

The Newsletter of the parishes of



St. Alban at Pelaw



St. Patrick at Felling



Our School

www.stalbangateshead.org

In Gateshead in the week 30th March to 5th April there were 59 recorded cases, an decrease of 21 compared with the previous week, which equates to 29 cases per 100,000 people. The average area in England had 20 cases over the same period.



2nd Sunday of Easter
11th April, 2021

**We need everyone to
keep Gateshead safe**

**Coronavirus Measures
are still in place**

Dear Parishioners

I do hope you were able to enjoy Easter, despite the weather!

I am very grateful to everyone for their kind messages about the prayerfulness of our simplified Holy Week and Easter Services and for your acknowledgement of the great efforts of our volunteer stewards whose presence makes you feel safe within St. Patrick's Church.

Following the removal of the restriction to "Stay at Home" on 29th March, and thanks to the generosity of our volunteers, we will now be able to open St. Patrick's Church for Mass on Tuesdays at 10.00, when no booking will be needed, as well as on a Sunday, at 10.30 when booking will be required. The Tuesday Mass will commence this week on 13th April. Parishioners are welcome to attend both Masses.

*To reserve a place for Mass on Sunday, 18th April, please telephone **07526 232124** on either Wednesday, 14th April between 10.00 - 12.00 or on Friday, 16th April between 17.30 - 19.00.*

This number will be unavailable outside of the above booking times. Bookings cannot be made via the presbytery telephone number nor by email and can only be made for the approaching Sunday and not for any other dates. **Text messages cannot be accepted as a method of booking.**

You will be asked to provide your name and telephone number to comply with the NHS Test and Trace system and also the number in your family if you are attending as a household. Under the current restrictions you must only sit with members of your own household or bubble and not mix with people from other households. On arrival at the church you will be welcomed by a steward and your name will be checked against the booking list.

For Masses where booking is not required please bring your Test and Trace details in an envelope and place them in the box in Church

Please remember you are under no obligation to attend Mass. The Sunday obligation is still suspended. You should not come to Church if you are experiencing any signs of Covid-19 or feeling unwell in any way.

In the weeks and months ahead it is still important to look after one another, to comply with the restrictions and to pray that the Lord will continue to watch over us and keep us safe.

Lord God, keep us under the shadow of your protection during this time of pandemic. Sustain and support the anxious and fearful and lift up all who are brought low so that we may rejoice in your comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Risen Lord.

God bless you all Fr. Patterson.

A Prayer for Carers, Nurses and Doctors

Lord Jesus, who healed the sick and gave them new life, be with doctors, nurses and carers, as they act as agents of your healing touch. In desperate times, keep them strong yet loving; and when their work is done, be with them in their weariness and in their tears.

Let us pray

Gracious God, as we remember before you the thousands who have died from the coronavirus, surround us and all who mourn with your compassion. Be gentle with us in our grief, protect us from despair and give us grace to persevere and face the future with hope. We make this prayer in Jesus Christ our risen Lord. Amen.

As of Friday 9th April
127,040 people have
died of the coronavirus
in our country

May they
Rest in Peace



Please keep in your prayers this week:

- all our parishioners who are sick, housebound or in hospital
- all those near and dear to us whose memories we cherish at this time especially Brian Grace Jnr
- and Jim Connolly who has died. "Receive Lord into tranquillity and peace the soul of your servant whom you have called from this life. May he be taken up into glory with your Son in whose great mystery of love we are all united. Amen."

Mass to view on line

Mass is live streamed from our Cathedral on Sunday at 11.30 and on weekdays at 12.05. These Masses may be viewed on the [Cathedral website](#)

Alternatively, you may like to follow Mass from the [Holy Name, Jesmond](#) celebrated live at 10.00 on Sundays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. They may also be viewed later from the same website.

Mass Intentions

With the exception of Tuesday and Sunday, I will celebrate Mass privately during the week remembering the following Intentions

Monday: Joan Makepeace

Tuesday: 10.00 in St. Patrick's Church; Lindsay Bradley

Wednesday: Brian Grace Jnr

Thursday: The sick, their families, NHS staff & Care Workers

Friday: Private Funeral Service

Saturday: Fr "P's" intentions

Sunday, 10.30 in St. Patrick's Church—booking is necessary : For the intentions of all our parishioners

When you are unable to celebrate Mass with me 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.

In case you are not aware, a parish priest is obliged to celebrate Mass for the "Intentions of the Parishioners" every Sunday or Holyday, which prevents him from fulfilling personal intentions on those occasions

Thank you

Fr. Patterson is most grateful for a donation of £100.00 recently received for St. Patrick's parish funds.

New Offertory Envelopes

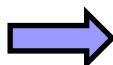
The new boxed sets of Offertory envelopes, beginning Sunday, 4th April, 2021, are now available and may be collected from St. Patrick's Church after Mass on Sundays.

During the course of the pandemic several parishioners have chosen to contribute by Bank Transfer or Standing Order and it is hoped they will continue to do so in the long term rather than use envelopes. This facilitates the financial administration of the parish. Please consider contributing by Standing Order. The details needed are provided below.

Your ongoing financial support is welcomed and needed

Fr. Patterson renews his thanks to you for your offerings during these difficult times especially to those parishioners who regularly contribute to parish funds by bank transfer helping to meet the regular financial commitments of our churches.

The details for standing orders and cheques are



Should you wish, you may drop your envelopes through the presbytery letterbox. **For security reason, envelopes should not be put through the letterbox of St. Alban's Presbytery.**

For St. Patrick's HSBC Bank
Account name: DHN Felling St Patrick
Sort code: 40-34-18
Account No: 52010453

For St. Alban's HSBC Bank
Account name: DHN Pelaw St Alban
Sort code: 40-34-18
Account No: 92010984

Roadmap Step 2 (from 12 April)

[These are the changes](#)

that come into effect on 12th April

More businesses will open, but indoor settings should be visited alone, or with household groups.

Outside, six people or two households can meet.

We are still not permitted to meet indoors until before 17th May at the earliest

All shops are allowed to open

Hairdressers, beauty salons and other close-contact services can open

Restaurants and pubs are allowed to serve food and alcohol to customers sitting outdoors

Gyms and spas can reopen, as can zoos, theme parks, libraries and community centres

Members of the same household can take a holiday in England in self-contained accommodation

Weddings - up to 15 people; Funerals - up to 30 people, with 15 at wakes

Children may attend any indoor children's activity

Care home visitors will increase to two per resident

Driving lessons can resume, with driving tests restarting on 22 April

What is changing from 12 April in England?



Pubs and restaurants are allowed to serve drinks and meals outdoors



All shops can open



Hairdressers, nail salons and other personal care businesses can reopen



Indoor gyms and sports facilities reopen for individual exercise or for exercise with your household or bubble



Members of the same household can take a holiday in self-contained accommodation – but holidays abroad are still banned



Advice remains to keep journeys to a minimum and work from home where possible



Regional update

You may find this update of data showing cases per 100,000 per population from our region of interest:

	Lockdown w/e 5th January 2021	w/e 1st March	w/e 5th April	National average w/e 5th April
Gateshead	404	100	29	20
Newcastle	215	83	42	
South Tyneside	495	121	25	
Sunderland	479	131	30	

The UK's vaccination programme

This programme is **beginning to break the link between Covid cases and death**, scientists tracking the epidemic say. In the UK, Pfizer's vaccine was the first to be administered in December, the Oxford-AstraZenca jab followed a month later and this week the Moderna vaccine started to be used. So far, more than 5.6 million people have been fully vaccinated with two doses, while 31.7 million have had a first dose.

Scientists found infections had fallen by roughly two-thirds since February, but had begun to level off. While the decline in cases has stalled - probably because people are beginning to mix more - deaths did not follow the same pattern.

This was not the case before January, when the vaccine rollout began and means scientists can identify decreases which are being driven by vaccination. The rate of decline of new cases "slowed considerably" after the first substantial relaxation of lockdown in England when schools opened on 8th March, the report says. Professor Stephen Riley at Imperial College London, one of the study's authors, says the flattening off "probably does reflect increased social mixing", some of that will be to do with schools opening up. It is "gratifying", however, that rates did not go up when schools reopened, which Professor Riley says was "certainly a possibility". Scientists and government would need to, in his words, keep a "close watching brief as the lockdown gets eased further.

Please do consider accepting your invitation to receive either your first dose or your second dose of the vaccine when it comes, not only for your own well-being, but for the greater good of all.