

# The Newsletter of the parishes of



St. Alban at Pelaw



St. Patrick at Felling



Our School

[www.stalbangateshead.org](http://www.stalbangateshead.org)

**In Gateshead in the week 6th to 12th April there were 44 recorded cases, an decrease of 15 compared with the previous week, which equates to 22 cases per 100,000 people. The average area in England had 20 cases over the same period.**

3rd Sunday of Easter  
18th April, 2021

**We need everyone to  
keep Gateshead safe**

**Coronavirus Measures  
are still in place**

Dear Parishioners

As I mentioned last week, following the removal of the restriction to "Stay at Home" on 29th March, and thanks to the generosity of our volunteers, we are now 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. Parishioners are welcome to attend both Masses.

Unfortunately a Private Funeral Service will prevent us from being able to celebrate Mass on Tuesday of this coming week, 20th April.

To reserve a place for Mass on Sunday, 25th April, please telephone **07526 232124**  
on either Wednesday, 21st April between **10.00 - 11.00** or **17.00 - 18.00**  
or on Friday, 23rd April between **17.30 - 19.00**.

**Please note the change in the booking time on Wednesday**

**This number will be unavailable outside of the above 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.

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.

## 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 Sunday, I will celebrate Mass privately during the week remembering the following Intentions

Monday: Kathleen and Bill Falconer

Tuesday: Private Funeral Service

Wednesday: Jack Durham

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

Friday: Private Funeral Mass

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.*

### 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 Paul Hughes
- and Canon Michael McCoy and Jim Connolly who have died. "Receive Lord into tranquillity and peace the souls of your servants whom you have called from this life. May they be taken up into glory with your Son in whose great mystery of love we are all united. Amen."



### 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. Amen.



As of Friday 16th April  
127,225 people have  
died of the coronavirus  
in our country

May they  
Rest in Peace

### 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.

### What do you believe? An Evening with Fr. Stephen Wang

Fr. Stephen Wang is the author of Sycamore, a programme that has grown into a resource being used throughout the world.

The Diocesan Vicariate for Faith & Mission are pleased to welcome Fr. Stephen Wang to our Diocese on Wednesday, 21st April from 19.00 – 20.00 for a virtual conversation about how we can make genuine human connections, share our Catholic faith and reach out for a real sense of community with a spirit of friendship. Booking is essential; please [register online](#)

### The Bookshop at St Mary's Cathedral

The Bookshop has reopened on Thursdays and Fridays from 10.00 –15.00, on Saturdays from 9.45—15.00 and on a Sunday from 8.30 -13.00. Check the [Cathedral website](#) to confirm opening times.

### New Offertory Envelopes

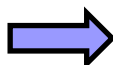
The new boxed sets of Offertory envelopes, beginning Sunday, 4th April, 2021, are now available and may be collected from St. Patrick's Church after Mass on Sundays.

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 came 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 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



## 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 12th April	National average w/e 12th April
Gateshead	404	100	22	20
Newcastle	215	83	39	
South Tyneside	495	121	11	
Sunderland	479	131	30	

## Vaccines alone will not stop Covid spreading

Many of us are hoping vaccines against coronavirus will be our route out of lockdown, enabling us to reclaim our old lives. But scientists say jabs alone will not currently be enough and other measures are still needed.

Vaccines are widely regarded as the most powerful weapon in our Covid-19 armoury. Some are more than 90% effective and prevent people getting sick and dying with the disease. But no vaccine is ever 100% and there is a chance we might catch the virus or pass it on even after our jab.

Widespread testing can find people carrying the virus who are unaware they have it, but rapid turnaround, or lateral flow tests are imperfect and can miss some cases.

Contact tracing systems track down people who have been in close contact with a positive case, to advise them to isolate. But such schemes need to be fast and reach between 80%-100% of contacts to work effectively. Most countries advise people who suspect or know they have Covid to stay at home and avoid others. Some also require travellers to quarantine. But some people do not follow this advice or are unable to do so.

Masks and face coverings can block virus droplets from coughs, sneezes and speaking. But even the highest-grade masks still let some virus through. Masks also need to be worn correctly and used by enough people to make a difference.

Keeping 2m (6ft) away from someone reduces the chance of the virus passing on. But we can still catch it even from further away. Fresh air cuts the risk of infection and the ultraviolet radiation from sunlight can destroy virus left on surfaces, but the risk outside is not reduced to zero. The chance of catching the virus increases in areas that are poorly ventilated. The greater the airflow, the lower the risk, but the danger is still there. Good hygiene can help stop the spread of the virus, but the risk from particles in the air remains.

As we can see, no single measure will guarantee 100% protection. It is only by using a combination of measures that we create the best chance of protecting ourselves and our friends and family.

Australian virologist Ian Mackay, and other scientists say, even in places with widespread vaccine coverage, we need to continue using multiple measures to stop letting the virus through; they liken it to [The Swiss Cheese Model](#)