

First reading

Malachi 3:1-4

Thus says the LORD God: Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his Temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the LORD. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

Responsorial Psalm The LORD of hosts, he is the king of glory! Ps 24(23)

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| 1. O gates, lift high your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory! | 2. Who is this king of glory?
The LORD, the mighty, the valiant;
the LORD, the valiant in war. |
| 3. O gates, lift high your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory! | 4. Who is this king of glory?
He, the LORD of hosts,
he is the king of glory. |

Second reading

Hebrews 2:14-18

Since the children share in flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham. Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

Gospel Acclamation

A light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.

Gospel

Luke 2:22-40

When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, 'Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord') and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves, or two young pigeons'. Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came in the Spirit into the Temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said, 'Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.'

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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Deacon Kevin Atkinson

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The Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle Registered Charity Number: 1143450

The Presentation of the Lord - 2nd February 2025

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS					
Sat	1st	Presentation of	St A	6.00pm	Leonard Robinson
Sun	2nd	The Lord	St P	10.00am	People of the Parishes
Mon	3 rd	Weekday	St P	11.30am	<i>Requiem Mass: Teresa Rowlands</i>
Tue	4 th	Weekday			<i>No Service</i>
Wed	5 th	St Agatha	St A	10.00am	Brian Grace Senior
Thu	6 th	St Paul Miki & Com	St P	10.00am	<i>Word & Holy Communion</i>
Fri	7 th	Weekday	St A	10.00am	<i>Word & Holy Communion</i>
Sat	8th	5th Sun of Year C	St A	6.00pm	People of the Parishes
Sun	9th		St P	10.00am	Isabella Taylor
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 **Teresa Rowlands** who died recently. A Requiem Mass will be held for Teresa at St Patrick's on Monday 3rd February 11.30am followed by burial at Heworth Burn Cemetery. May she 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
My eyes have seen your salvation!

Forty days after Christmas, we observe the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple when we celebrate Christ as the light of the world. This day also marks the end of Christmastide, and the slow return of longer daylight hours.

Today's **First Reading** is a prophecy in which we can recognise the Messiah. His coming will be a challenge, but also good news for those who welcome him.

We sing the **Psalm** as we follow the Lord, our King of glory.

Christ has come to live among us as one of us. Although he is God's Son, he was tempted in every way that we are, and so is able to help us in our temptations (**Second Reading**).

The **Gospel** reminds us of the first time the Lord entered the Temple, with Mary and Joseph. There he meets Simeon, an old man who recognises Jesus as the long-awaited Messiah;

We pray that we may recognise the loving presence of Christ in one another this week.

Thank you to those who attended the recent Parish Open Meetings. Copies of the minutes of the meetings are available at the back of church.

RCIA: The next RCIA Meeting for the John Ingram Partnership will take place this **Tuesday 4th February, 6.30pm** in the parish centre at St Patrick's.

Bishop Stephen will Celebrate Mass for Marriage and Family Life in the **Cathedral on Saturday 8 February 2025 at 12:00pm**. This is open to all especially those couples celebrating significant anniversaries in 2025. Anyone celebrating a special anniversary can request a certificate by completing a form with their details: <https://bit.ly/DHNMarriageMass> or contact marriage@diocesehn.org.uk or ring 0191 243 3316. Such certificates will be presented to couples by Bishop Stephen within our Mass.

CAFOD debt cancellation petition: On 1 January Pope Francis repeated his call for action on the global debt crisis, saying, "In the spirit of this Jubilee Year, I urge the international community to work towards forgiving foreign debt.... This is an appeal for solidarity, but above all for justice." 54 countries are in 'debt distress', meaning that governments are paying such high sums in debt payments that they are unable to properly fund schools, hospitals or other public services. Often, countries have already repaid their debts once, but due to unscrupulous lenders and exorbitant interest rates, they are left paying many times over. This Jubilee Year CAFOD are asking us to respond to Pope Francis's call and take action to solve the global debt crisis by signing the global Church petition. Visit cafod.org.uk for details.

St Alban's School News: Next week in school, we will be hearing the story of the Presentation of Jesus in the temple. As Simeon praised and thanked God for the gift of Jesus, we all thank God for the gift of each and every one of our children here at St Alban's. We pray for God's continued blessing on them as they bring their own light into the world.

A Year of Jubilee Formation Opportunity: Adventurous Accompaniment

As we journey through this year of Jubilee, we are called to be Pilgrims of Hope. As Catholics our hope is in the Lord who is always at work in our lives. Our new formation programme Adventurous Accompaniment is designed to help us become better at walking with others, supporting them to see God at work. You will explore how to accompany others whether it is informally while out talking with your neighbour or over a sustained relationship with family and friends. The 'Adventure' of this formation is that God is the one leading the way. All are welcome to attend.

Dates & Times: Session 1: Saturday 15 March 2025, 10.00am – 1.00pm. Session 2: Saturday 12 April 2025, 10.00am – 1.00pm. Venue: St Vincent's Diocesan Office, St Cuthbert's House, West Road, Newcastle upon Tyne NE15 7PY. Cost: £25.00

For more information and booking details please visit bit.ly/DHNAdventurousAccompanimentYOJ or email: adminfaith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk.

The Jubilee prayer: Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom. May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally. May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen.

Official prayer from Pope Francis for the Jubilee year 2025, "Pilgrims of hope"

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