

First reading **Isaiah 66:18-21**
 Thus says the LORD: 'For I know their works and their thoughts, and the time is coming to gather all nations and tongues. And they shall come and shall see my glory, and I will set a sign among them. And from them I will send survivors to the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, who draw the bow, to Tubal and Javan, to the coastlands far away, that have not heard my fame or seen my glory. And they shall declare my glory among the nations. And they shall bring all your brothers from all the nations as an offering to the LORD, on horses and in chariots and in litters and on mules and on dromedaries, to my holy mountain Jerusalem,' says the LORD, 'just as the Israelites bring their grain offering in a clean vessel to the house of the LORD. And some of them also I will take for priests and for Levites,' says the LORD.



Responsorial Psalm **Go into all the world and proclaim the good news.** **Ps 117(116)**
 1. O praise the LORD, all you nations; 2. For his mercy has prevailed over us;
 acclaim him, all you peoples! and the faithfulness of the LORD endures for ever.

Second reading **Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13**
 Brothers and Sisters: Have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? 'My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.' It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed.

Gospel Acclamation
 I am the way, and the truth, and the life, says the Lord. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Gospel **Luke 13:22-30**
 At that time: Jesus went on his way through towns and villages, teaching and journeying towards Jerusalem. And someone said to him, 'Lord, will those who are saved be few?' And he said to them, 'Strive to enter through the narrow door. For many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able. When once the master of the house has risen and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, "Lord, open to us", then he will answer you, "I do not know where you come from." Then you will begin to say, "We ate and drank in your presence, and you taught in our streets." But he will say, "I tell you, I do not know where you come from. Depart from me, all you workers of evil!" In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God but you yourselves cast out. And people will come from east and west, and from north and south, and recline at table in the kingdom of God. And behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last.'

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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The Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle Registered Charity Number: 1143450

21st Sunday of Year C - 24th August 2025

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS					
Sat	23 rd	21 st Sun of Year C	St A	6.00pm	Kathleen Harland
Sun	24 th		St P	10.00am	Maurice Brown
Mon	25 th	Weekday	St P	10.00am	For a Safe Journey
Tue	26 th	Weekday			No Service
Wed	27 th	St Monica	St A	10.00am	Brian Grace (Jnr)
Thu	28 th	St Augustine	St P	10.00am	Maureen Johnson
Fri	29 th	Death of J the B	St A	10.00am	Billy and Mary Smith
Sat	30 th	22 nd Sun of Year C	St A	6.00pm	People of the Parishes
Sun	31 st		St P	10.00am	Jessica D'Silva (21 st Birthday)
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.

Once Again 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
The faithfulness of the LORD endures for ever.

Today's **Psalm** places the truth of God's love for all of humanity at the centre of this Sunday's liturgy.

The prophet Isaiah in the **First Reading** speaks of a time when the Lord will gather all people to himself. God's love is so strong that people of every nation, race, and belief – and even those of no faith – will be counted as his children.

But we are reminded in the **Gospel** to be careful; to avoid being complacent about our own faith and religious practice. There are no limits to where the spirit of God is at work, and God has no favourites. There is an urgency in Jesus's teaching here that links directly to Isaiah, for he speaks of a time when all will be gathered into God's kingdom feast, but those who take their faith for granted may find themselves shut out.

This spiritual teaching may seem harsh, but the **Second Reading** from Hebrews explains that our spiritual and temporal trials can only be understood when we are aware of the truth of our relationship as daughters and sons of God. God's love for us is strong, and God only wants what is best for us.

At a time when there is so much conflict in our world, we pray that we, who belong to a community united by prayer, may by our words and deeds be a powerful sign of God's strong love for all of humanity.

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.

Please Note: There is **no afternoon tea** at St Patrick's next Saturday to give the volunteers a well earned rest in August.

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
Seth Henry Cotcher
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**.