

01 March 2026
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR A



**ALEXANDRA
 CATHOLIC
 PASTORAL AREA**
[St John the Baptist
 (1924) Alexandra;
St Peter's
 (1928) Omakau;
St Dunstan's
 (1903) Clyde;
St Patrick's
 (1892) St Bathans;
Our Lady of Peace
 (1910) Roxburgh]

MASS WITH ANOINTING OF THE SICK/FRAIL
Roxburgh: This coming Wednesday, 5:15pm, in the presbytery at Roxburgh
Alexandra: This coming Friday, at noon, in the main body of the church.

RESPONSES TO BP MICHAEL'S QUESTIONS:
 This Sunday, at Masses in Omakau (6pm vigil), Alexandra (9am), and Roxburgh (11am), there will be opportunity after Communion to simply listen to what people have to offer, without query or discussion at the time; rather, just silent reflection. Pastoral Council members will collate responses and later share them back to parishes for discussion at times and places of people's own choosing. The collated responses will be sent to Bp Michael by Easter, as he has requested.

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THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

(1) **Genesis 12:1-4.** *God calls Abram to leave his country, his family, his comfort-zone, to go out into an unknown land and an unknown future. Initially at least, Abram does not seem to have any concept of God, and yet he follows this call. Abram's trust in this Voice is the model for all personal trust. Likewise, the first disciples at the Lake of Galilee will, without a word or a question, follow God's Son when he calls them.*



(2) **2 Timothy 1:8-10.** *The word 'grace' has been much misunderstood, as though 'grace' were an independent gift, a thing in itself. In fact the word is simply used in the New Testament to express the love of God or of Christ for humanity. The 'grace granted to us in Christ Jesus' is the loving way in which God has regarded us from the beginning of time, though its fullness has become visible only at the appearing of Christ Jesus.*

(3) **Matthew 17:1-9.** *The Transfiguration was the moment when the disciples were shown the divinity of Jesus on the holy mountain. The awesome moment of revelation cannot, however, last, and Jesus brings his disciples back to the dire realities before them with the reminder that his death must precede the revelation of his glory at the Resurrection. (Commentaries from Universalis.com)*

'FRIDAY COFFEE - MAKING CONNECTIONS' - Friday 6th March, 9am at Industry Lane café: An opportunity for St Gerard's staff (Anne), Fr Brendan, school parents and members of the wider parish community to meet and chat in general on matters of faith and hope in our modern times. See flyer on church foyer doors windows.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER (Friday 06 March, 10am, St Enoch's church): The annual World Day of Prayer is hosted this year by the Alexandra Clyde Lauder Union Parish, on behalf of all local churches. See the flyer on the Alex church foyer windows for further information. All welcome.

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

- (1) Exodus 17:3-7 (2) Romans 5:1-2,5-8
- (3) John 4:5-16,19-26,39-42

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Died Recently: Sr Antonio Van der Voort (Holland, 04.01.2026); Helen Mullally.

Anniversaries about now: Anne Cooney; Neville Sklenars; Annie Altenburg; Florencio Guardiario; Fr Ray Garchow.

'May they rest in peace.'

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2026

(i) **Baptism preparation – Wednesday 11 March, 7-8pm,** in the Alexandra church, presented by Fr Brendan. Please note: Attendance is necessary and required for parent(s) and children participating in the sacramental programme who have yet to be baptised.

(ii) **Confirmation** will now be at the 9am Mass in Alexandra on **Sunday 21 June**, with Bp Michael Dooley presiding.

(iii) **Reconciliation** will be celebrated during Term 3 at St Gerards, at a time yet to be decided.

(iv) **Holy Communion** (first) will be at the 9am Mass on **Sunday 22 November** in Alexandra, the feast of Christ the King.

