

First reading

Sirach 27:4-7

When a sieve is shaken, the refuse appears; so a person's filth in his thoughts. The kiln tests the potter's vessels; likewise the test of a person is in his reasoning. The fruit discloses the cultivation of a tree; so the expression of a thought discloses the cultivation of a person's mind. Do not praise a man before you hear him reason, for this is the test of people.

Responsorial Psalm It is good to give thanks to you, O LORD. Ps 92(91)

1. It is good to give thanks to the LORD, to make music to your name, O Most High, to proclaim your loving mercy in the morning, and your truth in the watches of the night.
2. The just one will flourish like the palm tree, and grow like a Lebanon cedar. Planted in the house of the LORD, they will flourish in the courts of our God.
3. Still bearing fruit when they are old, still full of sap, still green, to proclaim that the LORD is upright. In him, my rock, there is no wrong.

Second reading

1 Corinthians 15:54-58

Brothers and Sisters: When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: 'Death is swallowed up in victory.' 'O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?' The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brothers and sisters, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labour is not in vain.

Gospel Acclamation

Shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life.

Gospel

Luke 6:39-45

At that time: Jesus told his disciples a parable: 'Can a blind man lead a blind man? Will they not both fall into a pit? A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher. Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, "Brother, let me take out the speck that is in your eye", when you yourself do not see the log that is in your own eye? You hypocrite! First take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take out the speck that is in your brother's eye. 'For no good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit, for each tree is known by its own fruit. For figs are not gathered from thorn bushes, nor are grapes picked from a bramble bush. The good person out of the good treasure of his heart produces good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure produces evil, for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.'

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

8th Sunday of Year C - 2nd March 2025

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS					
Sat	1 st	8 th Sun of Year C	St A	6.00pm	People of the Parishes
Sun	2 nd		St P	10.00am	Betty Goodacre
Mon	3 rd	Weekday	St P	10.00am	Teresa Rowlands
Tue	4 ^h	Weekday			No Service
Wed	5 th	Ash Wednesday	St A	10.00am	Andrew Sloan
			St P	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Thu	6 th	Weekday of Lent	St P	10.00am	Special Intention (BH)
Fri	7 th	Weekday of Lent	St A	10.00am	Priest's Intention
Sat	8 th	1 st Sun of Lent C	St A	6.00pm	Bill Harland
Sun	9 th		St P	10.00am	People of the Parish

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.

The Season of Lent begins this week with **Ash Wednesday**. Mass will be celebrated at **10.00am at St Alban's**, where years 4, 5 and 6 will attend and **6.30pm at St Patrick's**. Please make every effort to celebrate the beginning of Lent in this customary way.

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

The just will flourish, still bearing fruit when they are old.

Today's readings urge us to draw life from hearts filled with the goodness and teachings of the Lord ... to live virtuous lives that bear sound fruit.

In the **First Reading**, the author uses images from everyday experience to highlight the importance of our words, suggesting that our moral worth (or the lack of it) can be proved by our speech.

The **Psalmist** speaks of the value of continual gratitude to God, and also paints a picture of the sturdiness of the person of virtue.

Paul encourages the Christians in Corinth to see Christ's resurrection as the source of their hope. He also exhorts his hearers to persevere in doing good and working for the Lord. (**Second Reading**)

In the **Gospel**, Jesus also uses simple reflections on human experience in his teachings. Disciples must learn from their master, and in the process become like him. Having warned against the danger of judging others, he also states that just as a tree's value is judged by its fruit, so the true test of human virtue is the way we live our life.

This week, we may desire to pray for a discerning heart and spirit, committed to trying to find God's invitation and his will in the actions and fruits of our daily life.

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

During Lent the Stations of the Cross will be celebrated as follows:

At St Patrick's on the following **Friday evenings at 6.30pm** on:

Friday's 14th March
21st March
28th March
4th April.

They will be celebrated at St Alban's on:

Friday's 11th April at 2.30pm
18th April, (Good Friday) at 10.00am.

(If you would like to help lead one of these please let Fr Martin know).

Lent CAFOD Family Fast Day takes place on **Friday 14th March**. CAFOD Fast Day envelopes will be available after Masses next weekend. A CAFOD soup lunch will also be held at St Patrick's on Thursday 20th March 12noon, following Mass at 11.30am, both in the church hall.

A Lenten Penitential Service for the partnership of parishes will be held at St Augustine's church on **Wednesday 9 April, 6.30pm**.

Please Note that during Lent **Weekday Masses at St Alban's** will be celebrated in the new weekday chapel in the presbytery, beginning this Friday.

St Alban's School News: After the half term holiday we will begin journeying towards Easter during Lent. You are all very welcome to join us for **Lenten Celebrations of the Word** in St Alban's Church each Friday at 2.45pm.

Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage: Would you like to register as a helper for the Hexham and Newcastle 2025 Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes? The pilgrimage will take place between Friday 25 July to Friday 1 August 2025. Adult and Youth section volunteer registration forms are now open and live until 31st March 2025. Please register via one of the following links. Thank you very much for registering your help and support. If you would like any more information about becoming a registered helper on the pilgrimage, please email: lourdes@diocesehn.org.uk or visit our Facebook page: *Hexham and Newcastle Pilgrimage to Lourdes*. Thank you so much for your support and for volunteering to help on our Diocesan Pilgrimage.

Holy Island SVP Vinnies Camp- Volunteering is a Work of Heart: Holy Island Children's Camp is looking for new volunteers to help in their Holiday Centre on Holy Island. Full training and support will be given. They are also keen to attract people who would like to help by volunteering in the Kitchen/Dining room and with caretaking. Term Time Camps need lots of volunteers. By running term time camps, Summer Vinnies Holidays for children can be sustained. Further information can be found at <https://svp.org.uk/microsite/ozanam-camp> or if you'd like to chat about the role please email BarbaraT@svp.org.uk

Newman Tyneside Circle invites you to come and hear **Tony Flannery** speak about **The Bible, history or myth? Why it is important to know**. The talk will be given twice at **Holy Name** parish hall, Jesmond, Newcastle, on **Tuesday 11 March, at 2.30pm – and again at 7.30pm**.

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, either on a weekly or 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