



### **Philippians 3: 4b-14**

<sup>4</sup>If someone else thinks they have reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: <sup>5</sup>circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup>as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for righteousness based on the law, faultless. <sup>7</sup>But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. <sup>8</sup>What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup>and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ – the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. <sup>10</sup>I want to know Christ – yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup>and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead. <sup>12</sup>Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. <sup>13</sup>Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: forgetting what is behind and straining towards what is ahead, <sup>14</sup>I press on towards the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenwards in Christ Jesus.

### **John 12:1-8 - Jesus anointed at Bethany**

**12** Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. <sup>2</sup>Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honour. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. <sup>3</sup>Then Mary took about half a litre of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. <sup>4</sup>But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, <sup>5</sup>'Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year's wages.' <sup>6</sup>He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it. <sup>7</sup>'Leave her alone,' Jesus replied. 'It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. <sup>8</sup>You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me.'

### **Intercessions**

- We pray for Andy, Kati and Eva Walsh now in Brazil commencing their ministry with CMS. Pray also for them following the sudden and unexpected death of Andy's sister Bernadette.
- We pray for peace where there is conflict, relief for refugees and the dispossessed, freedom for the oppressed: We pray for relief for the people of Ukraine, and all conflict zones
- We pray for unity between Christians. We pray for all Churches in Hartlepool and for Churches Together Hartlepool. We pray for our joint outreach including the Foodbank and Town Pastors.
- We pray for appointment of a new Group incumbent to be inspired led and guided by the Holy Spirit
- 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 Aneta, Emma and Jo, our Communities of Hope team as their work continues amongst the needy in our community.
- We pray for all those effected by the cost of living crisis, particularly remembering those in our town with very little.
- We pray for 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, Hans, Marty, Karen and Henry.
- We pray for all those who mourn, especially the family and friends of Pamela Thompson, Brenda Loynes and Brian Telfer.

**Group LENT COURSE: continues to be led by Revd Michelle on Thursdays at St Luke's.** Arrive 6.30pm for 7.00pm in St Luke's Parish Rooms from **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March for 5 weeks.**

**"DAYS TO LAMENT" Lent Course** continues at the Church of the Nazarene Lowthian Road, 2pm  
Wednesdays: remaining sessions on April 13<sup>th</sup> (**not** 6<sup>th</sup>).  
Cath and Dave Thompson ([hartlepoolnaz@gmail.com](mailto:hartlepoolnaz@gmail.com)).

**COMMUNITIES OF HOPE UPDATE:** We are in the process of appointing to two posts within the Communities of Hope Team: a full time, Community worker/Evangelist and a (25 – 30 hrs) Family and Children’s worker. Both appointments are for two years, may be extended subject to Funding. Please pray as the appointment processes continue.

**Hartlepool foodbank - We have strong links with the Hartlepool foodbank, and have now RE-INSTATED THE COLLECTION POINT AT THE BACK OF CHURCH**

The Foodbank has recently issued a request for specific donations of:

***Tinned foods (Rice pudding, custard, tomatoes, soup, meat) Snacks (sweet and savoury)***

**St Lukes Sewing Party Coffee Morning** Saturday 2nd April 10-12noon. Handmade goods, cakes, raffle and tombola. Admission £1 which includes refreshments.

### **Services for Holy Week and Easter**

Sunday 10 April	Palm Sunday, 11.00am Lighthouse with Welcomes
Mon 11-Wed 13 April	Holy Week Communion, 7pm St Columba’s
Thursday 14 April	Maundy Thursday an informal meal with Communion, 7pm St Luke’s
Good Friday 15 April	‘Messy Easter’, 10-11.30am St Matthew’s Church open for silent prayer, from 12noon to 2 pm An hour at the cross, Service 2-3pm
Easter Day 17 April	9am Holy Communion 11am Family Communion with Easter Egg Hunt
Sunday 24 April	Normal Services, APCM to follow 11am service (Anita Burke’s final Sunday)

**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](mailto:treasurer@stranton-church.org.uk)***

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

- It is no longer a legal requirement to wear a face mask in Church but we are continuing to encourage all to act with consideration towards others, especially the vulnerable, by continuing to do so in church.
- Please do not attend church if you have cold or flu-like symptoms/raised temperature, or “test positive”
- Please come early to avoid congestion and delays at the entrance
- Children under 11 and those medically exempted are not asked to wear a face mask,
- 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.
- The Sunday 11 am service will be displayed on the screens: booklets are now in use again at 9 am
- As you meet after the service, please maintain distance and allow others room to leave.
- If you “test positive” or have COVID-19 symptoms within the week after attending a church service please let one of the clergy or a churchwarden know so that people from that service can be advised.

There will not be a collection taken but you may leave an offertory

*Live online Services for w/c 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2022 (Facebook addresses are below).*

### **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 on Stranton Church Facebook Page.

**9:00 am Holy Communion** is streamed directly via our Facebook page (below)

**Facebook** <http://stranton-church.org.uk> (*youtube and facebook links*)

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

<https://www.facebook.com/hartlepoolcoh>

**Also:** <https://www.facebook.com/stlukeshartlepool>

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

**Church Office and Parish Contacts: Church office - please telephone or email.**

For Stranton Church Tel 01429 894006 or 07305 550009 (Trish) Email: [admin@stranton-church.org.uk](mailto:admin@stranton-church.org.uk)

Norman or Julie Shave: Tel 01429 233609 Email: [nshave1@btinternet.com](mailto:nshave1@btinternet.com)

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

## ***Please read this page on ways to support relief efforts for Ukrainian refugees***

Ukraine - ways in which you can help



### **Giving**

You can support Christian Aid as part of the combined national relief appeal of the Disasters Emergency Committee (link: <https://www.caid.org.uk/now> or call 0800 004 004).

Money can also be donated to the Diocese of Europe which is working closely with the mission agency USPG. Funds raised will support Christian charities and churches carrying out humanitarian work both in Ukraine and responding to the arrival of refugees in neighbouring countries. A link to their donation page is here. <https://ukraine-emergency-appeal.raisely.com/>

Rob and Margaret Bianchi, who have been based in our Diocese for many years and who run the charity ODM which supports the ARCA project in Moldova have reported a large influx of refugees fleeing Ukraine to Moldova. ARCA has a campsite and guesthouse which has opened to refugees and is also working with local villages to provide emergency accommodation. An emergency appeal has been launched to buy food, mattresses and other basics to help refugees in Moldova. If you can help, please send a cheque made payable to ODM Creative Communications. Their address is 8 Lindisfarne, Washington, Tyne and Wear, NE38 7JR. Or by Bank transfer to: Account: "ODM Creative Communications" Sort Code: 77-20-14 Account No: 16275360 (Please put as the bank reference: "Holercani")

**Other Support** Stranton Church has registered as a potential provider of accommodation and support with the UK Government (Home Office), Durham Diocese, and with The Sanctuary Foundation (which has worked closely with refugee families from Afghanistan and Syria, and alongside the charity RESET, of which Bishop Paul is a trustee. For more information, visit The Sanctuary Foundation:

<https://www.sanctuaryfoundation.org.uk/>. Our local (parish) response is being co-ordinated by Angela Craig: please let her know via email address [refugeesupport@stranton-church.org.uk](mailto:refugeesupport@stranton-church.org.uk) if you have registered or intend to register with the Home Office as an accommodation provider, or can offer other support, or have any questions about the support we are proposing. **Please use this email address.**