.nz](http://www.cdd.nz)

