

The Newsletter of
the parishes of



St. Alban at Pelaw



St. Patrick at Felling



Our School

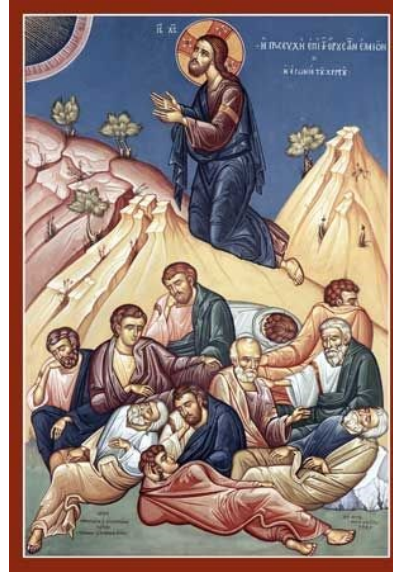
www.stalbansgateshead.org

St. Patrick's Presbytery
9 High Street
Felling
Gateshead
NE10 9LT
Tel. No 0191 495 2277

St. Alban's Primary School
Tel. No 0191 469 3251

27th Sunday of the Year
2nd October, 2022

We need everyone to
keep Gateshead safe



Dear Parishioners

The readings in church this weekend, are all about faith, particularly the importance of being bold and never being ashamed of "witnessing to the Lord".

Faith is a persistent reaching out to Jesus and trusting in God's power and authority. Faith is responding with love to forgiveness received, not letting fear get the upper hand, and being willing to take risks. Faith is giving praise to God, having confidence in God's desire for justice and being willing to ask Jesus for what we need.

Throughout St. Luke's Gospel, the closest followers of Jesus reveal their own mixed levels of faith. They have left homes and jobs and families in order to follow Jesus. It was not easy as they encountered hostility from many who opposed him. But they stayed with him, even for his final journey towards Jerusalem.

In the turmoil and fear of today's world, we can perhaps identify with the disciples when our faith wavers. It is easy to lose sight of God's Spirit at work in the world. Yet when we nurture faith we become aware of being part of something vast and well intentioned that gives purpose to life, that leads us to seek beyond the horizons of our smallness to the hope that tomorrow will be better. Faith in God is the only ground we have for faith in ourselves, in humanity, in life.

May God bless us all. Fr. Patterson.

Celebrate safely and with consideration for others in our churches.

Bishop Robert has written to all the parishes in the Diocese advising us that he has now lifted all the mandatory Diocesan Covid restrictions with the exception of receiving Holy Communion from the chalice which is still not permitted.

As a result, the wearing of face coverings and the use of hand sanitiser **is entirely optional**, although we would encourage the sanitising of hands on entering the church.

However if you are displaying any symptoms of Covid-19, or any cold or flu like symptoms, **you should stay at home.**

The Government Document "[Living with Covid-19](#)" stresses the need to ventilate our buildings, which has the effect of diluting and dispersing viral particles

Whatever choices you make, please continue to be aware of others and remember we do not know who are deemed clinically vulnerable and who are not, so please respect those who may choose to continue to wear a face covering. Our "welcomers" will always be on hand to greet you and care for you

Mass Intentions

Fr. Patterson will celebrate Mass for the following Intentions during the coming week.

With the exception of Wednesday and Friday all Masses and Services are open to everyone to attend.

Monday: No Mass

Tuesday: 10.00 in St. Patrick's Church: George Owens

Wednesday: (Private Mass) Private Intention

Thursday: No Mass

Friday: (Private Mass): Fr. Joe Park

Saturday: 18.00 in St. Alban's Church: For the intentions of all our parishioners

Sunday: 10.00 in St. Patrick's Church: Brian Quigley

Please note there will be no Mass on Thursday. As one of the Diocesan Consultors, Fr. Patterson will be attending a meeting of the Consultors with Bishop Robert

Mass to view on line

Mass is live streamed from our Cathedral on a Sunday. Visit the [Cathedral website](#).

Alternatively, you may like to follow Mass from [the Holy Name, Jesmond](#). Visit the website for Mass times this week.

When you are unable to celebrate Mass in Church, you may wish to make this act of spiritual communion:-

Lord Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

Please keep in your prayers:

- all our parishioners who are sick, housebound or in hospital
- and all those near and dear to us whose memories we cherish at this time especially Brian Quigley

A Prayer for those who have died from Covid

Gracious God, as we remember before you all those people who have died from the coronavirus, surround us and all who mourn with your compassion. Be gentle with us in our grief, protect us from despair and give us grace to persevere and face the future with hope. We make this prayer in the name of Jesus Christ our risen Lord. Amen.

A Prayer for Carers, Nurses and Doctors

Lord Jesus, who healed the sick and gave them new life, be with doctors, nurses and carers, as they act as agents of your healing touch. In challenging times, keep them strong yet loving; and when their work is done, be with them in their weariness and in their tears. Amen.

A Prayer for Ukraine

Father, hold the people of Ukraine deep in your heart. Protect them from violence, political gamesmanship and from being used and abused. Give the nations of the world the courage and wisdom to stand up for justice and the courage to care generously. Take from us those traits that see us pursuing our own needs and wants before those of others. Teach us to live in love, dignity and respect, following your ways. We ask this in your name and for your sake. Amen

Family Fast Day Prayer

God of abundance, you entrust to our care your gift of creation, our common home. Open our ears to hear the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.

God of justice, you show us how to live in gratitude and solidarity. Open our mouths to speak out, challenging greed and inequality, and standing up for all among us in desperate need of food.

God of hope, you share with us your vision of a world renewed. Open our hearts to compassion. As we hold before you the people of East Africa, may we reach out in love. Amen

Bishop Barron's Sunday Sermons

Each week Bishop Barron offers a Sunday sermon which may be accessed [here](#)

Refreshments after Mass will be available every week from 2nd October

Thanks to a few more offers of help and the generosity of our existing volunteers, we will be able to offer refreshments in St. Patrick's parish centre after Mass every Sunday commencing this Sunday, 2nd October, 2022.

There is always scope for more help, so if you would like to join the rota to make tea and coffee, please contact Maureen Hodgson.

What Catholics believe and why.

If you would like to know more about what Catholics believe, perhaps with a view to considering becoming a member of the Catholic Church, you may be interested in a series of talks which are taking place in St. Patrick's parish centre on Tuesday evenings from 19.00. If you need more information please contact Alan on 07976402023.

Family Fast day

Friday of this coming week, 4th October is Family Fast Day.

Fr. Patterson is very much aware of the demands made on your generosity during the past few months with recent appeals which raised :- for Afghanistan £200.00, for Ukraine £315.00 and Pakistan £45.00 from St. Alban's and St. Patrick's.

Should you wish to support the Family Fast Day Appeal you may place your donation in one of the collecting boxes at the entrance to our churches in an envelope marked Family Fast. Alternatively you may choose to give your time and come along to:-

An Information Evening focused on Cafod's campaign to "Fix the Food System

which has been arranged by our Third World Group on Thursday, 13th October at 18.30 in St. Patrick's parish centre when Mark Maughan, Cafod's Community Participation Co-ordinator in the Diocese, will speak about Cafod's current campaign to "Fix the Food system," and share his experience of time he has recently spent in the Sudan.

All around the world, including here at home, families are finding it harder to put food on the table. In northern Kenya, Ethiopia and South Sudan, four years of drought has resulted in twenty million people fighting for survival. Schools are closed and people are forced to keep moving to find places where food is available. Pope Francis reminds us that as Catholics we are called to care for the world's most vulnerable people; it is our commitment to them that is a mark of our faith.

Please note this is an awareness evening and not a fundraising event!

Hello and Goodbye!

We welcome to our Partnership Fr. Paul Spellman who has arrived at St. Peter's, Low Fell replacing Fr. Keith Walker who has moved to St. Gregory's, South Shields. We wish them both God's blessing in their new ministries.

Paper £20.00 and £50.00 notes

As of last Friday, 30th September, the paper £20.00 and £50.00 notes cease to be legal tender. It would be greatly appreciated if you would not use them for your offerings.

Please consider making your weekly offering by Standing Order

To relieve the pressure on our "Counting Teams" in both St. Alban's and St. Patrick's, it would be greatly appreciated if parishioners would consider making their offering to either St. Alban's or St. Patrick's by Standing Order. The details you require to set up a standing order can be found below. If you would like to help by join a counting team, please contact Terry or Christine Harbron for St. Alban's or Maureen Hodgson for St. Patrick's.

For St. Alban's HSBC Bank
Account name: DHN Pelaw St Alban
Sort code: 40-34-18 Account No: 92010984

For St. Patrick's HSBC Bank
Account name: DHN Felling St Patrick
Sort code: 40-34-18 Account No: 52010453

If you are a tax payer and are not a member of the parish gift aid scheme, please consider joining the scheme, it costs you nothing and the parish benefits by being able to reclaim the tax you have already paid on your offering. The parish receives 25p of every £1.00 you give from HMRC. All that is required, is for you to complete a simple form which does not involve you disclosing any personal financial information and is held securely by the Diocesan Finance Office. To obtain a form, or for more information, please email John, our Gift Aid organiser for both St. Alban's and St. Patrick's at stpatrick.giftaid@outlook.com

News from our School

Hello again to all families, friends and parishioners at our parish churches of St Alban's and St Patrick's – it has certainly been a while since we published our news in the Parish Newsletter so it feels good to reach out and say hello.

School has settled into familiar rhythms this autumn term and we have welcomed new families into our Nursery and Reception classes as well as into our toddler group, "Little Saints." We are keen to keep in touch throughout the year and get together whenever we can to pray and celebrate, so we'll be in touch and hopefully see you soon.

St. Alban's Church.

St. Alban's Church is open for a Vigil Mass on Saturdays at 18.00. Parishioners are asked to enter and leave the church by the main doors only. Following advice from the Diocesan Health and Safety Officer, the side door should only be used as an emergency exit.

Following Bishop Robert's advice, with the current level of help we have available to us, and now with the rising cost of gas and electricity, the church will remain closed during the week for all services. Bishop Robert has asked Fr. Patterson to continue to review the situation and meet with him later in the year.

Fr. Patterson is currently exploring with our school the possibility of celebrating Mass on a Wednesday morning in St. Alban's Room in the school which will enable parishioners and some of our children to come together for prayer. Please keep an eye on the Newsletter for more information.

Parking in our church car parks

Please remember that the Trustees of the Diocese cannot accept responsibility for injury, loss or damage to third party property, vehicles and their contents whilst left in the church car parks.

ZOE Covid update and this weeks data from the Office of National Statistics

The Zoe update occurs once every two weeks. Last week's update may be accessed [here](#).

The updated symptoms of Omicron may be found [here](#).

This weeks data from the Office of National Statistics may also be of interest to you, showing the percentage of people testing positive for coronavirus continues to rise in England where the estimated number of people testing positive for COVID-19 was 857,400, equating to 1.57% of the population, or around 1 in 65 people. Click [here](#) to view.



Please get vaccinated - Covid Autumn Booster and Flu Vaccinations are now being offered

The Catholic Church continues to promote the participation of everyone in the Covid vaccination programme as part of its mitigation of virus transmission in church and ancillary buildings. Pope Francis also urges us to do so [in this video message](#).

A seasonal Covid-19 booster (autumn booster) for people aged 65 years old and over, frontline health and social care workers, those at higher risk or who are pregnant, and people who have or live with someone who has a weakened immune system can now be booked online at [book or manage a coronavirus \(COVID-19\) vaccination - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#) or by telephoning 119

Regional update

You may find this data from our region of interest. Figures are as reported on 29th September, 2022.

Data is now only being updated by Gov.UK once a week on Thursdays

○ = no change

	New Covid cases for 18/9 - 24/9	People who have died for 18/9 - 24/9	People with Covid in NHS Trust Hospitals on 28th September	Percentage of those aged 12 and over having had 1st jab	2nd jab	Booster
Gateshead	186 ↑	0 ↓	37 (QE Hospital) ↑	85% ○	80% ○	64% ○
Newcastle	230 ↑	0 ○	51 (Newcastle) ↑	75% ○	70% ○	54% ○
South Tyneside	112 ↑	1 ○	86 (+ Sunderland) ↑	83% ○	79% ○	63% ○
North Tyneside	194 ↑	1 ↓	55 (Northumbria) ↑	88% ○	84% ○	69% ○