

## 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.

Newsletter for  
**SUNDAY 21 APRIL 2024**

### **4th SUNDAY of EASTER, YEAR B** **GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY**

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#### SCRIPTURE READINGS TODAY

- (1) *Acts 4:8-12.* Arrested for an act of kindness to a crippled person, Peter joyfully proclaims Jesus Christ as the only name by which humanity can be saved from itself.
- (2) *1 John 3:1-2.* 'We are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is.'
- (3) *John 10:11-18.* Jesus, the good shepherd, willingly gives his life for the salvation of all humanity.

#### TODAY'S RESPONSES

**PSALM:** 'The stone rejected by the builders has become the corner-stone.'

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** 'I am the Good Shepherd says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me.'

#### SCRIPTURE READINGS NEXT SUNDAY

- (1) *Acts 9:26-31* (2) *1 John 3:18-24* (3) *John 15:1-8*

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#### **Died Recently: ...**

**Anniversaries:** Antoinette Van Boxtel  
Peter McGorlick and John Brown  
May they rest in peace.

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**RENTAL HOME SOUGHT:** A St Gerard's family with 4 children, from India last year, have to be out of their current rental at the end of April so are desperately looking for a new, preferably 3 bedroom, house. The parents are both working. Please contact St Gerard's office, or Fr Brendan, if you are able to help.

## WELCOME

**to all attending the centenary celebrations**  
**of the parish of St John the Baptist, Alexandra,**  
**constituted 100 years ago this weekend**  
**on 20 April 1924**

Morning tea in the church entrance area will follow 9am Mass today. NB:

- (i) If you can, please bring a plate.
- (i) At the end of the Mass please first exit the church to the right and wait to be directed to where the group photo will be taken at the base of the slope. Then everyone is welcome to return for morning tea and refreshments.
- (3) The Centenary memorial booklet will be on sale for \$20 after Mass. (NB: Cash sales only).

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God's blessing and peace on our celebrations as we gather to express thanks for, and to honour, all who have contributed to the faith, fellowship, and life of our parish and the wider community over the last 100 years here in the Alexandra area and wider district.

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Thank you to all who have helped with planning, promoting, preparing, tidying, cleaning, communicating, recording, financing, and supporting the dinner, Mass, booklets and hospitality involved in our celebrations this weekend. Great work by you all.

Roll on the 125<sup>th</sup>!!

**CLERGY JUBILEE MASS GENERAL INVITATION:** Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May, 10:30am, St Joseph's Cathedral, Rattray St, Dunedin. All laity and clergy welcome. Jubilarians are: Bishop Colin Campbell, 20<sup>th</sup> (Episcopal Ordination); Fr Elise Sangco MSP, 25<sup>th</sup> Silver Jubilee; Fr Jacob Thevasahayampillai, 40<sup>th</sup> Ruby Jubilee; Fr Wayne Healey, 50<sup>th</sup> Golden Jubilee; Fr Maurice White, 60<sup>th</sup> Diamond Jubilee (in absentia).

#### **CATHOLIC NEWS ITEMS (cathnews.co.nz):**

Children's Commissioner wants cross-party help to end child poverty; Pope backs Peruvian villagers against church land grab; Priest pepper-sprayed during confessions at Texas cathedral; Twenty-one new Cardinals named by Pope Francis; ...

**Vocations Sunday** “This Sunday is Vocations Sunday, when we give particular focus to praying for vocations to priesthood and religious life. Currently Tang Van Phan is in his second year of formation at Holy Cross Seminary in Auckland, and Song Minh Nguyen, also from Vietnam, is studying for his English proficiency exams in order to commence at the seminary.

**PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS**

*“Lord our God, give your grace to all members of your church. Help us to understand the dignity to which each of us has been called. Stir in us – young and old, lay people, priests and religious – the desire to respond generously and take up the particular mission in life you entrust uniquely to each of us. On this, Good Shepherd Sunday, we especially ask that you call and entrust men and women to serve your people as priests and religious, through Christ our Lord, Amen.”*

**ANZAC DAY MASS:** This coming Thursday, 25 April, 9am at St Dunstan’s church, Clyde. **NB:** No 9am Mass in Alexandra.



(Tyne Cot Cemetery, Passchendaele, outside the town of Ypres, Belgium. It is the largest Commonwealth War Graves cemetery and is the location of the most catastrophic of engagements across all wars that the NZ military have been involved in.)

**ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH SOUND SYSTEM**

**OCCASIONAL BEEP:** The beeping seems to be associated with mobile phones trying to link via Bluetooth to the church Wifi system: i.e. Please ensure that Bluetooth functions are turned off and audio functions are muted when carrying a mobile phone in the church.

**NEW VATICAN DOCUMENT ON THE THEME OF**

**HUMAN DIGNITY:** The Vatican's Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith has recently published a new document on the theme of human dignity, addressing a range of contemporary moral and social issues. Entitled *‘Declaration Dignitas Infinita, on Human Dignity’*, it addresses such issues as poverty, war, the

travail of migrants, human trafficking, sexual abuse, violence against women, abortion, surrogacy, euthanasia/assisted suicide, the marginalising of people with disabilities, gender theory, sex change and digital violence. A copy can be downloaded from <https://www.catholic.org.nz/assets/Dignitas-Infinita-Inglese.pdf>. Also, see the Vatican News article <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/vatican-city/news/2024-04/human-dignity-ddf-document-migration-gender-surrogacy-war-theolo.html>

**A ‘ROAD TO EMMAUS’ PRAYER** (from last week - Luke 24:13-35): *‘Dear Lord stay; do not walk on. Let me not fail to invite you to stop with me this day. Grace me with your presence and bid me walk with you as brother/sister-in-arms. Where will you be with me, for me, through me, and about me this day?’*

**REFLECTION, PRAISE AND WORSHIP DAY:** Saturday 11th May, 10am-3:30pm, St Patrick's Basilica, 40 Macandrew Road, South Dunedin. Bring a plate for a shared lunch; tea and coffee provided. A koha will be taken up. Arranged by Charis NZ Leadership and Worship Teams. For further information contact Kathy Mayo 03 473 7115.

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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.



**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (Rite I)**

St John the Baptist, Alexandra, Saturdays 9:30-10am. Otherwise and elsewhere upon request.

<b>MASS TIMES</b>	<b>Sunday Mass</b>	<b>Weekday Mass</b>
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 Priest:** Fr Brendan Ward. 7 Killarney St, Alexandra 9320. Ph 03 448 8202 or 027 975 3272.

**Parish Chairperson:** Mr Pat Cooney. 027 768 9918

**Finance Committee:** Mr Phil Peguero. 027 499 0277

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

**St Gerard’s Principal:** Mrs Julie Flannery. 03 448 8339