

First reading

Joshua 5:9a, 10-12

In those days: The LORD said to Joshua, 'Today I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you.' While the people of Israel were encamped at Gilgal, they kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the month in the evening on the plains of Jericho. And the day after the Passover, on that very day, they ate of the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. And the manna ceased the day after they ate of the produce of the land. And there was no longer manna for the people of Israel, but they ate of the fruit of the land of Canaan that year.

Responsorial Psalm

Taste and see that the LORD is good.

Ps 34(33)

1. I will bless the LORD at all times,
praise of him is always in my mouth.
In the LORD my soul shall make its boast;
the humble shall hear and be glad.
2. Glorify the LORD with me;
together let us praise his name.
I sought the LORD, and he answered me;
from all my terrors he set me free.
3. Look towards him and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed.
This lowly one called; the LORD heard, and rescued him from all his distress.

Second reading

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Brothers and Sisters: If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ; God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ: be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Gospel Acclamation

I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you'.

Gospel

Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

At that time: The tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, 'This man receives sinners and eats with them.' So he told them this parable: 'There was a man who had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, "Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me." And he divided his property between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything. 'But when he came to himself, he said, "How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.' " 'And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son." But the father said to his servants, "Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found." And they began to celebrate. 'Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. And he said to him, "Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound." But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, "Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!" And he said to him, "Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found." '

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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Chaplain to the QE: **Deacon Paul Nichol** Tel: 0191 - 4452072

The Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle Registered Charity Number: 1143450

4th Sunday of Lent Year C - 30th March 2025

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sat	29 th	4 th Sun of Lent C	St A	6.00pm	People of the Parishes
Sun	30 th		St P	10.00am	Carol Belton
Mon	31 st	Weekday of Lent	St P	10.00am	Priest's Intention
Tue	1 st	Weekday of Lent			No Service
Wed	2 nd	Weekday of Lent	St A	10.00am	L & D of Lagan & Garbarino Families
Thu	3 rd	Weekday of Lent	St P	10.00am	Billy & Rachel Jefferson
Fri	4 th	Weekday of Lent	St A	10.00am	Thanksgiving Mass C
Sat	5 th	5 th Sun of Lent C	St A	6.00pm	Marian Murton
Sun	6 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
Weekday Masses at St Alban's are Celebrated in the Chapel in the Presbytery
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Available on Request

We pray for all those who are sick or unwell at this time and we wish **all Mothers** a very Happy Mother's Day.

Lord, we give thanks for all mothers, for their nurturing and their noticing, their caring and their compassion, for their watching and waiting, their patience and their prayer, for their silence and their sacrifice, their life and their love. AMEN.

The Order of Mass can be found on **Page 200**
in the **middle of your Hymn Books** indicated by the grey page markers.
During Lent the Gloria is not said and we use the Apostles Creed, on page 205.

Journeying with the Word of God

Rejoice! This child of mine was lost, and is found!

Laetare ('Rejoice!') Sunday is a day of joyful celebration in the middle of our Lenten journey. Today we rejoice in God's outpouring of compassion and forgiveness for us, as we remember that we are *loved* sinners.

In the **First Reading** the Israelites celebrate Passover in the Promised Land. Though they no longer need the manna they ate in the wilderness, they are still totally dependent on the God who provides for them.

The **Psalm** invites us to taste and see the Lord's goodness – to glorify the One who hears us, frees us and rescues us from our distress.

St Paul tells how God has reconciled himself with the whole of humanity through Christ, who has taken on our sinfulness so we might show God to others. Our task now is to be ambassadors – to continue God's great work of reconciliation by sharing the good news. (**Second Reading**)

In the **Gospel** story of the forgiving father, Jesus gives a wonderful picture of that same loving reconciliation in action, as we see the height and depth of a father's compassion for his penitent child. This is how much God loves us, too: so much that he yearns and waits to welcome us home with joy when we turn to him in repentance.

As Lent continues, let's pray that we might become increasingly aware of God's compassionate gaze on us, and to ask for his help in seeing all with that same generous, loving regard.

RCIA: The next RCIA Meeting for the John Ingram Partnership will take place on **Tuesday 1st April, 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:

Friday 4th April in the church hall.

They will be celebrated at St Alban's on:

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

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

St Alban's School News: You are all very welcome to join us for our next Lenten Celebration of the Word in St Alban's Church on Friday 4th April at 2.45pm. The children from Y5 will lead the prayers as we reflect on the coming Sunday's gospel. We hope to see you there.

We will be cleaning St Alban's on Monday 14th April at 9.30 a.m. for Easter. All volunteers most welcome

Lenten Alms: During Lent we traditionally support the work of St Cuthbert's Care. If you wish to do so, please use the basket marked at the back of church.

New Altar Servers: Parents whose children are in school Year 4 or above who would like their children to train to be altar servers are invited to let Fr Martin know.

National Catholic Leadership Programme: This programme is for serving Deputy Headteachers in Catholic Primary and Secondary schools who are considering the role of headteacher in the next two years. It is fantastic training for the role of Catholic Headteacher, delivered by inspirational leaders across our Diocese. Please contact education@diocesehn.org.uk for further information.

Thank you to all those who helped with the afternoon tea on Saturday.

A Parish Quiz Night will be held in the hall at **St Patrick's on Friday 11th April, 7.30pm-10.00pm.** Suitable for all ages -, guaranteed to get the grey matter whirring! Please bring your own snacks and refreshments. There will also be a raffle.

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 pay income tax **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

Gift Aid Envelopes for the new financial year are available for collection from the back of church.

The Times of our Easter Services will be as Follows

Holy Thursday	Mass of the Lord's Supper	7.00pm	at St Patrick's
Good Friday	Stations of the Cross	10.00am	at St Alban's
Good Friday	Celebration of the Passion	3.00pm	at St Patrick's
Holy Saturday	Easter Vigil	6.00pm	at St Alban's
Easter Sunday	Mass of Easter	10.00am	at St Patrick's