

# 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 4th - 10th January there were 4392 recorded cases, which was an decrease of 54 from the previous week. This equates to 2175 cases per 100,000 people. The average area in England had 1,357 cases over the same period.**

2nd Sunday of the Year  
16th January, 2022

**We need everyone to  
keep Gateshead safe**

**Covid-19 protection measures remain  
in place in our Church for your safety**

Dear Parishioners

We are now into the season described by the Church as "Ordinary Time."

It is the time when we, as Catholic people, strive to implement in our everyday lives the message Jesus came to bring on the first Christmas Day.

Sharing what we have received lies at the heart of our human experience, but it also raises an awareness of the inequalities which surround us whether that be in our own families, in our community, in our country or in the world at large.

There is a great temptation to see such inequalities as being someone else's problem to resolve - whether it be National or local Government, the churches, law enforcement, border control and many more. Rarely do we see such situations as our joint responsibility, perhaps because of the "knock on effect" it may have on us.

The gift of faith we received on the day of our baptism, was given to us to enable us to share what we have been given for the well-being of others.

We still need to draw on this at this present time as the cases of Omicron are still increasing in our own region and in our own community.

So please continue to do all you can to be cautious in your everyday life choices, not only for your own good but for the well-being of others; family, friends, the local community and further afield, including the NHS on which we all rely at times.

You may like to include this prayer in your daily prayers:-

Attend to the prayers of your people with heavenly care,  
O Lord, we pray,  
that they may see what must be done  
and gain strength to do what they have seen.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

With the ongoing support of our volunteer stewards, we continue to do what we can to ensure St. Patrick's Church is both welcoming and as Covid-19 safe as we can make it for you. At this present time, Mass will continue to be celebrated on Tuesdays at 10.00 and on Sundays at 10.30.

Face coverings must be worn unless you are medically exempt and you are asked to maintain two metres social distancing from others in your bench, unless you are from the same household or bubble. Sanitising your hands is also necessary.

As we must clean the church after each celebration, the rear of the church is closed to reduce the demands on our stewards who sanitise the benches after you leave. Limited toilet facilities are available in case of necessity.

As more and more people in the parish are contracting Covid-19, if you have Covid symptoms or feel unwell, if you have a cough or are sneezing, if someone in your household has been poorly recently, please do not take any risks with your health or the health of others at Church and stay at home until you feel better. You can review what the Covid-19 symptoms are by clicking [here](#). If you are still hesitant about attending Church, you are under no obligation to do so.

With the growing spread of Covid in our region, we probably all know of someone who has the virus or is self isolating, you may even be one of them. Please pray that everyone suffering from the virus will make a full recovery. Pray for each other that the Lord will continue to watch over us and keep us safe.

May God bless you all

*Fv. Patterson.*

## Mass to view on line

Mass is live streamed from our Cathedral on a Sunday. Visit the [Cathedral website](#).

Alternatively, you may like to follow Mass from the [Holy Name, Jesmond](#). Visit the website for Mass times this week.

## Mass Intentions

With the exception of Sunday and Tuesday, Fr. Patterson will celebrate Mass privately during the week remembering the following Intentions. *Face coverings must be worn when attending Church, unless you are medically exempt.*

Monday: Paul Hughes

**Tuesday: 10.00 in St. Patrick's Church:** Tom Hayes

Wednesday: Bishop Lindsay

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

Friday: Joan Barrett

Saturday: Fr. Patterson's intentions

**Sunday: 10.30 in St. Patrick's Church:** For the intentions of all our parishioners

When you are unable to celebrate Mass 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:

- all our parishioners who are sick, housebound or in hospital.
- and all those near and dear to us whose memories we cherish at this time especially Bishop Lindsay



As of Fri 14th Jan  
151,612 people have  
died of the coronavirus  
in our country  
May they  
rest in Peace

## Let us pray

Gracious God, as we remember before you all those people 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.



## 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.

## A Prayer for the New Year and beyond

We are a community of memory that looks back; we are a community of Spirit that looks forward.

It is important, though not easy, to look back with kindness and to look forward in hope.

This year is coming to a close and a new year beckons. Let us hand over the past to God for his healing blessing.

Let us ask the Lord to face the future with us so that we do not face it alone

Let us pray for each other and for all those we love

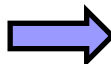
that we might know the promise of the Lord that brings the Gospel to a close.

(Fr. Denis McBride C.Ss.R)

## Your ongoing financial support is welcomed and needed

Fr. Patterson continues to be grateful for your offerings during these difficult times and is especially grateful to those parishioners who regularly contribute to parish funds by standing order helping us meet the regular financial commitments of our churches.

*The details for standing orders and cheques are*



You may bring your envelopes to Mass on Tuesdays or Sundays or drop them 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

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

## An Appeal from our Diocesan Justice and Peace Refugee Project

Please spare a thought for the above project. It supports on average 300 clients each week, who all receive a bag of food. 102 of them are destitute and also receive a supermarket voucher.

If you are able to bring donations of sugar, biscuits and toiletries as well as tinned fish in oil and tins of tomatoes and chick peas to St. Patrick's Church before Mass, they may be left on the table to your right as you enter the Church. *Please note: baked beans and tinned meat are not required.*

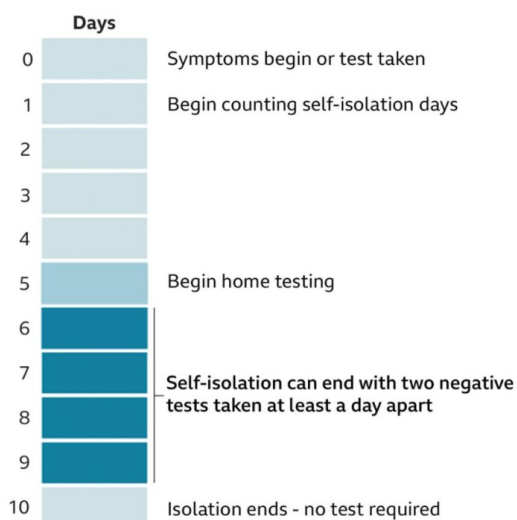
## St. Alban's Church

Sadly, we are still not in a position to reopen St. Alban's Church whilst Covid restrictions are in place as we do not have sufficient volunteers to comply with the protocols required to make the church Covid safe.

Once the restrictions are removed, before we are able to open the church, we will need volunteers who will be prepared to fulfil the roles outlined in our shared parish Roadmap which was circulated at the beginning of May, 2021. If you do not have a copy, please email [felling.stpatrick@rcdhn.org.uk](mailto:felling.stpatrick@rcdhn.org.uk) or telephone 0191 495 2277 and one will be sent to you.

At the earliest opportunity, Fr. Patterson will invite those parishioners who are prepared to fulfil the necessary roles to meet together to discuss the way forward. Just before Christmas, Bishop Robert closed all parish centres, halls and meeting places until further notice because of the rapid spread of Omicron in the region. Once the situation changes Fr. Patterson will be in a position to arrange a meeting.

### How five-day isolation rule works in England



The self-isolation period for people who test positive for Covid-19 is being [cut to five full days in England from Monday](#), Health Secretary Sajid Javid has said. The change means people will be able to end isolation after negative lateral flow tests on days five and six, with Mr Javid saying this meant they could leave "at the start of day six". Ministers say the move is one way to reduce staffing pressures in the NHS and other sectors, while Mr Javid said it was about maximising activity in the economy while "minimising the risk of people leaving isolation".

### Get vaccinated

Cardinal Vincent Nichols has echoed the call encouraging people to take up Covid vaccinations and boosters when offered by the NHS. "The call 'Get vaccinated! Get boosted!' is more and more pressing."

Pope Francis also urges us to do so [in this video message](#).

## ZOE Covid weekly update asks, "Are we past the peak of Omicron?"

Professor Tim Spector is back from holiday and in this week's video, he takes us through the latest data which shows that the UK may be over the Omicron wave. However, if you're feeling unwell, it's now more likely to be COVID than a cold! The update may be accessed [here](#).

In a separate blog (click [here](#)), the updated symptoms of Omicron are discussed.



## Regional update

You may find this data from our region of interest. Figures are as of 14th January, 2022. ○ = no change

	New Covid cases in the last 7 days	People who have died in the last 7 days	People with Covid in NHS Trust Hospitals on 11th January	Percentage of those aged 12 and over having had	1st jab	2nd jab	Booster
Gateshead	3890 ↓	11 ↑	64 (QE Hospital) ↑	84% ○	79% ↑	59% ↑	
Newcastle	5596 ↓	6 ↑	141 (Newcastle) ↑	74% ↑	68% ↑	49% ↑	
South Tyneside	3387 ↓	2 ↑	159 (+ Sunderland) ↑	83% ↑	77% ↑	59% ↑	
North Tyneside	4309 ↓	6 ↑	124 (Northumbria) ↑	88% ↑	82% ↑	64% ↑	