

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

28th September 2025

## This Sunday marks the start of our week of Generosity and Gratitude

As human beings created in God's image:

- Generosity is in the nature of God, so it's in our nature as well
- We are created to express God's nature,
- We are created to share God's love and generosity
- We are called to grow in the likeness of Christ, whose life was one of radical and sacrificial generosity
- Generosity is a hallmark of a lived-out faith



## Giving and generosity as Ministry

Giving and generosity is a witness to our faith, and an expression of the love of God to the people around us. As God gifts people to one another, we each minister to each other as we learn to both graciously receive as well as generously give. Giving is a form of ministry, and through it we grow in an understanding that we must first receive before we can give, and how being a gracious receiver gives the gift of giving to someone else.

Quite often, we tend to only talk about giving when our churches are experiencing a financial challenge – but giving isn't a response to a crisis. The ministry of generosity is clear throughout the life of our churches and embedding this ministry through the lens of joy is a true gift of generosity.

**Thank you to all who give generously to our churches. We are sustained through regular giving and those who do should receive a letter this week thanking you - if you give regularly onto the plate - so we don't know who you are, please do take a letter - it is for you as well.**

**Legacies** - St Johns has, in the past few months, had money donated by a small number of people including one large donation of £15,000 to the sum of £17,000, before gift aid, to ensure the future ministry of our church. These are living legacies - people who want to see the church flourish and be a part of its community now and in the future. Maybe this month you could reflect on your legacy to your church either now as a one off sum, in your weekly giving or after you die? Thanks go to those who have been so generous.

**Some prayers for this week**

O gracious and holy Father,  
Give us wisdom to perceive you,  
Intelligence to understand you,  
Diligence to seek you,  
Patience to wait for you,  
Eyes to behold you,  
A heart to meditate upon you,  
And a life to proclaim you,  
Through the power of the Spirit, Of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
*Attributed to St Benedict of Nursia*

God, of your goodness, Give me yourself,  
For you are sufficient for me.  
To be worthy of you I cannot ask of anything less.  
If I were to ask less, I should always be in want,  
For in you alone do I have all. *Julian of Norwich*

Lord, take as your right, And receive as my gift, All my freedom, my memory, My understanding and my will. Whatever I am and whatever I possess, You have given it to me; I restore it all to you again, To be at your disposal, According to your will. Give me only a love for you, And the gift of your grace; Then I am rich enough, And ask for nothing more. St Ignatius Loyola Move our hearts With the calm, smooth flow of your grace. Let the river of your love run through our souls. May our souls be carried by the current of your love, Towards the wide, infinite ocean of heaven. *Gilbert of Hoyland*

## Upcoming PCC Meetings

St Albans 13th October 2025 7pm

### What is happening across our parishes this week? Week beginning Sunday 28th September

Sunday services 28th September	8am BCP Service at St Johns 9.30am Service at St Johns 10am Service at St Ninians 10.30am Service at St Albans
Monday	7am Morning Prayer at St Johns 1pm – 3.30pm Arts & Crafts at St Albans 4pm Evening Prayer at St Albans 7pm St Johns PCC
Tuesday	9am Morning Prayer at St Albans 10am - 1pm Place of Welcome at St Johns 7.15pm - 9.15pm Low fell Singers use St Albans Church to practice 7pm Rev Kathryn Bagnall is licensed as Archdeacon of our Archdeaconary at Sunderland Minster 8.45pm Men's Fellowship at Greencroft Club
Wednesday	9am Morning Prayer at St Johns
Thursday	9am Morning Prayer at St Ninians
Sunday - 5th October	8am BCP Service at St Johns 9.30am Service at St Johns 10am Service at St Ninians 10.30am Service at St Albans 11.30am Baptism at St Johns 12.30pm Baptism at St Albans 3.30pm Durham Cathedral - Rev Danie installed as a non residential Canon of Durham Cathedral - all welcome



**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.**

## Prayers you may want to use this week

### Collect

Lord God, defend your Church from all false teaching and give to your people knowledge of your truth, that we may enjoy eternal life in 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

Connor Buckley (aged 8), Jenny Devine, Betty Elliott, Paul Fawcus (age 1), Lindsay Forster, Joseph Gallagher, Simon Shaw, Karl and Christina Smith, Iris Taylor, John Watts, Betty White.

**For those who are mourning the death of loved ones**, especially praying for the family & friends and the congregation of St Andrew, Lamesley & St Ninians of George Lackenby as they mourn his death.

#### **Our clergy team is:**

**Rector** - Rev Danie Lindley (07902477474), **Associate Priest** - Rev Ken Coulson (07596534635), **Curates** - Rev John Mayes (07791615821) and Rev Elaine Grant (07356073876)

#### **Our churchwardens are:**

**St Albans** Lynn Coulson and Rob Watts  
**St Johns:** Catherine Mayes and Yvonne Stonebank  
**St Ninians:** Linda Smith

#### **Our Parish Safeguarding officers are**

**St Albans and St Ninians:** Lynn Coulson and **St Johns:** Catherine Mayes

Contact us on [stalbanswn@gmail.com](mailto:stalbanswn@gmail.com); [stjohnsgf@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsgf@gmail.com);  
[stninianshg@gmail.com](mailto:stninianshg@gmail.com)