

First reading

Jeremiah 20:7-9

O LORD, you have deceived me, and I was deceived; you are stronger than I, and you have prevailed. I have become a laughing-stock all the day; everyone mocks me. For whenever I speak, I cry out, I shout, 'Violence and destruction!' For the word of the LORD has become for me a reproach and derision all day long. If I say, 'I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name', there is in my heart as it were a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot.

Responsorial Psalm For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord, my God. Ps 63(62)

1. O God, you are my God; at dawn I seek you;
for you my soul is thirsting.
For you my flesh is pining,
like a dry, weary land without water.
2. I have come before you in the sanctuary,
to behold your strength and your glory.
Your loving mercy is better than life;
my lips will speak your praise.
3. I will bless you all my life;
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet;
with joyful lips, my mouth shall praise you.
4. For you have been my strength;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.
My soul clings fast to you;
your right hand upholds me.

Second reading

Romans 12:1-2

I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Gospel Acclamation

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, enlighten the eyes of our hearts, so that we may know the hope to which he has called us.

Gospel

Matthew 16:21-27

At that time: Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, 'Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.' Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul? For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done.'

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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The Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle Registered Charity Number: 1143450

22nd Sunday of Year A - 30th August 2026

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS					
Sat	29 th	22 nd Sunday Year A	St A	6.00pm	People of the Parishes
Sun	30 th		St P	10.00am	Jessica D'Silva (Birthday)
Mon	31 st	St Aidan	St P	10.00am	Priest's Intention
Tue	1 st	Weekday			No Service
Wed	2 nd	Weekday	St A	10.00am	Service of Word & Holy Communion
Thu	3 rd	St Gregory the great	St P	10.00am	Service of Word & Holy Communion
Fri	4 th	Translation of St C	St A	10.00am	Service of Word & Holy Communion
Sat	5 th	23 rd Sunday Year A	St A	6.00pm	People of the Parishes
Sun	6 th		St P	10.00am	Bill Henderson
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					

*"Created for relationship, every human person is planned and willed by God to enter into communion with God, with others and with creation."
(Pope Leo - MH)*

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
‘Take up your cross and follow me’

This week’s readings make it clear that discipleship isn’t easy. But they also reassure us that the cost of following Jesus is always a cost worth paying. Even when taking up our cross brings real suffering, God is there, offering us something far greater – the promise of life in all its fullness.

Jeremiah feels so overpowered by God and so worn down by the demands of prophesying (**first reading**) that he tries to turn away. But God’s message is like a fire burning deep within him, impossible to deny.

The **psalmist** also speaks of a profound inward longing that can only be satisfied by God, whose love for us is greater than life itself.

St Paul, too, knows well how costly discipleship can be (**second reading**), but he urges ‘the renewal of your mind’, modelling ourselves not on the world, but on Jesus himself. When we offer ourselves to God we discover his desire for us, and can open ourselves to being transformed.

Today’s **Gospel** moves on from previous weeks by speaking of Jerusalem and the cross. Jesus warns the disciples that he must suffer, and Peter is rebuked when he tries to dissuade him. Following Jesus now means letting go of our own self-centred lives, but in doing so we become open to a new and much fuller life of love and freedom, lived in the Lord.

We might pray this week to be ever more open to Jesus’s call to us to carry the cross, and we ask him to help us respond to that call with joy and generosity.

We pray for **Joan Wylie** who died recently. A funeral service will be held for Joan at St Patrick’s Church on Wednesday 9th September at 12.15pm, followed by burial at Heworth Burn Cemetery. May she rest in peace.

An African Day Celebration will be held today **Sunday, 30th August 2026** after Mass in the Church hall at St Patrick’s. This will be a joyful opportunity to celebrate the rich diversity of African culture through traditional attire, delicious food, music, and dance. Everyone is warmly invited to stay after Mass, experience the vibrant culture of Africa, and enjoy a time of fellowship as a parish community. We look forward to celebrating with you.

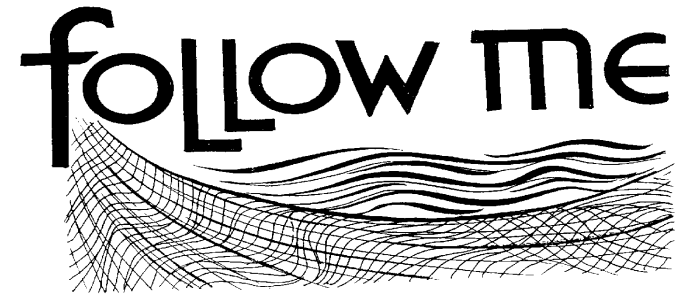
Thank you to all those who helped with and supported the **Bongo Bingo** evening at St Patrick’s Parish Centre.

All Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion at St Patrick’s Church are invited to a meeting in Church after Mass on Sunday 20th September (this includes those most recently commissioned) to discuss the re-introduction of Communion under both kinds in October.

The Diocesan Justice and Peace Project are at present supporting 479 Asylum Seekers who are waiting for a decision and who receive some government support. 30 have had their claim refused and are destitute. They all receive a bag of essentials valued at approximately £10 and those who are destitute also receive a supermarket voucher. The project relies on donations especially such as rice, tinned fish, chickpeas, tomatoes, biscuits and toiletries. These can be left at the entrance of St Alban’s or at either entrance to St Patrick’s.

Are you Interested in Becoming a Catholic or just learning more about the Catholic Faith? This years Partnership RCIA (Roman Catholic Initiation of Adults) programme is due to start on Monday 5th October, at 6.30pm. The initial meeting will take place at St Patrick’s Church, in the Parish Centre on **Wednesday 16th September at 6.30pm** at which participants will be introduced to the programme and be able to decide the venue and day for future meetings. The course will consist of around 20 sessions based on the Sycamore Video Course supplemented by some additional materials. Each meeting lasts around an hour and a quarter and meetings will not take place when schools are on holiday. If interested please let Fr Martin know.

Garden tidy up at St Patrick’s will take place on Saturday 5th September from 10am. Everyone is welcome and remember many hands make light work.



Diocesan Pastoral Strategy Discernment – John Ingram Partnership.

At recent meetings of laity and clergy there arose a common consensus on the following points:-

- Merging of parishes and reductions of churches necessary now.
- Develop stronger relationships with our school communities.
- Promote and deepen catechesis, education for all, formation and lay leadership.
- A real taking account of the facts presented to us and action to address them.
- The importance of the John Ingram Partnership.

The Lourdes Centenary Ball will take place at Newcastle Civic Centre on Saturday 5th September between 7pm to 11.30pm. Tickets can be ordered using the link found below. Direct any questions to the President of Hospitalite, Claire James at lourdes.hospitalite@diocesehn.org.uk