

Welcome to our weekly News and Diary from the parishes of Gateshead Fell, Harlow Green and Windy Nook

3rd August 2025

What really matters

In our Gospel reading this Sunday, Luke 12:13-21, Jesus tells a story about a man who had a lot of things. He spent his life getting lots of money, lots of land, and lots of stuff... and only at the end did he realise that these things don't really matter. As Jesus says: "*Life is not measured by what you own.*"

How much time do we spend chasing after things that don't really matter?

How much time do we spend worrying about what we have, or what we don't have, or comparing ourselves to others?

Jesus invites us to consider what really matters, and to pursue that instead: to live a life not full of stuff but full of *love* - for ourselves, for others, and for God.

St Johns celebrates being open and serving the people of Gateshead Fell for 200 years.



We have our final celebration on Sunday 24th August at 6pm and would like to have some memorabilia up for those who are interested - if you have anything related to St Johns, photographs (not wedding ones), magazines etc that we could scan and put up please bring them to church by the week of 17th August.

We will open the doors at 5.30pm on the day and celebrate together at 6pm followed by some fizz and cake.

Christmas Fair at St Albans We have had 2 successful Christmas Fairs and our recent summer fair thanks to Hazel and a small team. However we have now reached a situation where we need a larger team to make this happen this year. So I am asking for people who would be a willing part of the team.. so we can divide the roles and it not become overwhelming for 2 or 3 people.

We will meet initially in August and make a plan, share ideas and roles. Then again once in September and October to ensure all is on track.

If we do not have a team then we reach the position where we will not have a fair as the way it has worked so far is not the best thing for anyone's health. If you are willing to be involved in a small way then please let me or Hazel know.

Danie

Future Dates

Thursday 14th and 21st August Holiday Clubs.. Contact Lynn for information on 07940194154

Sunday 24th August Picnic in Saltwell Park as part of Gateshead Pride - noon to 4pm - come and find us as we give out leaflets, cakes and enjoy some time together.

Sunday 24th August 6pm Final Service marking 200 years of St Johns

Friday 29th August until Sunday 31st August Church camp

Monday 1st September Cafe at St Albans

Saturday 6th September Men's breakfast at St Ninian's

Saturday September 13th - Philip's Authorisation Service - Durham Cathedral



We are Inclusive Churches which celebrate and affirm every person and do not discriminate. If we can do anything to enable you to enjoy worshipping with us more then please let us know.

What is happening across our parishes this week?

Week beginning Sunday 3rd August

Sunday services 3rd August	8am BCP at St Johns 9.30am Service at St Johns 10am Service at St Ninians 10.30am Service at St Albans 12.30pm Baptism St Albans
Monday	7am Morning Prayer at St Johns 1pm - 3.30pm Arts & Crafts at St Albans
Tuesday	9am Morning Prayer at St Albans 10am - 1pm Place of Welcome at St Johns 8.45pm Men's Fellowship at Greencroft Club
Wednesday	9am Morning Prayer at St Johns
Thursday	9am Morning Prayer at St Ninians 10am - 2pm Holiday Club at St Albans Community Centre
Sunday - 10th August	8am BCP at St Johns 9.30am Service at St Johns 10am Service at St Ninians 10.30am Service at St Albans 11.30 Baptism at St Johns



This week we have loved hosting the Arts Holiday Club at St Albans - thanks to those who volunteered to help, Ann Fullerton, Lynn Coulson and Hazel Edmonds. This has once again proved to be a wonderful time for all involved - the children of our parishes have been well cared for and become much more confident as a result.

Prayers you may want to use this week

Collect

Generous God, you give us gifts and make them grow:
though our faith is small as mustard seed, make it grow to your glory
and the flourishing of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Parish Waymark Prayer

God of life - you make all things new.

Revive your church in our parishes.

Inspire our worship, release our gifts, and give us courage to follow
where you lead.

Jesus, help us to know you better and draw us deeper into your
presence.

Fill us with your Spirit so we can share your love and hope with all,
and walk in the world as beacons of your light. Amen.

Prayers for those in our community

For healing Eunice and Mike Anton, Betty Elliott, Karl and Christina
Smith, Iris Taylor, John Watts, Jenny Devine, Betty White, Simon
Shaw, Lindsay Foster

Our clergy team is:

*Rev Danie Lindley (07902477474), Rev Ken Coulson (07596534635),
Rev John Mayes (07791615821) Rev Elaine Grant (07356073876)*

Contact us on stalbanswn@gmail.com; stjohnsgf@gmail.com;
stninianshg@gmail.com