



Central Hartlepool Group

One Family, Three Parishes,
Growing the Kingdom.

Peace and Joy to You this Christmas Season!

Notices 20th December 2020: Stranton, Burbank & St Luke's Churches

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

Sunday 20th December: 4th Sunday of Advent

Purple

Following new guidelines, Communion will include wine (each wafer will be dipped before distribution – guidance will be given at the service for those wishing to receive).

Sunday Services

| | | | |
|----------|---------|--|-----------------------|
| Stranton | 9.00am | Holy Communion 1662 (<i>streamed*</i>) | Revd Norman & Lizelke |
| Stranton | 11.00am | Nativity (<i>streamed*</i>) | Sunday Club & Rachel |

Readings: 2 Samuel 7: 1-11, 16; Luke 1: 26-38

Sunday 20th December: our Carol Service will be "streaming" only, today at 6 pm

Wednesday Service 23rd December

| | | | |
|-----------|--------|----------------------|------------|
| St Luke's | 9.30am | Holy Communion (BCP) | Revd Clive |
|-----------|--------|----------------------|------------|

Services are streamed on <https://www.facebook.com/allsaintsstranton/> and later on the Stranton website

Physical Christmas Services –

for seating allocation, please contact the church office if you plan to attend

Thursday 24th December

- 7pm Holy Communion for Christmas Night (also Streamed on Facebook)
- 11pm Midnight Communion (with the same order of Service as at 7 pm)

Christmas Day, Friday 25th December,

- 10.00am Family Communion

Sunday 27th December 10am (Streamed Only, Church will be Closed)

- Holy Communion (from the vicarage)

Collect for the Fourth Sunday of Advent:

Eternal God, as Mary waited for the birth of your Son,
so we wait for his coming in glory;
bring us through the birth pangs of this present age
to see, with her, our great salvation
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Post Communion:

Heavenly Father, who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised saviour:
fill us your servants with your grace,
that in all things we may embrace your holy will and with her rejoice in your salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

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CHRISTMAS NIGHT SERVICES: we need to manage numbers at this service; you can help us by letting the Church know of your *intention* to come Tel 07305 550009 (Trish) or Email: admin@stranton-church-org.uk

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. Harbour thank us for the generous gifts of toys and for the ongoing connection with local Churches.

Contacts:

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>

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.

Live on line Services for 21-24 December *facebook addresses are below*

| Day | 9.15am Mass/Communion | 3pm Reflection/Prayer in the afternoon | 8pm Night Prayer |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|--|---------------------|
| Mon 21 Dec | Mother Gemma | | Rachel |
| Tues 22 | Mother Gemma | Jess (Family) | |
| Wed 23 | Revd Norman | | Lizelke |
| Thurs 24 | Mother Gemma | | |
| Happy Christmas! | | | |

<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>)

Confirmation Service: Advance Notice

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?

Nativity 2020

Welcome and opening prayer

Come and join the celebration

It's a very special day
Come and share our jubilation;
There's a new King born today!

See, the shepherds
Hurry down to Bethlehem,
Gaze in wonder
At the Son of God who lay before them

Come and join the celebration...

Wise men journey,
Led to worship by a star
Kneel in homage
Bringing precious gifts from lands afar, so

Come and join the celebration...

"God is with us"
Round the world the message bring
He is with us
"Welcome", all the bells on earth are pealing

Come and join the celebration...

Nativity including the following songs:

Little donkey, little donkey

On the dusty road
Got to keep on plodding onward
With your precious load

Been a long time, little donkey
Through the winter's night
Don't give up now little donkey
Bethlehem's in sight

Ring out those bells tonight
Bethlehem, Bethlehem
Follow that little star tonight
Bethlehem, Bethlehem

Little donkey, little donkey
Had a heavy day
Little donkey, carry Mary safely on her way
Little donkey, carry Mary safely on her way

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

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

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

We three Kings of orient are

Bearing gifts we travel so far
Field and fountain
Moor and mountain
Following yonder star

*Oh, star of wonder, star of light
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light*

Born a king on Bethlehem's plain
Gold I bring to crown him again
King forever, ceasing never
Over us all to reign

Oh, star of wonder...

Glorious now behold him arise
King and God and sacrifice
Alleluia, Alleluia
Earth to heaven replies

*Oh, star of wonder, star of light
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light*

Talk

Joy to the World, the Lord is come

Let earth receive her King!
Let every heart prepare Him room
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and
nature sing
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing

Joy to the earth, the Saviour reigns
Your sweetest songs employ
While fields and streams and hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding
joy
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy

He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love, and wonders of His
love
And wonders, wonders of His love

Prayers, finishing with the Lord's Prayer

Notices, Birthdays, Celebrations

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 the Virgin's womb
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see
Hail the incarnate Deity
Pleased as man with man to dwell
Jesus, our Emmanuel!
Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King!

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

Blessing

Christ the Son of God, born of Mary, fill you
with his grace to trust his promises and obey
his will; and the blessing of God Almighty, the
Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among
us and those for whom we pray, this
Christmas and always, **Amen.**

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

Carols by Candlelight from Stranton Church



20th December 2020 at 6pm

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.

WORDS OF WELCOME

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. Amen

Isaiah 40: 1-11 Isaiah brings a word of encouragement

Infant holy, infant lowly, for His bed a cattle stall;
oxen lowing, little knowing, Christ the Babe is Lord of all.
Swift are winging angels singing,
nowells ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the babe is Lord of all.
Christ the babe is Lord of all.

Flocks were sleeping,
shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new.
Saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,
praises voicing, greet the morrow:
Christ the babe was born for you.
Christ the babe was born for you.

Luke 1: 26-38 Gabriel announces Jesus birth

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.

Luke 2: 1-7 The birth of Jesus

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.

Luke 2: 8-20 The shepherds visit Bethlehem

See him lying on a bed of straw:
a draughty stable with an open door.
Mary cradling the babe she bore:
the Prince of Glory is his name.

*Oh, now carry me to Bethlehem
to see the Lord of love again:
just as poor as was the stable then,
the Prince of Glory when he came.*

Star of silver sweep across the skies,
show where Jesus in the manger lies;
shepherds swiftly from your stupor rise
to see the Saviour of the world.

Angels, sing again the song you sang,
sing the glory of God's gracious plan;
sing that Beth'lem's little baby can
be the Saviour of us all.

Mine are riches from your poverty;
from your innocence, eternity;
mine, forgiveness by your death for me,
child of sorrow, for my joy.

Matthew 2: 1-12 The visit of the Magi

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.

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.

John 1:1-14 Jesus: the Word became flesh

TALK

O holy night! The stars are brightly shining,
It is the night of the dear Saviour's birth!
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
Till he appeared and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope the weary soul rejoices
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn!

Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices!
O night divine, O night when Christ was born;
O night, O holy night, O night divine.

Led by the light of faith serenely beaming,
With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand.
So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming,
Here came the wise men from Orient land.
The King of Kings lay thus in lowly manger;
In all our trials born to be our friend.

He knows our need, our weakness is no stranger!
Behold your King! Before him lowly bend!
Behold your King! Before him lowly bend!

Truly He taught us to love one another
His law is love and His gospel is peace
Chains shall He break, for the slave is our brother,
And in His name all oppression shall cease.
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,
Let all within us praise His holy name.

Christ is the Lord! O praise his name forever!
His power and glory evermore proclaim!
His power and glory evermore proclaim!

PRAYERS concluding with 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 forever. 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.

BLESSING