



Central Hartlepool Group

One Family, Three Parishes,
Growing the Kingdom.

Peace and Joy to You this Christmas Season!

Notices Christmas Weekend & 3 January: Stranton & Burbank Churches

Under "Tier Three" we are able to open church for services in a Covid-safe way.

Thursday 24th December

- 7pm Holy Communion for Christmas Night
- 11pm Midnight Communion

Christmas Day, Friday 25th December,

- 10.00am Family Communion

Sunday 27th December (Streamed Only, Church Closed)

- 10.00am Holy communion (from the vicarage)

Sunday 3rd January Epiphany (sheets will be distributed by email & on line)

- 9.00am Holy Communion (physical service & streamed)
- 11.00am Family Communion

Collect for the Christmas Night

Eternal God,
in the stillness of this night
you sent your almighty Word
to pierce the world's darkness with the light of salvation:
give to the earth the peace that we long for
and fill our hearts with the joy of heaven
through our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Collect for Christmas Day:

Lord Jesus Christ,
your birth at Bethlehem
draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth:
accept our heartfelt praise
as we worship you,
our Saviour and our eternal God.

Other Collects can be found in the service sheets below

Intercessions

We pray for national and local leaders: for wisdom regarding the current trade talks and in day to day decisions regarding the pandemic: for health, safety and wise use of resources.

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, Jess and Jo, our Communities of Hope team as their work continues amongst the needy in our community.

We pray for all affected by the pandemic and the implications of being in Tier 3; praying particularly for health and care workers and all key workers.

We pray for all who are unwell, awaiting medical treatment or are in hospital and for those recovering at home.

We pray for those in isolation. We pray for those in care homes.

We pray for all those who mourn, we remember the family and friends of Andrew Delves, Ron Taylor and Mavis Faulds

.....
THANK YOU to everyone who contributed both to the toy appeal and the Christmas Hamper appeals. All the food donated through Church will go to the most vulnerable families linked with Ward Jackson School. The Community of Hope team are also very grateful for a generous response to their hamper appeal. In total over 150 hampers have been distributed. Harbour thank us for the generous gifts of toys and for the on going connection with local Churches.

Good News: This week we received a grant of £1000 from the 'Love Christmas' Campaign to continue building links with our community through gifts of food. Some of this money has already been used to support the distribution of food hampers.

Please Pray for Lizelke as she flies home to South Africa in the next week. Lizelke has been with us 3 months and she has been a real encouragement to many of us during this time. In the next few weeks She will be focussing on completing her PhD. She hopes to return to the UK in September when she will start her formal training for ordained ministry at Ridley Hall Cambridge.

Contacts: (emergencies only until 4.1.21)

For Stranton Church Office Tel 07305 550009 (Trish)

Email: admin@stranton-church-org.uk

Norman or Julie Shave: Tel 01429 233609

Email: nshave1@btinternet.com

More information can be found on our web site at: <http://www.stranton-church.org.uk>

COMFORT AND JOY: During the 12 days of Christmas why not use the booklet or on-line reflections from a number of authors including both Archbishops to reflect and pray on Christmas themes

Confirmation Service: Bishop Sarah is coming to Stranton Church, to lead

A Service of Confirmation

on

Sunday 24th January at 11am.

Would anyone interested in confirmation, please contact Norman?

BEING IN CHURCH... Please read, things may have changed...

- Under the current lock down rules we can gather for socially distanced worship.
- You should NOT come to Church if you are in quarantine, or are self-isolating because you have Covid-19 symptoms or have been a direct contact of someone who has recently tested positive.
- We ask for your co-operation in keeping yourself and others as safe as possible and ask everyone coming in to Church must wear a face mask and use the hand sanitiser coming in and going out. Please do not come if you are unwell or have recently been in contact with someone who has developed COVID -19.
- Let a member of the Team, Churchwarden or the parish office know if you develop COVID-19 symptoms in the week following your attendance at church
- Entry into church is via the south door (usual entrance). The North aisle is reserved for those who wish to take particular care in distancing, entry by West door.
- Hand sanitiser is available on entry and exit and must be used when you come in.
- Your name and contact number will be entered onto the register of attendance. The register of attendees will be kept for three weeks, for track and trace purposes only.
- If you have the Government's mobile Tracing "App" on your smartphone, please scan the "QR code" on display as you come into church. It is not an alternative to signing in, as many people still do not have the App, but it is one of the ways we can help to keep one another safe.
- The use of face masks is mandatory while in the building.
- please follow the floor markings to take you around the one way system.
- Maintain 2 metre distancing one person to a marked pew – families/household “bubbles” of no more than 6 may sit together – please do not sit in a pew marked as not available for use .
- Your seat will have been sanitised before you come and will be cleaned again after use.
- Access to the Toilets is available if necessary, but you are asked to follow the directions for flushing and wiping down.

A collection will not be taken up but you may leave your offering e.g. loyalty envelopes in the basket at the back of church if you come for private prayer. Please visit the parish website <http://www.stranton-church.org.uk> for details of how to support the work and mission of the Church financially, or ask the Treasurer David Craig craigdanew@gmail.com / 07960 829102 for details of online giving and gift aid schemes.

There will be no on line services until Monday 4th January. But find us on:

<https://www.facebook.com/aidancolumba/> (then available at <http://stranton-church.org.uk/videos.html>)

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

<https://www.facebook.com/stlukeshartlepool> (then available at <http://stranton-church.org.uk/videos.html>)

<https://www.facebook.com/hartlepoolcoh/>(then available at <http://stranton-church.org.uk/videos.html>)

Holy Communion Christmas Night

The greeting and opening prayer

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you
and also with you.

Once in royal David's city,
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby
In a manger for His bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven,
Who is God and Lord of all,
And His shelter was a stable,
And His cradle was a stall;
With the poor and mean and lowly
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

For He is our child-hood's pattern,
Day by day like us He grew,
He was little, weak, and helpless,
Tears and smiles like us He knew,
And He feeleth for our sadness,
And He shareth in our gladness.

And our eyes at last shall see Him,
Through His own redeeming love;
For that child so dear and gentle,
Is our Lord in heaven above,
And He leads His children on,
To the place where He is gone.

**Almighty God to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Prayers of penitence

**Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole
heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

Words of forgiveness

The Gloria

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

The collect

**Eternal God,
in the stillness of this night
you sent your almighty Word
to pierce the world's darkness
with the light of salvation:
give to the earth the peace that we long for
and fill our hearts with the joy of heaven
through our Saviour, Jesus Christ.
Amen**

Bible reading: Hebrews 1: 1-4

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Silent night, holy night!
all is calm, all is bright.
round yon virgin, mother and child.
holy infant so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar
heavenly hosts sing alleluia:
Christ the Saviour is born!
Christ the Saviour is born.

Silent night, holy night!
Son of God love's pure light.
radiant beams from thy holy face
with dawn of redeeming grace:
Jesus Lord, at thy birth.
Jesus Lord, at thy birth.

The gospel: John 1:1-14

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Prayers of intercession

And at the end

**Merciful Father,
accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

The peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
in the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;
heaven and earth shall flee away when He comes to reign.
In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed
the Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

Enough for him, Whom cherubim, worship night and day,
a breastful of milk, and a mangerful of hay;
enough for him, whom angels fall before,
the ox and ass and camel which adore.

Angels and archangels may have gathered there,
cherubim and seraphim thronged the air;
but only his mother, in her maiden bliss,
worshipped the beloved with a kiss.

What can I give him, poor as I am?
if I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man, I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

**Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power,
the glory, the splendour, and the majesty;
for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.
All things come from you,
and of your own do we give you.**

The Eucharistic prayer

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory
Hosanna in the highest**

Jesus Christ is Lord

**Lord, by your cross and resurrection
you have set us free.**

You are the Saviour of the world.

The Lord's prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours now and for ever.
Amen.**

Breaking of bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

Giving of communion

O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting Light:
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.

O morning stars together
Proclaim the holy birth.
And praises sing to God the King,
And peace to men on earth;
For Christ is born of Mary;
And gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wondering love.

How silently, how silently,
The wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of His heaven.
No ear may hear His coming,
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him still,
The dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in,
Be born to us today
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us
Our Lord Emmanuel.

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes
but little Lord Jesus no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus look down from the sky,
and stay by my side, until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay
close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven, to live with Thee there.

Prayers after communion

God our Father,
in this night you have made known to us again
the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ:
confirm our faith and fix our eyes on him
until the day dawns
and Christ the Morning Star rises in our hearts.
To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

The notices

O come all ye faithful joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him born the King of angels.

*O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.*

God of God, light of light
Lo he abhors not the virgin's womb;
Very God, begotten, not created.

Sing choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God in the highest.

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born that happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:

Blessing

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Family Communion 27th December 2020

Welcome in the name of Christ.
God's grace, mercy and peace be with you
And also with you.

**Living and loving God
fill our hearts with your joy.
Help us to sing in worship, pray in faith,
and hear your word today;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Hark! the herald-angels sing
'Glory to the new-born King!
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled.'
Joyful, all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim,
'Christ is born in Bethlehem!'

Hark! the herald-angels sing
'Glory to the new-born King!'

Christ by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold Him come,
Offspring of a virgin's womb!
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!
Hail, the Incarnate Deity!
Pleased as Man with men to dwell
Jesus, our Emmanuel!

Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Son of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Risen with healing in His wings.
Mild, He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die;
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.

Confession

Jesus came in humility to share our lives:
forgive our pride.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Jesus came with good news for all people:
forgive our silence.
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Jesus came in love to a world of suffering:
forgive our self-centredness.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy

words of forgiveness

Collect

**God in Trinity,
eternal unity of perfect love:
gather the nations to be one family,
and draw us into your holy life
through the birth of Emmanuel,
our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen**

Birthdays and celebrations

Bible reading: Isaiah 62: 6-end

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
all seated on the ground,
the angel of the Lord came down
and glory shone around.

"Fear not," he said, for mighty dread
had seized their troubled minds
"Glad tidings of great joy I bring
to you and all mankind."

"To you in David's town this day
is born of David's line
the Saviour who is Christ the Lord;
and this shall be the sign."

"The heavenly Babe you there shall find
to human view displayed,
and meanly wrapped in swathing bands,
and in a manger laid."

Thus spake the seraph;
and forthwith appeared a shining throng
of angels praising God, who thus
addressed their joyful song:

"All glory be to God on high,
and to the earth be peace;
goodwill henceforth from heaven to men
begin and never cease!"

Gospel reading: Luke 2:8-20

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord.

And at the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Prayers

Merciful Father,
**accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Creed

response: **I believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you
And also with you.

Emmanuel, Emmanuel,
His name is called Emmanuel.
God with us, revealed in us,
His name is called Emmanuel.

**Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power,
the glory, the splendour, and the majesty;
for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.
All things come from you,
and of your own do we give you.**

The Eucharistic prayer

The Lord is here
His Spirit is with us.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

**Holy, holy, holy is the Lord
Holy is the Lord God almighty
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord
Holy is the Lord God almighty
Who was and is and is to come
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord.**

Great is the mystery of faith:
**Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**

The Lord's prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

Breaking of bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

Prayer after communion

**Son of Mary, Son of God,
with the angels we have sung your praises.
With the shepherds and the wise men,
we rejoice at the news of your birth.
Help us to proclaim your good news in word and deed,
to your praise and glory. Amen**

The notices

From the squalor of a borrowed stable,
By the Spirit and a virgin's faith;
To the anguish and the shame of scandal
Came the Saviour of the human race.
But the skies were filled with the praise of heaven,
Shepherds listen as the angels tell
Of the Gift of God come down to us
At the dawning of Immanuel.

King of heaven now the Friend of sinners,
Humble servant in the Father's hands,
Filled with power and the Holy Spirit,
Filled with mercy for the broken ones.
Yes, He walked my road and He felt my pain,
Joys and sorrows that I know so well;
Yet His righteous steps give me hope again –
I will follow my Immanuel.

Through the kisses of a friend's betrayal,
He was lifted on a cruel cross;
He was punished for a world's transgressions,
He was suffering to save the lost.
He fights for breath, He fights for me,
Loosing sinners from the claims of hell;
And with a shout our souls are free –
Death defeated by Immanuel.

Now He's standing in the place of honour,
Crowned with glory on the highest throne,
Interceding for His own beloved
Till His Father calls to bring them home!
Then the skies will part as the trumpet sounds
Hope of heaven or the fear of hell;
But the Bride will run to her Lover's arms,
Giving glory to Immanuel!

Blessing

Go in joy and peace to love and serve the Lord
In the name of Christ. Amen.