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

8th November 2026



This Sunday, we pause to remember all those who gave their lives in service to our country, and those who continue to suffer the consequences of conflict. As we gather in gratitude and prayer, we honour their courage, sacrifice, and commitment to peace. In each of our services we will observe two minutes of silence, joining people across the nation in reflection. May we be inspired by their example to seek justice, reconciliation, and compassion in our own lives. “Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.” — *John 15:13*

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Join us as we study Matthew 5:1-12 also known as 'The Beatitudes'. Someone has written, "In a few short sentences the Beatitudes are probably the most important, subversive and revolutionary text in the Bible. In order to follow Jesus and live the Christian life we need to enter into the challenging world of the Beatitudes."

Let’s find out if we agree!

The course will run over four weeks beginning on 11th November on a Wednesday morning at 10am at St Alban's Church and repeated on Thursday evenings at 7pm at St John's Church.
Bring your Bible, a curious mind and a desire to know God in a deeper way.

Week 1. Wednesday 11th & Thursday 12th - What does "Blessed" mean?
Week 2. Wednesday 18th & Thursday 19th - The Powerless, Grieving, and Unimportant.
Week 3. Wednesday 25th & Thursday 26th - The type of people God is forming.
Week 4. Wednesday 2nd & Thursday 3rd December - What does it mean to make peace?



Thanks to everyone who donated hot chocolate and sweets or carved 'Christian' pumpkins for our Halloween events at St John's and St Alban's. We had lots of visitors, engaged in many conversations and handed out flyers for our Christmas services!









**Details of what is happening across our parishes this week**

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| Sunday<br>8th November | 8.00am: BCP Service at St John's<br>9.30am: Service at St John's<br>Including Act of Remembrance<br>10.00am: Service at St Ninian's (Ken Coulson)<br>10.30am: Service at St Alban's<br>Including Act of Remembrance<br>4.30pm: Explore at St Ninian's<br>5.15pm - 6pm: NO YOUTH GROUP (On Sunday 15th Nov) |
| Monday | 7.00am: Morning Prayer at St John's<br>1pm-3.30pm: Arts & Crafts at St Alban's<br>7pm: St Albans PCC at church |
| Tuesday | 9.00am: Morning Prayer at St John's<br>10am-1pm: Place of Welcome at St John's<br>with crafts from 10.00a.m.<br>8.45pm: Mens Fellowship at Greencroft Club |
| Wednesday | 9.00am: Morning Prayer at St Alban's<br>12:30pm: Church luncheon at Valley Farm on Team Valley - Please let Yvonne Stanebank know if you are able to attend. |
| Thursday | 9.00am: Morning Prayer at St Ninian's |
| Saturday | 1.00pm: The Wedding of Linda Clayton & Peter Hogg at St John's |
| Sunday<br>15th November | 8.00am: BCP Service at St John's<br>9.30am: Service at St John's<br>10.00am: NO SERVICE AT ST NINIAN'S<br>10.30am: Service at St Alban's<br>11.30am: Shared lunch at St Albans<br>4.30pm: Explore at St Ninian's<br>5:15pm - 6pm: Youth Group at St Albans Hall |

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, our refuge and strength, bring near the day when wars shall cease and poverty and pain shall end, that earth may know the peace of heaven through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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.

***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*