

**First reading****Ezekiel 37:12-14**

Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD.

**Responsorial Psalm With the LORD there is mercy, in him is plentiful redemption. Ps 130(129)**

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| <p>1. Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD;<br/>Lord, hear my voice!<br/>O let your ears be attentive<br/>to the sound of my pleadings.</p> <p>3. I long for you, O LORD,<br/>my soul longs for his word.<br/>My soul awaits the Lord<br/>more than watchmen for daybreak.</p> | <p>2. If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,<br/>Lord, who could stand?<br/>But with you is found forgiveness,<br/>that you may be revered.</p> <p>4. More than watchmen for daybreak,<br/>let Israel hope for the LORD.<br/>For with the LORD there is mercy,<br/>in him is plentiful redemption.<br/>It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.</p> |
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**Second reading****Romans 8:8-11**

Brothers and Sisters: Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

**Gospel Acclamation**

I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord. Everyone who believes in me shall never die.

**Gospel****John 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45**

At that time: The sisters of Lazarus sent to Jesus, saying, 'Lord, he whom you love is ill.' But when Jesus heard it he said, 'This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.' Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he said to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judea again.' Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you.' Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?' She said to him, 'Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.' Jesus was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. And he said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus wept. So the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?' Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.' Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, 'Lord, by this time there will be a smell, for he has been dead four days.' Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, 'Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me.' When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out.' The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.' Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him.

**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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**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent Year A - 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2026****MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS**

Sat	21 <sup>st</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup> of Lent Year A	St A	6.00pm	People of the Parishes
Sun	22 <sup>nd</sup>		St P	10.00am	Jean McAllister
Mon	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Weekday of Lent	St P	10.00am	<i>Requiem Mass: Margaret Walsh</i>
Tue	24 <sup>th</sup>	Weekday of Lent			<i>No Service</i>
Wed	25 <sup>th</sup>	The Annunciation	St A	10.00am	Jonathan Harland
Thu	26 <sup>th</sup>	Weekday of Lent	St P	10.00am	Elizabeth Lenehan & Catherine Diamond
Fri	27 <sup>th</sup>	Weekday of Lent	St A	10.00am	Whole School Mass
Sat	28 <sup>th</sup>	Palm Sunday	St A	6.00pm	People of the Parishes
Sun	29 <sup>th</sup>		St P	10.00am	George Laurie

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**

*"Every baptized person is an active agent of evangelization,  
called to bear consistent witness to Christ in accordance with the prophetic gift which  
the Lord bestows upon His whole Church."  
(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**  
**Unbind him, and let him go!**

The readings for this week invite us to anticipate the joy of Easter and to have faith in the promise of a new way of life, made possible by the death and resurrection of Jesus. The Lord speaks through the prophet Ezekiel (**First Reading**) to confirm that he will lead the people of Israel back to their own land, promising that "I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live".

St. Paul (**Second Reading**) confirms that this same gift of the Holy Spirit, made possible by the resurrection of Jesus, will remove the effects of sin and give us life through the Spirit living within us.

The **Psalm** echoes this promise that "with the Lord there is mercy, in him is plentiful redemption". The Lord does not treat us according to our guilt; he redeems us from all our sinfulness. We can count on his promise; he will hear our voice when we call to him.

The **Gospel** tells of the raising of Lazarus from death. Jesus responds to the need and the grief of Martha and Mary, and demonstrates his power over death and sin by bringing Lazarus back to life.

As we pray this week, we ask the Lord to deepen our faith in him.

We pray for **Margaret Walsh** who died recently. A Requiem Mass will be held for Margaret on Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> March 10.00am at St Patrick's followed by burial at Heworth Burn cemetery. May she rest in peace.

**Please Note** that Mass this **Wednesday will be at 9.30am** at St Alban's.

**Mass this Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March** will be a whole school Mass at St Alban's. All welcome.

The children preparing for First Holy Communion will celebrate their **First Reconciliation** this coming **Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> March 10am at St Alban's.**

**The Sacrament of Reconciliation** will be available on  
**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March** as follows:  
**11am-12noon** in St Patrick's Church & **5.15-5.45pm** in St Alban's Church

**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 27<sup>th</sup> March** 12noon in St Patrick's Church Hall

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 10.00am in St Alban's Church

The next **Partnership RCIA meeting** will be on Tues 24<sup>th</sup> March, 6.30pm at St Patrick's, Felling. (There is a break for school Half term week).

**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). Final Session: **5 SILENT PRAYER AND THE PRESENCE OF GOD.** All are most welcome to attend.

**Discerning our Mission** to help contribute to the Diocesan Wide Pastoral Strategy: Thank you to all those who attended the recent parish open meetings. The next parish open meetings will be held as follows:

<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>22<sup>nd</sup> April</b>	<b>6.30pm at St Alban's</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>23<sup>rd</sup> April</b>	<b>6.30pm at St Patrick's</b>

**All resources for the above meetings are available on the Diocesan website.**

**Gift Aid Envelopes** for the new financial year will be available for collection after Mass from this weekend. Non-gift aid envelope sets are also available at St Patrick's.

**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.

**CAFOD Family Fast Day:** Please return to the collection plate, as soon as possible. St Patrick's J & P Group have recently been able to send a further £150 to CAFOD – making a total of £350 for the year.

**Easter Flowers for St Alban's:** There is a basket at the back of Church for donations for flowers for Easter. All contributions welcome.

**The Times of our Easter Services will be as Follows**

<b>Holy Thursday</b>	<b>Mass of the Lord's Supper</b>	<b>7.00pm</b>	<b>at St Patrick's</b>
<b>Good Friday</b>	<b>Stations of the Cross</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>at St Alban's</b>
<b>Good Friday</b>	<b>Celebration of the Passion</b>	<b>3.00pm</b>	<b>at St Patrick's</b>
<b>Holy Saturday</b>	<b>Easter Vigil</b>	<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>at St Alban's</b>
<b>Easter Sunday</b>	<b>Mass of Easter</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>at St Patrick's</b>