

First reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you. And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. Lift up your eyes all round, and see; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from afar, and your daughters shall be carried on the hip. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and exult, because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall bring good news, the praises of the LORD.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 72(71)

All the nations on earth shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.

- O God, give your judgement to the king, to a king's son your justice, that he may judge your people in justice, and your poor in right judgement.
- In his days justice shall flourish, and great peace till the moon is no more. He shall rule from sea to sea, from the River to the bounds of the earth.
- The kings of Tarshish and the islands shall pay him tribute. The kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring him gifts. Before him all kings shall fall prostrate, all nations shall serve him.
- For he shall rescue the needy when they cry, the poor who have no one to help. He will have pity on the weak and the needy, and save the lives of the needy.

Second reading

Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Brothers and sisters: I assume that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy Apostles and prophets by the Spirit. This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Gospel Acclamation

We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship the Lord.

Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, 'Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.' When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: "And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel."' Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.' After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshipped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

The Newsletter of the Parishes of St Alban's Pelaw & St Patrick's Felling



St Alban's at Pelaw



St Patrick's at Felling



Our School at Pelaw

Part of the John Ingram Partnership of Parishes

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The Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle Registered Charity Number: 1143450

The Epiphany of the Lord - 5th January 2025

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sat	4 th	The Epiphany	St A	6.00pm	People of the Parishes
Sun	5 th			St P	10.00am
Mon	6 th	Weekday	St P	10.00am	LDM Foster, Carr, Birney, Madden F
			St P	12.30pm	Funeral Service: Irene Dinning
Tue	7 th	Weekday			No Service
Wed	8 th	Weekday	St A	10.00am	Priest's Intention
Thu	9 th	Weekday	St P	10.00am	Lavinia Webber
Fri	10 th	Weekday	St A	10.00am	Priest's Intention
Sat	11 th	Baptism of the Lord	St A	6.00pm	Peter Sloan
Sun	12 th		St P	10.00am	People of the Parishes

St A = St Alban's; St P = St Patrick's
 Weekday Masses at St Patrick's are Celebrated in the Parish Centre
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Available on Request

We keep in our prayers all parishioners who are sick and housebound at this time.

We pray for Donald Young and Irene Dinning who died recently. A funeral service will be held for Irene on Monday 6th January, 12.30pm at St Patrick's church followed by burial at Heworth Burn Cemetery. A Requiem Mass will be held for Donald on Thursday 16th January 11.45am at St Alban's Church, followed by cremation at Saltwell Crematorium. May they rest in peace.

The Order of Mass can be found on **Page 200** in the **middle of your Hymn Books** indicated by the grey page markers.
The Gloria is on page **202**. **The Creed** is on page **205**.

***Journeying with the Word of God
All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.***

In the **First Reading** we hear how the prophet Isaiah cheers the returned exiles with a vision of a restored city which will become a beacon of light for all the nations.

The **Second Reading** expresses the theological meaning of today's feast: God invites Jew and Gentile to share on an equal footing the benefits of the salvation brought by Christ.

In the **Gospel** we hear how the Gentiles came from a far country to pay homage to the Christ-child, while the Jewish leaders rejected him.

We pray that we will recognise Jesus as the living, true God and worship him.

If you wish to support the Christian Community in the Holy Land, including Gaza, the West Bank, Jordan & Israel, offerings can be left in the basket at the crib.

RCIA: The next RCIA Meeting for the John Ingram Partnership will take place this **Tuesday 7th January, 6.30pm** in the parish centre at St Patrick's.

Northern Catholic Calendars for 2025 are on sale at the back of church. Only **£3.50**. The number of copies is limited, so buy while you can.

Newman Tyneside Circle invites you to come and hear John Murray speak about Mgr Kevin Nichols: the poem. The meeting will be at Holy Name parish hall, Jesmond, Newcastle, on **Tuesday 14 January** at 2.30pm..

White flower appeal 2025: There will be a collection as you leave church for the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children next weekend, **11th and 12th January**. SPUC exists to radically transform culture so that abortion is not only abolished but becomes truly unthinkable. To accomplish this mission the society is using initiatives in politics, legislation and culture. We aim to restore a respect for the sanctity of human life to our society. This year's appeal postcards call on the Government to adhere to the United Nations Convention on the rights of the child. Please give generously to help SPUC defend Unborn babies and their mothers. Thank you.

Your offerings are our sole source of income: We ask you to please consider making your offering by Standing Order. This is by far the easiest way to donate, ideally on a monthly basis. (Details below). If you are a tax payer why not consider "Gift Aiding" your offering. **At no cost to you, the parish receives 25p for every £1.00 you donate.** All you need is to complete a simple Gift Aid form which may be obtained from the parish office at stpatrick.felling@diocesehn.org.uk

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

Jubilee 2025: In announcing the Jubilee Year of 2025, with the theme of "Pilgrims of Hope", Pope Francis said: *"the Jubilee... would be a Holy Year marked by the hope that does not fade, our hope in God....May it help us to recover the confident trust that we require, in the Church and in society, in our interpersonal relationships, in international relations, and in our task of promoting the dignity of all persons and respect for God's gift of creation."*

There's more information about the Jubilee Year on the Diocesan website at <https://www.bit.ly/DHNjubilee2025>.

St Alban's School News: Wishing you a blessed and peaceful Christmas from all at St Alban's School. Thank you for your continued and generous support throughout this term and we look forward to meeting up with you again in the new year. We return to school on Tuesday 7th January 2025.

*Those who are Wise
Still seek him*

