

First reading

Genesis 12:1-4a

In those days: The LORD said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonours you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.' So Abram went, as the LORD had told him.

Responsorial Psalm **May your merciful love be upon us, as we hope in you, O LORD.**

Psalm 33

1. The word of the LORD is upright, and all his works to be trusted.
The LORD loves justice and right, and his merciful love fills the earth.
2. Yes, the LORD's eyes are on those who fear him, who hope in his merciful love, to rescue their soul from death, to keep them alive in famine.
3. Our soul is waiting for the LORD.
He is our help and our shield.
May your merciful love be upon us, as we hope in you, O LORD.

Second reading

2 Timothy 1:8b-10

Beloved: We share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God, who saved us and called us to a holy calling not because of our works, but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Saviour Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

Gospel Acclamation

From a bright cloud, the Father's voice was heard: 'This is my beloved Son, listen to him'.

Gospel

Matthew 17:1-9

At that time: Jesus took with him Peter and James and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light. And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. And Peter said to Jesus, 'Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.' When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, 'Rise, and have no fear.' And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one, but Jesus only. And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, 'Tell no one the vision, until the Son of Man is raised from the dead.'

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

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

2nd Sunday of Lent Year A - 1st March 2026

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS					
Sat	28th	2nd of Lent Year A	St A	6.00pm	People of the Parishes
Sun	1st		St P	10.00am	Gerard McWilliams
Mon	2 nd	Weekday of Lent	St P	10.00am	Special Intention (BH)
Tue	3 rd	Weekday of Lent			<i>No Service</i>
Wed	4 th	Weekday of Lent	St A	10.00am	Priest's Intention
Thu	5 th	Weekday of Lent	St P	10.00am	Special Intention (PG)
Fri	6 th	Weekday of Lent	St A	10.00am	Priest's Intention
Sat	7th	3rd of Lent Year A	St A	6.00pm	Andrew Sloan
Sun	8th		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

'Lent is a time in which the Church, guided by a sense of maternal care, invites us to place the mystery of God back in the centre of our lives, in order to find renewal in our faith and keep our hearts from being consumed by the anxieties and distractions of daily 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
'Lord, it is good that we are here'

At the beginning of this season of Lent, we try to spend a little more time with the Lord if circumstances allow. We remind ourselves that this is a time to take stock, a chance to start again, an opportunity for renewal. It is also a time to examine the way we love others, as we try to reflect the way Jesus loves the Father, and loves each one of us. Today's **First Reading** tells the story of our first parents who, though created in love and for love, fell to the way of selfishness.

In response, Christ (the 'new Adam') conquers the tempter (**Gospel**) and offers us salvation that we could never earn or deserve (**Second Reading**).

God's kindness and compassion, revealed especially in Christ's loving sacrifice, create for us a pure heart and put a steadfast spirit within us (**Psalms**), giving us the power to choose life and to live in freedom.

This week, perhaps will we be drawn to choose one of the traditional Lenten practices: fasting, prayer or almsgiving, to help us to journey with our Lord towards his Passion and his Resurrection?

Following the Bishop's Pastoral Letter last weekend two parish open meetings will be held during Lent as follows:

Thur 12th Mar 6.30pm at St Alban's & Thur 19th Mar 6.30pm at St Patrick's

During these meetings we will be invited to reflect on and discern together our mission. This will include thinking about the four Diocesan Pastoral Priorities of:

Walking with Jesus and Enabling Encounters with Him

Renewing sacramental preparation as a journey of accompaniment and encounter.

Deepening our communities as places of welcome, safety and belonging — sharing God's love with all.

Creating opportunities to walk with Christ throughout our entire lives.

Living Justly and Caring for Our Common Home

Stewarding our resources wisely — building a safe and sustainable future.

Being a Church that goes out to the margins.

Growing as One Diocesan Family

Growing as a synodal Church — learning to listen, discern, and walk together.

Clergy: sustaining priestly ministry with care and collaboration.

Growing the gifts and vocations of all the baptised.

Bring Formed by Christ for Mission

Educating for Mission — forming hearts and minds in Christ.

Walking with our young people — forming faith, hope, and leadership.

Growing our discipleship through lifelong, Spirit-filled formation.

Lenten Alms: During Lent we traditionally support the work of **St Cuthbert's Care**. If you wish to do so, please use the basket marked at the back of church.

Something to Follow for Lent: A Lenten Course focussed on helping people enter more deeply into prayer will be offered on **Wednesday evenings during Lent in St Patrick's Parish Centre at 6.30pm**. Each hour long session is based on a short filmed presentation by Fr. Stephen Wang, (Who is also the author of the Sycamore RCIA Course). Topics covered include:

Session 2 SEVEN RULES OF PRAYER Session 3 PRAYING WITH THE BIBLE

Session 4 HOW TO PRAY THE MASS

Session 5 SILENT PRAYER AND THE PRESENCE OF GOD

All are most welcome to attend all or any of these sessions.

Children's Liturgy will be offered every Sunday during Lent at St Patrick's. All primary school age children are welcome.

Stations of the Cross will be celebrated during Lent on Fridays as follows:

Friday 6th March **10.30am in St Alban's Church**

Friday 13th March 12noon in St Patrick's Church Hall

Friday 20th March 2.45pm in St Alban's Church — led by Year 6

Friday 27th March 12noon in St Patrick's Church Hall

Friday 3rd April, 10.00am in St Alban's Church

If you would like to help lead any of these, please let Fr Martin know.

CAFOD Family Fast Day: Please return to the collection plate, as soon as possible.

The next Partnership RCIA meeting will be on Tues 3rd March, 6.30pm at St Patrick's, Felling. (There is a break for school Half term week).

Diocesan Lenten Reflection Resources: Lenten resources are available on the homepage of the diocesan website. This includes **We Dare to Ask** which is a resource for small group faith-sharing and for individual meditation, featuring five sessions on the theme of our Baptismal Vocation. Each session includes scripture, prayers and a reflection with questions as we prepare to renew our baptismal promises at Easter. The booklet, which includes a foreword by Bishop Stephen, is available to view and download now.

Community Coffee Mornings near to St Alban's church: Hertfordshire House community centre, located on Rothbury Ave, has a coffee morning on **Thursday and Friday morning from 8.45 am till 11.30am**. Tea coffee cakes and hot sandwiches are £1.00 each. It offers a warm place and friendly atmosphere. (Often there is surplus stock from a local supermarket free of charge). More information can be found on Facebook Community coffee mornings.