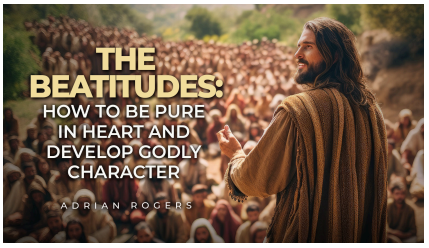
Welcome to our weekly News and Diary from the parishes of Gateshead Fell, Harlow Green and Windy Nook

22nd November 2026

Bible Study - The Beatitudes - Week 3

10am at St Alban's - Wednesday 25th November
7pm at St John's - Thursday 25th November
The type of people God is forming





Explore At St Ninians

November 29th Advent Sunday at 4.30pm
* Mary's "Yes" and the Making of Space *

Her hospitality was not symbolic, but physical. She made space for the Word to become flesh - an act of trust, surrender, and faith.



Christmas Coffee Morning at St Alban's On Monday 30th November

Raffle prizes for this event will be gratefully accepted - please see Christine Chisholm



Christmas Coffee Morning at St John's On Saturday 5th December

Raffle, Tombola, Christmas Gift Stall,
Tea, coffee, cake and Christmas Treats!

Safeguarding Sunday

This Sunday has been designated as ‘Safeguarding Sunday’. At its heart safeguarding is simply the practical action taken to help people be safe and to prevent harm.

In a church context, it’s about creating a culture where everyone can worship, belong, and explore faith together without fear, pressure, or abuse, and where concerns are taken seriously and responded to well.

It means

• Protecting children and adults from abuse, neglect, exploitation and mistreatment

• Preventing harm to a person’s health, wellbeing or development

• Noticing early when something isn’t right and offering support

• Responding appropriately when there are concerns

• Creating a culture of safety, so people can flourish in safe environments

Safeguarding matters because abuse can happen anywhere, including in church, people may disclose harm in church because it feels safe and trusted, and good safeguarding protects everyone. Safeguarding is not about suspicion or bureaucracy; it is a form of care: taking responsibility so that people can participate confidently and safely.

Each of our parishes has a Safeguarding Officer (Lynn Coulson for St Alban’s and St Ninians; Catherine Mayes for St John’s) and all our clergy, lay ministers, PCC members and those in contact with vulnerable people have undergone safeguarding training and criminal records checks. But safeguarding is the responsibility of all of us. If you ever have any concerns or would like to know more about issues around safeguarding don’t hesitate to talk to Catherine or Lynn.

Details of what is happening across our parishes this week

Sunday 22nd November	8.00am: BCP Service at St John's 9.30am: Service at St John's 10.00am: Service at St Ninian's - Archdeacon Katherine 10.30am: Service at St Alban's 4.30pm: Explore at St Ninian's
Monday	7.00am: Morning Prayer at St John's 1pm-3.30pm: Arts & Crafts at St Alban's
Tuesday	9.00am: Morning Prayer at St John's 10am-1pm: Place of Welcome at St John's 10.45am: Celtic Worship at John's 8.45pm: Mens Fellowship at Greencroft Club
Wednesday	9.00am: Morning Prayer at St Alban's 10.00am: Bible Study at St Alban's 2.00pm: Service at Callendar Court
Thursday	9.00am: Morning Prayer at St Ninian's 7.00pm: Bible Study at St John's
Sunday 29th November	8.00am: BCP Service at St John's 9.30am: Service at St John's 10.00am: NO SERVICE AT ST NINIAN'S 10.30am: Service at St Alban's 4.30pm: Explore at St Ninian's - please see poster

Inclusive Church

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 WISH TO USE THIS WEEK

Collect
God the Father, help us to hear the call of Christ the King and to follow in his service, whose kingdom has no end; for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, one glory. **Amen**

Diocesan Prayer
Almighty God, you are calling us as the churches of Durham Diocese to renewed life, hope and vision: take our worship and witness, that by the work of your spirit, many may come to faith in Christ and we may become a church of missionary disciples. So, may you bless our congregation, and bless our parish, through the love and service of your living, growing church in this place; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayers for those in our community
For healing Benny Bahmanizad, Connor Buckley, Jenny Devine, Betty Elliott, Jeff Hepple, John Goodenough, Peter Grainge, Andy Kindred, Sabric Mohmadpour, Lilian Sample, Karl and Christina Smith, Chloe Sproates, Brenda Taylor, John Watts, Ryan Whittonstall, Laura Wick, Martina Vitzthum.
Those who mourn especially the family and friends of Lilian Sidgwick and Elsie Mason

Our clergy team is:
Rev John Mayes (07791 615821)
Rev Ken Coulson (07596 534635)

Our Parish Safeguarding officers are
St Alban's and St Ninian's: *Lynn Coulson (07940 194154)*
and ***St John's:*** *Catherine Mayes (07768 667045)*

Churchwardens
St Alban's *- Lynn Coulson and Rob Watts*
St John's *- Catherine Mayes and Yvonne Stonebank*
St Ninian's *- Linda Smith*

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