

The Newsletter of
the parishes of



St. Alban at Pelaw



St. Patrick at Felling



Our School

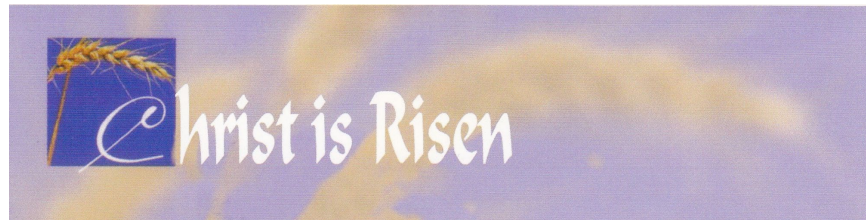
www.stalbangateshead.org

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3rd Sunday of Easter
23rd April, 2023

We need everyone to
keep Gateshead safe



We are often led to believe that "new must be better" until we discover that the new gadget, which seemed more attractive when we didn't actually have it, leads to a sense of disappointment because our lives are not changed by it as we imagined they might be. If we experience such feelings, the best thing to do is consider what it was we really wanted.

The two disciples on the road to Emmaus, in the gospel read in our churches this weekend (Luke 24:13-35), said they had hoped that Jesus would be "the one to set Israel free." They were probably thinking in political terms. Yet the freedom of Christ is much greater than any political freedom. Israel would indeed be free in Christ, but, in his words, "You will learn the truth and the truth will make you free."

We might, at times, be disappointed in our faith. That is why many Christians fall away from belief. If they do, they tend to seek some other form of happiness. Without realising it, deep down, they seek the truth, and the truth is something that we can only find in Christ, through the power of the Holy Spirit that he promised us

Fr. Patterson is making slow progress recovering from post Covid systems. He is still advised to continue to rest as much as possible. He remains grateful to you for your prayers, kind wishes, understanding and patience.



St. Alban's and St. Patrick's Coronation Tea Party

Bring your family, friends and neighbours.



Saturday, 29th April
2pm - 4:30pm
St. Patrick's Parish Centre



Join us in a traditional afternoon tea to celebrate the upcoming coronation of King Charles III.

Further dates for your diary - with more news to come.

Saturday, 20th May: A Parish Walk from Monkseaton to South Shields with lunch

Saturday, 27th May: A "Forget Me Not" Afternoon Tea Party from 14.00 -16.00 in St. Patrick's parish centre

These events are open to everyone from St. Alban's and St. Patrick's, along with friends and neighbours.

Mass Intentions

The following celebrations will take place during the coming week.

Saturday (22nd): 18.00 Mass in St. Alban's Church: For the Intentions of all our parishioners

Sunday (23rd) 10.00 Mass in St. Patrick's Church: Paul Hughes

Monday: No Mass

Tuesday: 10.00 Funeral Mass in St. Patrick's Church for Michael Connolly

Wednesday: No Mass

Thursday: No Mass

Friday: No Mass

Saturday: 18.00 Mass in St. Alban's Church: Brian Grace Snr and Brian Grace Jnr

Sunday (30th): 10.00 Mass in St. Patrick's Church: For the Intentions of all our parishioners

Please note: there is no Mass on Thursday as Fr. Patterson will be attending a meeting of the Diocesan Consultors.

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
- all those whose memories we cherish at this time, especially Brian Grace Snr, Brian Grace Jnr and Paul Hughes
- and Fr John Reid, Michael Connolly and Stephen Nee who have died. May they rest in the peace of the Risen Lord.

The Sacrament of Confirmation

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated in St. Patrick's Church on the Feast of Christ the King (Youth Sunday) , 26th November, during the 10.00 Mass.

There will be an introductory evening for all those who are interested in being confirmed, along with their parents, on Friday, 12th May, in St. Patrick's parish centre at 18.30. This will be followed by a special celebration during Mass on Sunday, 28th May in St. Patrick's Church which is the Feast of Pentecost.

Confirmation is open to young people from St. Alban's and St. Patrick's who will be in Year 8 and above from September, 2023. Prospective candidates should be regularly attending Mass and will need to take part in a period of preparation which will be outlined at our introductory gathering on 12th May. If you haven't already registered to be part of the programme please **email your details to the parish office at felling.stpatrick@rcdhn.org.uk**.

Thank you

Fr. Patterson is very grateful for donations for St. Patrick's Church totalling £45.00 received from mourners attending the Funeral Service for Moyra O'Brien . They will help meet the running costs of the church

Little Sisters of the Poor

Next weekend, 29/30 April, there will be an opportunity, for those of you who wish, to support the work of the Little Sisters of the Poor. Donations may be placed in an envelope marked Little Sisters and put in the collection boxes at the entrances to our churches. Those of you with boxes of envelopes will have an envelope in your box.

No collection taken

Although we do not take a collection at Mass by passing round a basket, we do hope you will feel able to make an offering towards the upkeep and running costs of our churches in one of the boxes you will find at the entrances to our churches. Your offerings are our sole source of income. Alternatively you may consider making your offering by Standing Order the details of which are above.

For St. Alban's: Account name: DHN Pelaw St Alban: Sort code: 40-34-18 Account No: 92010984
For St. Patrick's: Account name: DHN Felling St Patrick: Sort code: 40-34-18 Account No: 52010453

News from our Partnership

St. Alban's and St. Patrick's are part of the John Ingram Partnership which includes the other parishes in central Gateshead along with St. Mary's Whickham, St. Philip Neri, Dunston and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Lobley Hill. The priests, deacons and a lay member from each parish meet at least four times a year. Alan Egdell and Terry Harbron represent our parishes. At a recent meeting it was decided to try to keep the parishes 'up to date' with what is happening in our Partnership.

- You may be aware of "Joe's Place," which is held every Wednesday in St Joseph's Church Hall, Gateshead. It supports some of the most vulnerable people in the area providing a meal for between 80 -100 people every week in a safe, welcoming environment. This is our main Partnership Project supported by all the parishes of the Partnership, both financially – in helping to pay the rent for the use of St. Joseph's Hall - and by providing food and volunteers.
- Other initiatives in the Partnership include the Bensham Food Co-op, now in its seventh year and based at Corpus Christi. It provides food for around 40 - 55 families/couples and 35 single people on a weekly basis. These are mostly asylum seekers or refugees, though there are increasing numbers of people from the local community.
- Another initiative called "Outreach Housing," is providing supported accommodation in partnership with a Christian organisation called Green Pastures for three young men who have been given 'right to remain' in this country. A grant has been awarded by Gateshead Council to provide a desktop computer for the house, which will benefit them and future residents.
- 17 pupils from Cardinal Hume School received their John Paul II Award in March. This Award challenges young people to reflect on their faith and to live it out in service in their schools, parishes, and local community. 55 pupils are currently registered for the Award. 42 young people from the School joined over 800 young people from the Diocese at the National Catholic Youth Congress in Wembley Arena early in March.
- At the Easter Vigil five parishioners from our partnership were received into the Church after a year long journey on the RCIA programme. There will be training for current catechists and others interested in taking on this role in sharing their faith with others later in the year.

These are just some of the many things happening within the John Ingram Partnership.

The Diocesan Justice and Peace Refugee Project

Thanks to your support, each month over 400 people who are seeking asylum in our area benefit from this project. Should you wish to support the project, donations of sugar, biscuits, tinned fish in oil, tins of tomatoes, chick peas, toiletries and shampoo may be left on the table to your right as you enter the front of St. Patrick's Church or on any table if you enter by the rear door. A basket is also available in the porch of St. Alban's Church and in our school.

Archbishop McMahon wrote to the clergy this week with the following update:-

The Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency has confirmed it is in the process of drafting a report which will be published in due course. Similarly, after a robust and thorough process, the final interviews in the investigation for the Dicastery for Bishops took place in the last few days of March, with further submissions being received within the last week. Carol Lawrence has collated all of the information and is currently drafting a report for Archbishop McMahon. As we continue to celebrate the Easter season, we ask you to remember in your prayers those currently preparing the reports. We pray for their work and for renewal in the Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle as we move forward, learning from their findings and recommendations

Third World Group

Thanks to those who continue to support our parish Third World Group who recently helped to raise £80.00

Parking in our church car parks

Please be aware 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.

COVID levels on the rise in England

There are a number of our parishioners who presently have Covid, so it is not surprising to read from the Office for National Statistics that in England, for the week ending 13 March 2023, the estimated number of people testing positive for COVID-19 was 1,493,200 equating to 2.66% of the population, or around 1 in 40 people. It hasn't gone away!!!