

First reading

Isaiah 58:6-10

Thus says the Lord: Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide yourself from your own flesh? Then shall your light break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up speedily; your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the LORD shall be your rearguard. Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry, and he will say, 'Here I am.' If you take away the yoke from your midst, the pointing of the finger, and speaking wickedness, if you pour yourself out for the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then shall your light rise in the darkness and your gloom be as the noonday.

Responsorial Psalm A light rises in the darkness for the upright Ps 112(111)

1. A light rises in the darkness for the upright; 2. He will never be moved; he is generous, merciful, and righteous. for ever shall the upright be remembered. It goes well for the man who deals generously He has no fear of evil news; and lends, who conducts his affairs with justice. with a firm heart, he trusts in the LORD.
3. With a steadfast heart he will not fear. Open-handed, he gives to the poor; his justice stands firm for ever. His might shall be exalted in glory.

Second reading

1 Corinthians 2:1-5

I, when I came to you, brothers and sisters, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

Gospel Acclamation

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life.

Gospel

Matthew 5:13-16

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet. 'You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.'

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

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|---------------------|--|---------------------|
| Parish E-Mail: | stpatrick.felling@diocesehn.org.uk | Tel: 0191 - 4952277 |
| Parish Website: | www.stpatricks-felling.co.uk | |
| School Website: | https://stalbanspelaw.bwcet.com/ | Tel: 0191 - 4693251 |
| 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

5th Sunday of Year A - 8th February 2026

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

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|-----|------------------|-------------------------------|------|---------|------------------------|
| Sat | 7 th | 5 th Sun of Year A | St A | 6.00pm | People of the Parishes |
| Sun | 8 th | | St P | 10.00am | Lindsay Bradley |
| Mon | 9 th | Weekday | St P | 10.00am | Gerard McWilliams |
| Tue | 10 th | St Scholastica | | | No Service |
| Wed | 11 th | Weekday | St A | 10.00am | Priest's Intention |
| Thu | 12 th | Weekday | St P | 10.00am | Tom Murray |
| Fri | 13 th | Weekday | St A | 10.00am | Priest's Intention |
| Sat | 14 th | 6 th Sun of Year A | St A | 6.00pm | Brian Grace Jnr |
| Sun | 15 th | | St P | 10.00am | People of the Parishes |

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

"Let us pray for peace at a moment in history that seems marked by a growing loss of respect for the value of human dignity and in which war has come back into fashion. ..May the humanity of Jesus, who reveals the Father, help us to find paths of justice and reconciliation."

(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

You are salt for the earth and light for the world

The readings this week invite us, in part, to reflect on the theme of darkness and light.

In the **First Reading** the prophet Isaiah encourages his people to attend to those in need and to do away with angry words and blaming others. If they do this they can be assured that the Lord will be with them, helping them out of the darkness into a healing light.

The **Psalm** continues this theme and extols the virtue of the good person whose light is an example to others.

Matthew in his **Gospel** recounts Jesus' words to his disciples. They are salt for the earth and the light for the world. Their light must be so attractive that others will want to come and join them.

Paul, in the **Second Reading** reminds the Corinthians that lofty words are not needed to tell people about Jesus. Relying on the Spirit and the power of God is all that is required.

This week, then, we could perhaps reflect on the example we give by using simple words, helping those we see in need, and giving hope to the discouraged so that the light of the love of God working through us can be clearly seen by all.

We pray for **Anne Reay** who died recently. A Funeral Service will be held on Friday 13th February 1.15pm at St Patrick's. May she rest in peace.

The next Partnership RCIA meeting will be on Tues 10th February, 6.30pm at St Patrick's, Felling.

The annual **Celebration of Marriage and Family Life Mass** will be held in the Cathedral on **Saturday 14 February 2026 at 12:00pm**. All welcome.

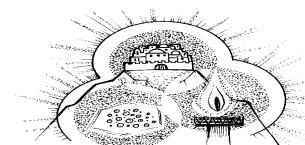
Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes: 31st July – 7th August 2026. *Celebrating 100 years since the First Diocesan Pilgrimage.* Bookings are now open. We travel on Friday 31st July and return on Friday 7th August 2026. Cf: <https://www.tangney-tours.com/tours-and-pilgrimages/diocese-hexham-newcastle/> or by calling 01732 886 666.

Lourdes Pilgrimage – Youth Section Reminder that bookings for the Youth Section of the Lourdes Pilgrimage will close on 31st January. For more information or to register interest, please email: evie.rea@ymt.org

Holy Island SVP Summer Camps 2026: Applications are now open for children in school Years 5-7 for Holy Island Summer Camps. The children spend a week in our centre on the island over the Summer holidays. Transport takes the children from Tyneside to our residential centre and all meals, accommodation and activities are included in the cost. For more information please visit our website: Holy Island SVP Vinnies Camp <https://svp.org.uk/microsite/ozanam-camp>

Do you have some spare time on your hands and want a fulfilling volunteer role? Our residential centre on Holy Island needs volunteers in 2026. There are lots of roles: Working with the children on our **Vinnies Summer Camps**, during the Summer holidays as a caretaker, kitchen assistants, cooks, and volunteering to work directly with the children. It's hard work, but so much fun and very worthwhile! No cost, just your time and patience for an interesting week on this beautiful island! Or perhaps you are retired or have flexible holidays and could give some time to help at our Term Time Camps. We need people who can take on a caretaking role or help in the kitchen with serving meals, cooking or operating the dishwasher! These Camps allow hundreds of children from the Diocese and further afield have a great residential holiday in our centre. Guaranteed hard work but fantastic memories too! To join our fabulous team or find out more information about any of the roles and to volunteer, please visit our website: Holy Island SVP Vinnies Camp <https://svp.org.uk/microsite/ozanam-camp> or contact BarbaraT@svp.org.uk

Children's Liturgy will be every Sunday during Lent at St Patrick's. February 22nd, March 1st, 15th, 22nd and 29th. All primary school age children are welcome.



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 Aid" 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

Safeguarding: Our parishes operate in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA) and Diocesan policies and procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are listed at the back of Church or alternately the Diocesan Team can be contacted on 0191 2433305 or at safeguarding@diocesehn.org.uk.