

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 05 May 2024

6th SUNDAY of EASTER, YEAR B

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SCRIPTURE READINGS TODAY

(1) *Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48*: The gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out upon the gentiles also.

(2) *1 John 4:7-10*: 'All who live in love, live in God, and God in them.'

(3) *John 15:9-17*: 'No one has greater love than this, than to lay down one's life for one's friends.'

TODAY'S RESPONSES

PSALM: 'The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.'

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: 'All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and will come to them.'

SCRIPTURE READINGS NEXT SUNDAY

- (1) *Acts 1:1-11*
(2) *Ephesians 1:17-23*
(3) *Mark 16:15-20*



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Died Recently: Fr Bruce McGill CSsR;
Sir Vincent O'Sullivan; **Anniversaries**:
Isobel Kinney, Mina Kinney, Dan Kinney,
Rona Story, Robin Lockhart, Irene Burton
and Fr Tony Ives

May they rest in peace.

SAFEGUARDING WORKSHOP: For all clergy and parishioners involved in working with children and vulnerable adults: 1pm-3pm, St John the Baptist church, Alexandra, next Saturday 11 May. Led by Maria Noonan, the Dunedin diocesan representative on the NZ Bishops Conference 'National Office for Professional Standards'. e.g. This is for anyone who takes Communion to the Sick, is engaged with altar servers, who prepares children for reception of the Sacraments, who engages in visitation to the homebound, and the likes.

FEASTDAY OF THE WEEK - ST JOSEPH the

WORKER (01 May): (From the Vatican II document 'Church in the Modern World') - "By his work a man (*sic*) ordinarily provides for himself and his family, associates with others as his brothers and sisters, and renders them service; he can exercise genuine charity and be a partner in the work of bringing divine creation to perfection. Moreover, we believe by faith that through the homage of work offered to God man is associated with the redemptive work of Jesus Christ, whose labour with his hands in Nazareth greatly ennobled the dignity of work. This is the source of every man's duty to work loyally as well as his right to work; moreover, it is the duty of society to see to it that, according to the prevailing circumstances, all citizens have the opportunity of finding employment. Finally, remuneration for work should guarantee the opportunity to provide a dignified livelihood for oneself and one's family on the material, social, cultural and spiritual level to correspond to the role and the productivity of each, the relevant economic factors of his employment, and the common good."

The Dignity of Human Labour: (From the NZ Catholic Bishops pastoral letter, May 2010)

"Work is often identified with employment, but it is much more than that. Work has a dignity of its own in that it expresses the self-worth of a person, something that can never be reduced to mere economic value. It is to be seen as a gift, in relation to the common good. 'My Work' must never be thought of as being for me alone. Nor can I regard work as being my own creation. In the invitation to partner the Creator in caring for all that exists, God has gifted work as a creative, healing, and renewing resource."

The bishops' encourage Catholics to question our consumer lifestyles, the effects of our purchases on those in the production line and the impact of our waste on the environment. Why? Because it was precisely through the "work of human hands" that Jesus built his own community. Fishermen, tentmakers, weavers, vinedressers, government officials, farm workers, men and women labourers of all kinds were among his first followers. He gave us the supreme example of how important it is to contribute to life through the gift of self. This is why Christians hold work as a most sacred trust and name the carpenter, Joseph - husband of Mary, the mother of Jesus - as the patron of all workers.

SACRAMENTS PROGRAMME FOR CHILDREN: For families with children for Baptism and/or Confirmation, Reconciliation and First Communion this year, please attend the parent and child(ren) enrolment and presentation, 4pm-5pm on Sunday 19th May (Pentecost Sunday) in the Alexandra church. (If this time does not suit anyone please notify Fr Brendan to arrange an alternative date/time (alexatholic@xtra.co.nz, or 027-9753-272.)

CONGRATULATIONS: to Archie Moran, son of Mike and Sophie, baptised in St Peter's, Omakau, last Sunday.

MOTHERS' DAY, and the MONTH OF MAY: Next Sunday 12 May is Mothers' Day. Also, May is a month of particular focus on the discipleship of Mary, mother of Christ, and her significance. For reflections from Catholic women leaders go to https://www.wn.catholic.org.nz/adw_welcom/mar-y-month-of-may-reflections-from-catholic-women-leaders/.

VATICAN NEWS: *Calls for climate aid:* African leaders are urging wealthier nations to increase financial support to a crucial World Bank initiative that provides low-interest loans to help developing countries address the pressing challenges of climate change and socio-economic inequalities. (29.4.24)

Pope Francis to participate in G7 session on AI (Artificial Intelligence): Pope Francis will take part in the upcoming G7 session on AI under Italy's presidency of the group.

NEWLY PRINTED PRAYER CARDS (with the Lord's Prayer, the Beatitudes, the 10 Commandments, and The Day of the Lord). Foldable, so as to fit in a wallet. Available from the church foyers, free.

ALEXANDRA CENTENARY PHOTO AVAILABILITY: See examples on the foyer notice board. To purchase see Donald Lamont or email him on donaldlamont25@gmail.com. \$19 each.

CENTENARY BOOKLETS: Only 8 copies left. Available from the Alexandra church foyer. \$20. Please see Theresa Hughes or Brian McLean to obtain copies.

KEYS FOR ALEXANDRA CHURCH and HALL: If anyone has keys for the church and sacristy, and/or the parish hall, please fill out the form on the table in the church foyer. This is for security and insurance purposes. Thank you.

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

UPCOMING WIDER COMMUNITY EVENTS

Central Otago Regional Choir: 'Bach, Bacharach and The Beatles'. Dunstan High School, Sunday 12 May, 2:30pm. Door cash sales, \$30; students free. Tickets available from church foyer after 9am Mass at Alexandra, or from Paper Plus.

Alexandra Musical Society's "Stars in their Eyes". May 15 – 18th. Tickets online from alexandramusicalsociety.com, or from the Alexandra Community House.

HUMOUR *Jack:* 'I am afraid I have some bad news.' *Jim:* It's a good thing I'm sitting down then; what is it?' *Jack:* 'I just painted your chair!'

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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.

EXPOSITION and BENEDICTION: Fridays, 11:30-11:50am, side chapel of St John the Baptist, Alexandra.

<u>MASS TIMES</u>	<u>Sunday Mass</u>	<u>Weekday Mass</u>
St John the Baptist, Alexandra.	9am	5pm Tues; 9am Wed- Thurs & 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. **Phone** 03 448 8202 or 027 975 3272. **Email:** alexatholic@xtra.co.nz

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