

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

19th April 2026

Coffee Morning and Plant Sale



Come and join us at St Albans Church on Saturday, 25th April 2026 from 10am to 12pm to raise funds towards the renovations in the hall.

There will be a Plant Sale and book stall, have a browse with a cup of tea or coffee with cake.

If you have any books that can be added to the stall bring them along.

Thank you - I have completed my 40 days of walking 15,000 steps while working and want to say a huge thank you for your support. The total at present is £1100 and I know there is more to be banked. This is a huge amount and my thanks go to you all and to all who have sponsored me in any way.



Thanks to those who walked with me on occasions - we had some great conversations as well as walking miles! I look forward to a summer of walking with many of you. Give me a call if you fancy a walk! Rev Danie

Annual meetings

Each church will hold an annual meeting in the coming weeks - and will be looking for people to be a part of PCC, Deanery Synod Representatives and Churchwardens.

All will be asking for new PCC members - here is a summary of what the PCC does.

As a member of PCC (Parochial Church Council) we are on the governing body of a parish, made up of clergy and lay members of the parish. Together we are responsible for the finances of the parish and the overall wellbeing, practical as well as spiritual, of our worship communities, our members and buildings. The PCC also has a duty to promote the mission of the church within the wider community. All PCC members are Charity Trustees of the legal charity that is 'the parish'.

Responsibilities:

Members of the PCC have the right to be consulted, to know what is proposed, and to have the opportunity to express an opinion on it. You are someone who is taking your

own journey with God seriously, takes responsibility for your own health and safety. Is willing to comply with Diocesan safeguarding policy and General Data Protection Regulations and will undertake any training as required.

Specific

- Demonstrate openness and ensure the people of the worship communities reach out to all who live in their surrounding communities, whether members of the church/worship communities or not.
- Support leaders (clergy and lay), prayerfully and personally.
- Prepare for and attend PCC meetings, review minutes and agree them, be an active part of the decision-making process. PCC members could also attend major activities in the Diocese and Deanery.
- Suggest strategic and/or creative agenda items, put forward questions in good time and offer solutions, options and choices in the way ahead.
- Listen to others attentively, speak kindly, clearly and succinctly.
- Vote and make decisions for the good of the Parish and sometimes the Diocese.
- Communicate with members of the worship communities to keep them informed and take their questions/issue/feedback to PCC meetings.
- Identifying and prioritising mission opportunities
- Manage the PCC's finances to ensure accounting for all funds, maintenance of accounts, annual accounts audit
- Ensure we are all safe, implementing the House of Bishops' policies on Safeguarding and a Parish Policy on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults which is reviewed at least annually
- Have responsibility as a PCC for Church buildings, ancillary buildings (e.g. Hall) and churchyard, complying with Health & Safety, heritage requirements and maintenance work

Please pray about whether you could support our churches by being a member of PCC and talk to members or to the clergy.

Upcoming dates

Monday 27th April - St Albans PCC

Tuesday 28th April - St Ninians PCC

Saturday May 2nd - Mens Breakfast

Saturday 9th May - Confirmation at St Ninians

Monday 11th May - 7pm St Albans APCM

Saturday 16th May - Gardening at St Albans

Saturday 16th May - Compass Acapella choir at St Johns

Sunday 17th May - 11am St Ninians APCM

What is happening across our parishes for the Week beginning Sunday 19th April

Sunday 19th April 2026	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: Shared lunch at St Albans 4.30pm: Explore Worship at St Ninians
Monday	7am: Morning prayer at St Johns 10am - 12pm: Cafe at St Albans 1pm - 2.30pm: Toddler group at St Albans Hall 1pm - 3.30: Arts & Crafts at St Albans 7pm: Worship Team gathering at St Albans
Tuesday	9am: Morning Prayer at St Johns 10am - 1pm: Place of Welcome at St Johns 2pm-3pm: Hawkesbury House Communion Service 8.45pm: Mens Fellowship at Greencroft Club
Wednesday	9am: Morning Prayer at St Albans
Thursday	9am: Morning Prayer at St Ninians
Friday	6pm-8pm : District Scout Service - St George's day at St Johns
Saturday	10am - 12pm: Coffee morning at St Albans with Plant sale and Book stall
Sunday 26th April 2026	8am: BCP Service at St Johns 9.30am: Service at St Johns 10am: Service at St Ninians 10.30am: Service at St Albans 10.45am: St John's APCM 4.30pm: Explore Prayer at at St Ninians



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 - 19th April 2026

Risen Christ, you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope: strengthen us to proclaim your risen life and fill us with your peace, to the glory of God the Father. 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 Benny Bahmanizad, Connor Buckley, Jenny Devine, Betty Elliott, John Goodenough, Andy Kindred, Peter Grainge, Simon Shaw, Karl and Christina Smith, Chloe Sproates, Brenda Taylor, John Watts.

Our clergy team is:

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

Our Parish Safeguarding officers are

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

Churchwardens

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

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