



Diocese
of Dunedin

Alexandra Catholic Pastoral Area

Omakau (1870) Alexandra (1924) Roxburgh (1950)



Parish Priest

Rev Fr Sani Lam

Cell: 021 840 259

sunctuslst@gmail.com

Parish Pastoral Council Chair

Mr Pat Cooney

Cell: 027 768 9918

cooneys@xtra.co.nz

St Gerard's Primary

School

Principal

Mrs Julie Flannery

Presbytery

7 Killarney Street

Alexandra 9320

Ph: 03 448 8202

alexatholic@xtra.co.nz

www.alexatholic.nz

Finance Committee & Maintenance Team Chair

Phil Peguero

Ph: 0274990277

Director of Religious Studies

Mrs Neroli Laidlaw

Board Chair

Mrs Kerrie Fahey

Ph: 03 448 8339

office@stgerards.school.nz

Catholic Social Services

0800 277 669 (toll-free)

Ph: 03 448 5385 (Mon-Thurs)



Four Sunday of Advent—18 December

Christmas MASS TIMES

Omakau Christmas Vigil 24th December
6:00pm Mass, with Carols from 5.30pm

Alexandra Christmas Vigil 24th December
9pm Mass with Carols from 8.30pm
Christmas Day 25th December: 9am

New Year's Day 1 January 2023 9am

Roxburgh Christmas day 25th December: 11am

Weekdays

20th—23rd December

Tuesday 20th 5:00pm (chapel)

Wednesday, 21st 9:00am (chapel)

Thursday, 22nd 9:00am (chapel)

Friday, 23rd 12:00pm (church)

Saturday (see above)

Roxburgh

Wednesday, 21st 5:15pm (presbytery)

ADORATION & BENEDICTION

Alexandra (church)

Friday 11:00am—Noon

(11:45am Benediction)

RECONCILIATION

Alexandra Sunday 18th @ 1pm

(Rite 11)

ANointing OF THE SICK

Quarterly

Alexandra

Friday Noon

(1st Fri of the months of Mar, Jun, Sep, Dec)

Readings : 1. Isaiah 7: 10-14,
2. Romans 1: 1-7
Gospel Matthew 1: 18-25

Responsorial Psalm:
Let the Lord enter he is king of glory

Gospel Acclamation:
Alleluia, alleluia!
A virgin will give birth to a son;
His name will be Emmanuel: God is with us.
Alleluia!, alleluia!

Communion Antiphon:
Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear and son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.



Died Recently

Anniversaries
Heather McEligott

Requiescant
in Pace

ON SALE NOW
2023
COLUMBAN ART
CALENDARS



CARING FOR OUR COMMON HOME

As we celebrate the coming of God's son, our model for a life of love, let us walk gently on the Earth/Papatūānuku this summer, leaving few footprints, and continue our efforts for national, and global, peace and justice in the coming year. With God's grace, our love makes all the difference. We ask God's blessing this Christmas and continuing graces on us all in 2023. "For in him all things were created, things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible all things have been created through him and for him." (Col 1:16).

A blessed and very holy Christmas to all!

Meri Kirihimete!

From the Diocesan Laudato Si' group



The [fourth candle](#) of Advent is called the "Angel Candle" and symbolizes peace. This name comes from the fact that the angels announced that Jesus came to bring peace ([Luke 2:14](#)). This week we are reminded that Jesus came to bring peace to our hearts and to our world!

Welcome to our visitors today who have joined us to celebrate our Mass. We welcome back family and whanau who are returning home to Central to celebrate Christmas with their loved ones.

We wish those who are traveling to be with their family and whanau very safe travels and all the best for the season.

You are all cordially invited to join us for a cuppa and chat at the back of the church at the end of Mass.



**CHARISMATIC CONFERENCE – MARCH 2023
'RECEIVE HOLY SPIRIT POWER'**

Friday, 24 March, 7 p.m. to Sunday, 26 March, 2 p.m.

This Conference will take place at El Rancho, 58 Weggery Drive, Waikanae Beach, Kapiti Coast.

SPEAKERS: Opening Message: Cardinal John Dew
KEYNOTE SPEAKERS: Dr Mary Healy (USA); Robert Falzon (MenALIVE); Fr John Rea SM

Final Mass Celebrant: Archbishop Paul Martin, SM

REGISTRATION FEE: \$135.00 which includes meals.

REGISTRATIONS ARE OPEN but close 8 March. Onsite Accommodation is available at different rates. REGIS-

TRATIION: www.currentofgraceconference.info

Website for further information: charisnz.com or Facebook: m.facebook.com/charis/nz/
Check poster on parish noticeboard

OASIS Volunteers hosted Afternoon Tea as they go into recess (for now)

Local Catholic Social Services workers Dona Foley and Geoff Heward, were warmly welcomed to join the Oasis ladies for afternoon tea on Thursday, as the group enters a reluctant recess. Unable to find suitable, affordable, premises to continue their Second hand goods business the group have made the decision to step back, for now. Dona and Geoff were overwhelmed with the ladies ongoing generosity as they presented them with a further \$15,000 to put towards their work here in Central. The ladies also had a selection of Christmas items to be gifted to clients of the service along with some coffee vouchers for Dona and Geoff to take their clients out for a cuppa. The occasion was a very happy one as there was lots of chatter and sharing of stories about the second hand items that had passed through the doors of the local shop and many of the group wore items of clothing and jewelry and accessories purchased from the store. Over the last few years Oasis has gifted over \$80,000 to CSS from their successful venture, which has been very gratefully received to help them continue the work of Catholic Social Services locally.

Mike Tonks, CSS director extends his very appreciative and grateful thanks to all of the women who have worked tirelessly in Oasis to help us help our people to live well.

Thank you all!!! Merry Christmas

Photograph courtesy Donald Lamont.



Readings for Christmas Vigil (24th December)

1. Isaiah 62: 1-5
2. Acts 13: 16-17
3. Gospel Matthew 1:1-25

Readings for Christmas Day (25th December)

1. Isaiah 52: 7-10
2. Hebrews 1:1-6
3. Gospel John 1:1-18

Saturday 24th December	Alexandra St John the Baptist	Omakau St Peters
Greeters	Trish Schaumann Donald Lamont	Volunteer
OHP	Peter Mulvihill	Jane
Intro/ POF	Nic Lanham	Volunteer
Reader	Christine Lanham Thomas Lamb	J Paulin
Offertory gifts	Trish Schumann Glenda Chapman	Volunteer
Special Minister	Barry Gibbons	J Paulin
Cleaners 24th-7th	Bernie Harvey and Margaret Bennie	
Altar Servers Alexandra	Varna Sim (CB), Liberty Sim (CB) Tom Lanham (CH)	
Sacristans Alexandra	Margaret (S/U) and Donald (T/U)	

Christmas Day 25th	Alexandra St John the Baptist	Roxburgh Our Lady of Peace
Greeters	Bernie Harvey Bernie Brown	Averell McElligott
OHP	Rosemary and Marty	Angela Compton
Intro/ POF	Margaret Bennie	Volunteer
Reader	Carol Sawers Varna Sim	Michelle Clarke
Offertory gifts	Gerard Rogatski Jae Kinney	Dave and John
Special Minister	Margaret Bennie	-
Cleaners 24th-7th	Bernie Harvey and Margaret Bennie	Angela Compton
Altar Servers Alexandra	Charlotte O'Kane (CB) Milla O'Kane (CB) Paige O'Kane (CH)	
Sacristans Alexandra	Margaret (S/U) and Jim (T/U)	

Holiday Mass Times

For the Alexandra Pastoral Area

18 December:
Alexandra 1pm
Advent
Reconciliation
Rite 11

24th December:
Christmas vigils
Omakau:
5.30pm Carols
6pm Mass

Alexandra
8.30pm Carols
9pm Mass

Christmas Day 25th
Alexandra 9am
Roxburgh 11am

New Year's Mass
Alexandra: 9am