

First reading

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17

In those days: Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed to them the Christ. And the crowds with one accord paid attention to what was being said by Philip, when they heard him and saw the signs that he did. For unclean spirits, crying out with a loud voice, came out of many who had them, and many who were paralysed or lame were healed. So there was much joy in that city. Now when the Apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John, who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, for he had not yet fallen on any of them, but they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit.

Responsorial Psalm Cry out with joy to God, all the earth. Ps 66(65)

1. Cry out with joy to God, all the earth;
O sing to the glory of his name.
O render him glorious praise.
Say to God, 'How wondrous your deeds!' his wondrous deeds among the children of Adam.
2. 'Before you all the earth shall bow down,
shall sing to you, sing to your name!'
Come and see the works of God:
3. He turned the sea into dry land;
they passed through the river on foot.
Let our joy, then, be in him;
he rules for ever by his might.
4. Come and hear, all who fear God;
I will tell what he did for my soul.
Blest be God, who did not reject my prayer,
nor withhold from me his merciful love.

Second reading

1 Peter 3:15-18

Beloved: In your hearts honour Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defence to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behaviour in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil. For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit.

Gospel Acclamation

If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, says the Lord, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him.

Gospel

John 14:15-21

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you for ever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you. 'I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to 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

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

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|----------------------------|--|---------------------|
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The Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle Registered Charity Number: 1143450

6th Sunday of Easter Year A - 10th May 2026

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

| Sat | 9 th | 6 th of Easter | St A | 6.00pm | People of the Parishes |
|-----|------------------|---------------------------|------|---------|-----------------------------------|
| Sun | 10 th | | St P | 10.00am | Catherine Palmer |
| Mon | 11 th | Weekday of Easter | St P | 10.00am | Jim & Michael McErlane |
| Tue | 12 th | Weekday of Easter | | | No Service |
| Wed | 13 th | Weekday of Easter | St A | 10.00am | Eelaf Khan & Manus McDermott Jnr. |
| | | | St P | 12.00pm | Requiem Mass: Margaret Brown |
| Thu | 14 th | Ascension of Lord | St P | 10.00am | Jim Farrell |
| | | | St A | 6.30pm | Fr Pat McKenna (NBF) |
| Fri | 15 th | Weekday of Easter | St A | 10.00am | Priest's Intention |
| Sat | 16 th | 7 th of Easter | St A | 6.00pm | People of the Parishes |
| Sun | 17 th | | St P | 10.00am | Maurice Brown |

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 and

First Saturday of each month: 10.00-10.15am at St Patrick's and 5.30-5.45pm at St Alban's

"The Church is invested with the mission of speaking clearly to reject everything that mortifies life and prevents its development, and to take a position in favour of the poor, the exploited, the victims of violence and war, and all those who suffer in body and in spirit."(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
6th Sunday of Easter Year A

“I will not leave you as orphans”

As we near the end of Eastertide and the feast of Pentecost approaches, the Church chooses readings this week which help us prepare for this momentous event.

The **First Reading** reminds us of the first days of the Early Church spreading through Asia Minor, living through very human tensions and led by Spirit-filled people. How then can we not rejoice and, as the psalmist invites us, ‘cry out with joy to God all the earth before the ‘wonderous’ deeds of God?’

In the **Second Reading**, the author of the First Letter of Peter continues to encourage the early Christians. Their life was not always an easy one: they often suffered slander and accusations, yet they have great hope and can answer their critics with a clear conscience. Christ too died, though innocent, but was ‘made alive in the spirit’.

Our sadness at seeing the risen Christ return to his Father is tempered by his promise to ask him to send us a helper, an Advocate, the Spirit of truth. He will not leave us orphans. (**Gospel**)

This week, then, we may want to spend some of our prayer time asking the Lord what we can do, in practical terms and with the help of the Spirit, to continue building the Church and telling others about him with greater confidence.

We pray for Margaret Brown who died recently. A Requiem Mass will be celebrated for Margaret on Wed 13 May 12noon at St Patrick’s followed by burial at Old Heworth cemetery. May she rest in peace.

On Thursday we celebrate the Feast of the Ascension of the Lord: There will be two Masses that day, **10.00am at St Patrick’s and 6.30pm at St Alban’s**. Please make every effort to attend this Holy Day.

Children’s Liturgy for all primary school aged children will be held on the following Sundays at St Patrick’s: May 31st, June 28th, and July 26th.

A Quiz Night will be held in St Patrick’s Parish Centre on **Friday 15th May at 7.30pm**. Everyone is welcome. Bring your own snacks and drink, but we asked, if you can, to bring a food item which will be sent on to Joe’s Place in Gateshead.

We remember in our prayers the children from Year 4 (4), Year 5 (1) and Year 8 (1) who will be celebrating their First Holy Communions on **Sat 16 & Sun 17 May**.

Volunteers are needed to help tidy up the garden at St Alban’s. The front side-gate is always open so you can come and do some weeding any time.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi will be Led by Bishop Stephen, **22nd – 29th October 2027**. £1725 per person. Places are limited to 50 pilgrims and places are allocated on a first come first served basis – with deposit securing your place. The itinerary etc. can be found on diocesan website (www.diocesehn.org.uk).

Update From St. Alban's Catholic Primary School: Dear Parishioners, Thank you for your support and prayers during our Lenten journey - pupils have returned excited and ready for all of the fun and adventure that the summer term brings. Governors have been working with Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust and are pleased that Mrs Swaddle will continue supporting the school as Executive Headteacher. She has been joined by Mr Keys, an experienced Headteacher, who will be at St Alban’s full-time to lead the staff team. They look forward to continuing to work with the parishes of St. Alban's and St. Patrick's and invite you to St. Alban's next school Mass, on Friday 22nd May at 10am, which will be led by Year 6 pupils.

Diocesan Vacancies for Cleaners at: Immaculate Heart of Mary, Lobley Hill and St Mary’s, Whickham and St Mary’s Presbytery, Lobley Hill. If interested please visit <https://diocesehn.org.uk/vacancy/cleaner-7/> by 13/05/2026.

Lecture at Holy Name, Jesmond: ‘From Francis to Leo: the Catholic Church in a Change of Era’ - Saturday 16 May at 11am by Dr Austen Ivereigh. All are welcome, there is no charge and no booking is necessary.

Prayer for Discernment

Heavenly Father, We thank you for your calling, your guidance, and your love that entrusts us with the mission of your Church in our diocese. Unite us as one family of faith, attentive to your Spirit and supporting one another with care and compassion. As we begin this time of discernment, bless and guide us, that it may be a spiritual journey of listening and honesty that moves us to action. Help us to reflect deeply on our mission and resources, to face reality with courage, and to choose what will allow our communities to flourish for generations to come. Keep us faithful to walking together, seeking truth with hope, and responding to your call with generosity. Form us as missionary disciples, ready to serve and proclaim your Gospel. Give us wisdom to make decisions that strengthen worship, service, teaching, and community. May all we do be rooted in prayer and guided by your Spirit, so that we may steward our resources faithfully and build a Church that is vibrant and welcoming. We entrust our Diocese to the prayers of Our Blessed Lady Immaculate, and to the intercession of the saints who have gone before us. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

CAFOD MAY APPEAL: During May at the back of St Patrick’s church we are collecting signatures for a CAFOD petition about Global Debt Crisis, which is causing terrible suffering for our brothers and sisters around the world. Cardinal Stephen Amey Martin Mulla from South Sudan has written a letter to parishes in England and Wales to express his concern and encourage us to act. Please stop for a moment as you leave St Patrick’s, read his letter and lend your support by signing this petition. The petition will be there throughout May. Thank you for helping to build a better world.