



Central Hartlepool Group

One Family, Three Parishes,
Growing the Kingdom.

Notices and Readings 12th December 2021: All Saints, Stranton Church

God's Blessing as we gather for worship in Church and online

Rooted in God's love, Growing together with Jesus, Branching out in the Power of the Holy Spirit

Some services are streamed LIVE on Facebook and YouTube pages, or via Stranton web pages at the times shown below, and afterwards on YouTube or Facebook.

Sunday 12 December: Advent 3.

Streamed to Facebook...

| | | | |
|----------|----------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| 9:00 am | Holy Communion 2, Stranton | Revd Norman & Anita Burke | <i>Stranton</i> |
| 9:15 am | Holy Communion, St Luke's | Revd Clive | |
| 10:45 am | Mass, St Aidan's | Revd Norman & Anita Burke | <i>St Aidan's</i> |
| 11:00 am | Morning Worship | Revd Michelle & Rachel Price | <i>Stranton</i> |
| 4:00pm | Christingle Service | Revd Norman | |

Readings Zephaniah 3: 14-20 Luke 3:7-18

Wednesday 10.00 am Communion (St Matthews) Revd Clive

Wednesday 9.30 am Holy Communion (St Luke's) Revd Norman *St Luke's*

Thursday 9:15 am Mass (St Columba) Revd Michelle *St Aidan and Columba*

Collect:

God for whom we watch and wait,
you sent John the Baptist to prepare
the way of your Son:
give us courage to speak the truth,
to hunger for justice,
and to suffer for the cause of right,
with Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Post Communion:

We give you thanks, O Lord,
for these heavenly gifts;
kindle in us the fire of your Spirit
that when your Christ comes again
we may shine as lights before his face;
who is alive and reigns now and for ever.
Amen



Zephaniah 3:14-20

¹⁴ Sing, Daughter Zion; shout aloud, Israel! Be glad and rejoice with all your heart, Daughter Jerusalem!

¹⁵ The LORD has taken away your punishment, he has turned back your enemy. The LORD, the King of Israel, is with you; never again will you fear any harm. ¹⁶ On that day they will say to Jerusalem, 'Do not fear, Zion; do not let your hands hang limp. ¹⁷ The LORD your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves.

He will take great delight in you; in his love he will no longer rebuke you, but will rejoice over you with singing.' ¹⁸ 'I will remove from you all who mourn over the loss of your appointed festivals, which is a burden and reproach for you. ¹⁹ At that time I will deal with all who oppressed you. I will rescue the lame; I will gather the exiles. I will give them praise and honour in every land where they have suffered shame.

²⁰ At that time I will gather you; at that time, I will bring you home. I will give you honour and praise among all the peoples of the earth when I restore your fortunes before your very eyes,' says the LORD.

Luke 3:7-18

⁷ John said to the crowds coming out to be baptised by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸ Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves,

"We have Abraham as our father." For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. ⁹ The axe has been laid to the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.' ¹⁰ 'What should we do then?' the crowd asked. ¹¹ John

answered, 'Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same.' ¹² Even tax collectors came to be baptised. 'Teacher,' they asked, 'what should we do?' ¹³ 'Don't collect any more than you are required to,' he told them. ¹⁴ Then some soldiers asked him,

'And what should we do?' He replied, 'Don't extort money and don't accuse people falsely – be content with your pay.' ¹⁵ The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. ¹⁶ John answered them all, 'I baptise you with water. But one who is more

powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.' ¹⁸ And with many other

words John exhorted the people and proclaimed the good news to them.

Intercessions

- We give thanks to God for the beauty of creation and all that we enjoy. We pray that we may all care for the environment and that world leaders will act to reduce the effects of global warming.
- We pray for peace where there is conflict, relief for refugees and the dispossessed, freedom for the oppressed.
- We pray for the world-wide Church, for those who face persecution or discrimination because of their faith, for those who serve and minister to them and who bring your Good News to the poor and oppressed
- We pray for our Churches, that the appointment of a new Group incumbent will be inspired, led and guided by the Holy Spirit
- We pray for local leaders: for our elected Hartlepool Borough council members, elected officers and all who work in public services: for wisdom in day-to-day decisions, wise use of resources and care for all the people of this town.
- We pray for the care of all who continue to be affected by the pandemic, for wisdom for the decision makers concerning public safety; we pray particularly for health and care workers, the police and community wardens, small businesses and local employers, and all who are seeking work.
- We pray that we may be a Community of Hope that we may reach out with love and hope to the vulnerable and marginalised. Pray for Emma and Jo, our Communities of Hope team as their work continues amongst the needy in our community. We pray for Aneta Bradley as she prepares to be the new project leader.
- We pray peace and healing for all who are unwell in body mind or spirit, for those awaiting medical treatment, or are in hospital or recovering at home. We pray for those in isolation. We pray for those in care homes. We pray for Audrey, Lynne, Hans, Marty and Karen.
- We pray for all those who mourn, especially the family and friends of Carol Moore and Stuart Parker.

ATTENDING CHURCH FOR WORSHIP - COVID-19 is still with us -

- The government has reintroduced a legal requirement for people to wear a face mask in public places including places of worship (unless exempted) and to keep social distance: it is asking people to act with consideration towards others, especially the vulnerable. In order to protect ourselves and others, Stranton PCC encourages you to observe these simple measures in attending worship in church: -
 - Please do not attend church if you have cold or flu-like symptoms/raised temperature
 - If you are attending a church service do, please try to come early to avoid congestion and delays at the entrance as the service starts.
 - **Following the rule change on 10th December all adults should wear a face mask while inside.**
 - Children under 11 are not required to wear a face mask, nor those medically exempted
 - Please sanitise your hands on entry and exit, and as you are directed for receiving Communion. Please wear your mask whilst going to and from the communion table.
 - Holy Communion is offered by intinction (wafer dipped in wine).
 - The Sunday 11 am service will be displayed on the screens: booklets are now in use again at 9 am
 - Singing is now allowed. If you would like to join in singing, we politely ask you to wear a mask.
 - After the service, please meet continuing to maintain distance and allowing other people to leave
 - If you become unwell with COVID-19 like symptoms within the week after attending a church service please advise a member of the clergy or a churchwarden so that people from that service can be advised.
 - There will not be a collection taken but you may leave an offertory in the basket as you come in.

NOTICES:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Christingle Service | Sunday 12 Dec 4.00pm at Church |
| Carols by Candlelight | Sunday 19 Dec 6.00pm at Church |
| Christmas Family Service | Friday 24 Dec 4.30pm at Church |
| 'Midnight Communion' | Friday 24 Dec 11.00pm at Church |
| Christmas Day Family Communion | Saturday 25 Dec 10.00am at Church |
| First Sunday of Christmas | Sunday 26 Dec 10.45am at St Aidan's Church (no service at Stranton) |

Collection as part of the Christingle. Donations to The Children's Society or can be made on-line at <https://www.childrensociety.org.uk/christingle/all-saints-stranton-church> or put into collection plate in church.

Christmas Invitation Cards

Invitation Cards with our Christmas Services are available at the back of Church. Please take a few cards and invite your family, friends and neighbours to one of Christmas services

Sunday Club News!

19th December – Nativity

Next week there will not be a Sunday Club as we will be enjoying our nativity service. Our Nativity service will include Christmas hymns, prayers and Bible readings as well as some wonderful acting by our Sunday Club children! If you would like to join in or help, please let me know, everyone is welcome to either help or just to enjoy the service.

Enjoy, **Kate Stranton Sunday Club Leader**

Walks, Talks and Visits in Around Hartlepool

Our next walk/tour will be on Tuesday the 14th December at 1:00pm, Burn Valley Park, Main entrance – Stockton Road/York Rd roundabout. It will help if you can let Rohan Wanduragala (223751 / 07722 870104) or Steve Robbins (861702) know if you are coming.

Communities of Hope Hampers: As last year, we would like to show God's abounding love and generosity to the lovely families and individuals we have been working with over the year, by putting together some festive hampers. If you would like to support our efforts and reach out to some of the most struggling people in our community, we are asking for donations **in the form of cash or vouchers**. Last year taught us that organising collection points is very demanding of team time, and we hope this way might help at a time when we are very stretched. By doing the shopping ourselves we can ensure hampers avoid over- or under-provision of certain items.

If you would like to make a donation you can do so in person or by making a bank transfer, using these details:
Account: **Stranton PCC** Account Number **10146501** Sort Code **20 82 18** Reference: **"COH Hampers"**

Thank you so much for your continued support! Emma, Jo and Aneta

Open Church Saturday Mornings

Church is open each Saturday morning, 10:00 to 12:00, for visitors and for those wishing to receive some pastoral support or prayer. We are need of some more volunteers. Could anyone who expressed an interest initially, or anyone who would like to be part of the team of people doing this please talk with Rev Michelle (07564 029010).

Parish Giving – how to support the mission and ministry of Stranton Church. The Parish Giving Scheme has been updated and it is now possible to join this direct debit scheme through the scheme's website. The link for Stranton church is <https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/stranton-all-saints-ts24-7qt/>. We do still welcome and give thanks to those who give by standing order and / or envelopes but there are additional costs involved in these older methods. It is also still possible to join the scheme by obtaining a form if you prefer a paper application. If anyone has any questions about the scheme, please let me know.

David Craig, Hon. Treasurer: **email - treasurer@stranton-church.org.uk**

Live online Services for w/c 12th December Facebook addresses are below.

- The Wednesday 9.30 communion from St Luke's and the Thursday 9.15 Mass from St Columba's will also be streamed.
- If you would like to access a night prayer **Lectio 365 have introduced a daily night prayer** accessible by downloading the app. The Church of England has also introduced an audio version of Morning Prayer.
- Zoom Morning Prayer is online from 8.30 - 9.00am Monday to Friday. Contact Revd Norman for details.

Streaming 11:00 am Sunday Services

The 11:00am service is now being streamed to <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMNoiSa2KGgGWkzli62VFcA>

A link will be shared by Facebook.

Facebook and Web Addresses:

<https://www.facebook.com/aidancolumba/> <https://www.facebook.com/strantonsundayclub/>

<https://www.facebook.com/allsaintsstranton/> <http://stranton-church.org.uk/videos.html>)

<https://www.facebook.com/stlukeshartlepool> www.stlukeshartlepool.org/coronavirus)

Church Office

The Church office is now open Tuesday to Friday. Trish can be contacted in the office from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Parish Contacts: Church office please telephone or email.

For Stranton Church Tel 07305 550009 (Trish) Email: admin@stranton-church.org.uk

Norman or Julie Shave: Tel 01429 233609 Email: nshave1@btinternet.com

(More information on our web site <http://www.stranton-church.org.uk> and Facebook page)