

First reading

Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10

In those days: The officials said to the king, 'Let this man, Jeremiah, be put to death, for he is weakening the hands of the soldiers who are left in this city, and the hands of all the people, by speaking such words to them. For this man is not seeking the welfare of this people, but their harm.' King Zedekiah said, 'Behold, he is in your hands, for the king can do nothing against you.' So they took Jeremiah and cast him into the cistern of Malchiah, the king's son, which was in the court of the guard, letting Jeremiah down by ropes. And there was no water in the cistern, but only mud, and Jeremiah sank in the mud. Ebed-melech went from the king's house and said to the king, 'My lord the king, these men have done evil in all that they did to Jeremiah the prophet by casting him into the cistern, and he will die there of hunger, for there is no bread left in the city.' Then the king commanded Ebed-melech the Ethiopian, 'Take thirty men with you from here, and lift Jeremiah the prophet out of the cistern before he dies.'

Responsorial Psalm

LORD, make haste to help me!

Ps 40(39)

1. I waited, I waited for the LORD,
and he stooped down to me.
He heard my cry.

3. He put a new song into my mouth,
praise of our God.
Many shall see and fear
and shall trust in the LORD.
2. He drew me from the deadly pit,
from the miry clay.
He set my feet upon a rock,
made my footsteps firm.

3. Wretched and poor though I am,
the Lord is mindful of me.
You are my rescuer, my help;
O my God, do not delay.

Second reading

Hebrews 12:1-4

Brothers and Sisters: Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or faint-hearted. In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood.

Gospel Acclamation

My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord, and I know them, and they follow me.

Gospel

Luke 12:49-53

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'I came to cast fire on the earth, and would that it were already kindled! I have a baptism to be baptised with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished! Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. For from now on in one house there will be five divided: three against two and two against three. They will be divided, father against son and son against father; mother against daughter and daughter against mother; mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law, and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.'

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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Diocesan Website: www.diocesehn.org.uk

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

The Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle Registered Charity Number: 1143450

20th Sunday of Year C - 17th August 2025

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS					
Sat	16 th	20 th Sun of Year C	St A	6.00pm	People of the Parish
Sun	17 th		St P	10.00am	Isabelle (Rogan) Taylor
Mon	18 th	Weekday	St P	10.00am	George Owen
Tue	19 th	Weekday			No Service
Wed	20 th	St Bernard	St A	10.00am	Priest's Intention
Thu	21 st	Dedica of Cathedral	St P	10.00am	Special Intention (BH)
Fri	22 nd	Queenship of Mary	St A	10.00am	Priest's Intention
Sat	23 rd	21 st Sun of Year C	St A	6.00pm	Kathleen Harland
Sun	24 th		St P	10.00am	Maurice Brown
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					

We pray for all those who are sick or unwell at this time.

We congratulate all our young people who received exam results during the week and reassure them of our prayers for the future.

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
'I came to cast fire on the earth!'

Today's readings help raise our morale. Jesus Christ, who came to bring fire on earth, gives us courage and hope to persevere in challenging times.

In the **First Reading**, Jeremiah advises the authorities to surrender to the Babylonians and put their trust in God. This unpopular message stirs the leaders, who try to kill him. In the persecution he suffers for speaking out so fearlessly, he foreshadows Christ himself.

The **Psalm** is a song of confidence and makes much of personal trust in God, the One who comes to our aid.

The **Second Reading** is a stirring appeal to a Christian community to persevere on their road of faith. The author argues that the witness of all those who have gone before them, as well as the example of Christ himself, means there is no reason to lose heart.

In the **Gospel**, Jesus shows his human anxiety at the prospect of facing the 'baptism' of death, and also reveals he has already encountered opposition in his work. There are many who don't find the 'good news' helpful. This will cause division as sinful humanity fails to seek the ways of reconciliation and true peace that he preaches.

This week, let's pray for the grace of courage – to allow God's life to deepen within us, and also within all of our sisters and brothers.

Recruiting Altar Servers: Parents whose children are entering school year 4, or above, who would like them to train to be altar servers are invited to let Fr Martin know.

Learning to play the Church Organ: Anyone who has piano playing to level 5 or above and might be interested in learning how to play the church organ, please let Fr Martin know.

Are you Interested in Becoming a Catholic or just learning more about the Catholic Faith? This years RCIA (Roman Catholic Initiation of Adults) programme is due to start on **Tues 23rd September**, at 6.30pm, based at St Patrick's Parish Centre. The programme will consist of around 20 sessions based on the Sycamore Video Course supplemented by some additional materials. Each meeting will last around an hour and a quarter and meetings will not take place when schools are on holiday. If interested please let Fr Martin know.

Thank You to all those who signed the **Global Debt Crisis** CAFOD petition. It is available to sign again this weekend.

Alive in HOPE: A Church for MISSION. Bishop Stephen invites you to a **Jubilee Day** on **Saturday 27th September, from 10 am to 3 pm, at Cardinal Hume Catholic School in Gateshead**. Everyone is welcome! There'll be guest speakers from the Prisons' Chaplaincy and the Justice & Peace Refugee Project, and a choice of seminars/forums to reawaken and empower us for mission. Registration and refreshments from 9.15am, but please bring a packed lunch. Ample parking is available and entry is FREE but please register at <https://bit.ly/DHNAlive25>.

Congratulations and Welcome to
Isabelle Felice Rutland
Who was Baptised Last Sunday at St Patrick's

Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies (CCRS) 2025-2026: The Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies is managed and awarded by the Board of Religious Studies on behalf of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. The programme seeks to ensure that participants have a basic understanding of the central beliefs of the Catholic faith. This programme is available for catechists, lay leaders and other adults wishing to deepen their understanding of the Catholic faith and Catholic education, serving teachers in Catholic and other schools, and teachers in training preparing to take up posts in Catholic schools. The 2025-2026 CCRS course programme is now available on the Diocesan website: <https://diocesehn.org.uk/education/professional-development-and-formation/#ccrs>

Thank you for your offerings: 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

Diocesan Vacancy: Education Operations Manager; Salary £35,000 to £37,323. Closing date 9.00am on 3 September 2025. If you would like to discuss the role or for an applicant pack, please contact catherine.craig@diocesehn.org.uk or annie.leaver@diocesehn.org.uk. Please visit the diocesan website for details of **further job vacancies**.