

### First reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

On that day: There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins. The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples — of him shall the nations enquire, and his resting-place shall be glorious.

**Responsorial Psalm** In his days shall justice flourish, and great peace for ever. Ps 72

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| 1. O God, give your judgement to the king,<br>to a king's son your justice,<br>that he may judge your people in justice,<br>and your poor in right judgement.            | 2. In his days justice shall flourish,<br>and great peace till the moon is no more.<br>He shall rule from sea to sea,<br>from the River to the bounds of the earth. |
| 3. For he shall rescue the needy when they cry,<br>the poor who have no one to help.<br>He will have pity on the weak and the needy,<br>and save the lives of the needy. | 4. May his name endure for ever,<br>his name continue like the sun.<br>Every tribe shall be blest in him,<br>all nations shall call him blessed.                    |

### Second reading

Romans 15:4-9

Brothers and sisters: Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, 'Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name.'

### Gospel Acclamation

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight; all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

### Gospel

Matthew 3:1-12

In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.' For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, 'The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight."' Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptised by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our father", for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 'I baptise you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

## 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

Fr Martin Stempczyk St Patrick's Presbytery, 9, High Street, Felling, Gateshead NE10 9LT  
Deacon Kevin Atkinson

<b>Parish E-Mail:</b>	<b>stpatrick.felling@diocesehn.org.uk</b>	Tel: 0191 - 4952277
<b>Parish Website:</b>	<b>www.stpatricks-felling.co.uk</b>	
<b>School Website:</b>	<b>https://stalbanspelaw.bwcet.com/</b>	Tel: 0191 - 4693251
<b>Diocesan Website:</b>	<b>www.diocesehn.org.uk</b>	
<b>Chaplain to the QE:</b>	<b>Deacon Paul Nichol</b>	Tel: 0191 - 4452072

The Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle Registered Charity Number: 1143450

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent Year A - 7<sup>th</sup> December 2025

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS					
Sat	6 <sup>th</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup> of Advent	St A	6.00pm	People of the Parishes
Sun	7 <sup>th</sup>		St P	10.00am	Nancy Foster
Mon	8 <sup>th</sup>	Immaculate Concep	St P	10.00am	George Laurie
Tue	9 <sup>th</sup>	Weekday			No Service
Wed	10 <sup>th</sup>	Weekday	St A	10.00am	Priest's Intention
Thu	11 <sup>th</sup>	Weekday	St P	10.00am	Bernadette Brown
Fri	12 <sup>th</sup>	Weekday	St A	10.00am	Priest's Intention
Sat	13 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> of Advent	St A	6.00pm	People of the Parishes
Sun	14 <sup>th</sup>		St P	10.00am	Rosemary Harvey
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 The Sacrament of Reconciliation - Available on Request					

*"We want to walk together by appreciating what unites us, breaking down the walls of prejudice and mistrust, promoting mutual knowledge and esteem in order to give to all a strong message of hope and an invitation to become 'peacemakers' ...make these values our resolutions for the season of Advent and even more so for our personal and communal life."*  
(Pope Leo)

**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 kingdom of heaven is at hand**

As we take another step into Advent, the **First Reading** introduces one of the main themes of this period of the year: Peace. Isaiah paints a picture of the whole world, of people and animals living together in harmony, led by a King who has all the qualities to rule justly.

The **Psalm**, too, speaks of this hope for peace and justice for all.

St Paul, when he writes to the Romans, also mentions the hope which can be found in Scripture. All the more reason, then, for us to be tolerant of one another, so we can all give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. (**Second Reading**)

In this week's **Gospel**, John the Baptist appears by the River Jordan to invite people to change and prepare a way for the one who is to come. He tells them that being a son or daughter of Abraham will not be enough to be sure of being saved. There is no room for complacency. They are to repent; to change their way of life. The liturgy asks us to be open to change and to encourage one another.

**We pray for Gerard McWilliams** who died recently.

**The Children's Liturgy** will take place **each Sunday during Advent**, at Mass at St Patrick's.

**Advent Alms:** Once again during the season of Advent you have the opportunity to support the work of St Cuthbert's Care. A donations basket is at the entrance of each church during this season.

**Thank you to all those** who supported the Parish Quiz on Friday.

**The next Partnership RCIA meeting** will be on Tues 9<sup>th</sup> December, 6.30pm at St Patrick's Parish Centre.

**St Patrick's Christmas Raffle** will be held on **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December** in the Hall at St Patrick's after Mass. There are many great prizes to be won. You will be able to buy tickets for this on the day.

**Diocesan online Sycamore course for Advent:** *What is God's invitation for me this Advent season?* The sessions will take place online using Zoom. They will be weekly on Thursday evenings from 7pm to 8.15pm on 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> December. Join us for as many sessions as you can, and why not bring a friend? Please register your interest using the link to receive the Zoom link.  
<https://bit.ly/DHNSycamoreAdvent2025> or just visit the Diocesan website.

**An Advent Penitential Service for the Partnership** will be held at St Peter's Church, Low Fell, on Wednesday 17 Dec 7.00pm.

**The Sacrament of Reconciliation** will be available at  
**St Patrick's Church** on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> December 10.00 to 10.30am.  
**St Alban's Church** on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> December 5.00 to 5.30pm.

### **Our Christmas Mass Times**

<b>Wed 24<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	<b>Christmas Eve: St Patrick's</b>	<b>6.30pm</b> <i>(with carols from 6.10pm)</i>
<b>Thu 25<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	<b>Christmas Day: St Alban's</b>	<b>9.30am</b>

**St Alban's Church clean** in preparation for Christmas will take place on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December after the 10.00am Mass. All volunteers welcome.

**Open-Door Event Wednesday 10th December – Joe's Place:** Each year before Christmas, Joe's Place arranges an Open-Door Event at St Joseph's Church in Gateshead. Many people who visit Joe's Place accept the invitation to come in, enjoy some quiet time, and light a candle. Some want to sit listening to the music; others ask for help in lighting a candle, or in praying for a family member or something special to them. This year's Open-Door Event is on Wednesday 10th December from 12.00pm till 1.30pm. Please support this event by your presence if you can. We need people to come along to pray quietly in church, just to be there in solidarity and support for any of our Joe's Place visitors who might come in. This is an opportunity to pray for those, for whom life is a struggle, and who perhaps find Christmas difficult. All are welcome.

**CAFOD World Gifts Catalogues** are available from the back of church. They offer an alternative ethical and sustainable gift option for Christmas and special occasions. By buying a World Gift you can make the world of difference to families fleeing conflict, farmers battling the climate crisis, and a community protecting the Amazon.

**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](mailto: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