

Stranton and Burbank Community

SIGNPOST



**Rooted in God's love
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Power of the Holy Spirit**

October 2026

Returning to the Common Cup...

(The musings of a priest)

Since the outbreak of Covid in 2020, there has been a change in the way we have offered the sacraments. Initially, we weren't able to do this at all, then we were only able to offer the bread. Eventually restrictions relaxed and we were able to offer the wine by simultaneous administration (intincting or lightly dipping the wafer in the wine).

When we were allowed to return to the Common Cup, many churches quickly moved back to the normal practice of only offering the Common Cup, others, including our own, decided to keep both options (and indeed at midweek services we still only use simultaneous administration).

There has been much debate over the last few years about when and how churches should return to the C of E practice of only offering the Common Cup. I have held off making any real comment on this to see if a missive would come from Durham Diocese – many other dioceses have already taken this step, instructing priests/parishes to withdraw simultaneous administration and return to the Common Cup. One of the primary reasons around this is that it has been deemed perfectly acceptable for many years (centuries) to receive in only one kind, and that receiving the bread alone is perfectly sufficient to receive the sacrament in full.

There are also a number of concerns regarding the current practices. The cross contamination of gluten into the wine is much more significant through intinction rather than the Common Cup. Many churches (including our own) no longer have clear instructions on receiving by simultaneous administration (i.e. the priest lightly dips the wafer in the wine and drops it into the open palms of the recipient) resulting in hand-to-hand contact, or individuals trying to intinct their own wafer (this even happens at the cathedral).

In contrast, I know that for some, the thought of receiving from the Common Cup is a very difficult one – perhaps they have never received from the Common Cup, perhaps they remain fearful on the back of Covid, perhaps they are vulnerable, or perhaps they never liked the practice anyway.

But as the vast majority of churches have returned to the normal Church of England practice of offering only the Common Cup, I have found myself again asking if not now, then when? Do we make the transition now, or do we wait for the inevitable directive from the diocese (as many other dioceses have already done). So in July, at a Joint PCC meeting between Stranton and St Luke's, I brought forward a proposal for discussion at which both PCCs were supportive of a return to the Common Cup.

This is the basis on which I have decided to withdraw intinction from our services from October. On the 4th October at Stranton, and the 11th October at St Luke's, I will spend some time in the services offering some teaching on communion and the significance of the various different elements of the Eucharistic service

Of course, no one needs to drink from the chalice if they do not feel comfortable doing this, as receiving the bread alone is sufficient to receive the Sacrament (indeed in some parishes only the bread is offered to communicants for this very reason). But for those who do wish to receive the wine, the Common Cup is there.

I know there will be some who will find this decision difficult and if you have any concerns about this then please do speak to myself, a warden, or a member of the ministry team.

Grace and peace, Revd John

From the Home Front

We have just returned from a weekend in Dundee – a city built on journalism (the Beano), jute (for sacks and backing linoleum) and jam (mainly marmalade). It is a compact city, with a University, on the Firth of the River Tay. It has a regenerated waterfront which houses RRS Discovery, the ship famous for transporting Captain Robert Falcon Scott and Earnest Shackleton on their expeditions to Antarctica in 1901, with a purpose built museum showcasing their journeys, experiments, discoveries, work and photographs. This sits alongside the V&A Dundee Design Museum, which houses contemporary designs which shape our lives.

We spent some time in the Discovery Museum learning about why the ship was built in Dundee - due its building of whaling ships used to surviving in freezing conditions. It was incredible how the structure was designed to withstand the ice and below zero temperatures, how it was built of mainly wood and how salt was packed between the two skins of wood this absorbed any leaking in seawater then preserved the wood. Every available space was used in order to pack in all the provisions, store the coal and house scientific equipment from test tubes, chemicals to skis and snow goggles. In addition, there were living and sleeping quarters for 45 men. The journey was expected to last 2-3 years! The ship had special design features such as light funnels on the deck (affectionately named 'ankle bashers'), as portholes would have weakened the structure of the hull, a room where only copper was used so as to ensure no interference with magnetic south experiments, a folding funnel so sails could be used efficiently when the engine was not in use; they even placed the sickbay next to the galley ensuring it was a warm room for any patients. These men lived and worked in freezing conditions in total darkness for 6 months of the year, wearing layers of bulky clothes and having to live and work in treacherous conditions. The information they brought back was invaluable to the understanding of our planet, its climate, biology, physics and how life has evolved to survive. It was a feat of endurance, resilience and bravery alongside great personal sacrifice. Some of the men did not come home.

RRS Discovery in foreground and V&A Design Museum in background



We then moved into the V&A Design Museum. This stunning building was designed to represent elements of the natural area – the exterior looks like cliffs (although from the southern aspect it looks more like a ship!), the interior is clad in wood and the flooring is marble with seabed fossils. We particularly wanted to see the Catwalk Exhibition. This looked at over 100 years of fashion shows including recorded images of catwalk fashion shows by designers such as Balenciaga, Mary Quant, Alexander McQueen, Dior, Mary Quant and many more; with displays of original garments and accessories. What struck me most was how superficial, outrageous and often ridiculous the garments were. They put me in mind of the tale of 'the Emperor's clothes' – a story of greed and deceit. One show had the models dressed in shaped sheets of metal with a hole for the head and/or arms. They were not only impractical as 'clothes' but also dangerous as one model was cut by the metal and when she complained it hurt as blood poured from



her arm, the designer told her she was fine and the assistants were to cover the wound with makeup. The audience watched poker faced this parade of absurd 'garments', muttering that the renowned fashion critics wouldn't like them, but when the critics then pronounced the designs as stunning, the assembled audience swiftly erupted into clapping and cheering...



I felt that ephemeral, short term monetary gain and self-centred things such as fashion, designers and shows become even less significant to the real world when compared to the sacrifices, deprivations and bravery of those early Antarctic explorers who did so much to benefit mankind through their ingenuity, cooperation and team efforts from the ship designers, craftsmen, skills, donated goods, sailors, cook, doctors, scientists etc. Is this mammon versus God? I know which group I would want to be with when there is real need – do you?

J.A.R.



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SATURDAY 3RD OCTOBER 2026

2:00 PM TO 4:00 PM

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.Joint St Luke's and Stranton Holiday Club, 25th - 27th August

A massive thank you to all the team who helped with the Summer Holiday Club at St Luke's on 25th -27th August. We thank Communities Together Durham for their generous funding support. Thank you to everyone who supported the team in prayer. (Revd Claire)

Sheila Anderson writes...What a wonderful three days we had at our Summer Club! We had 18 children over the three days of various ages between 5 and 11.

We enjoyed a dramatic Bible story each session. Day one was Jesus' baptism, day two was the calling of the disciples and day three was an interesting conversation around The Lord's Prayer, and 'how to pray'. This sparked a good question and answer session both with the children and adults.

We had great fun with Hayley's team games, some in the hall and some outside in the garden, which were enjoyed by both the children and adults! After snacks and drinks, the children enjoyed various crafts, different each day. Drawing and colouring, glueing and clay modelling, all themed around friendship and thankfulness, and the story we'd had that day, and the children all had pictures or models to take home.

On the last day the children made a Prayer Journal and drew a picture or wrote something they were thankful for.

It was a blessing to see the children return each day, and their enthusiasm for everything was wonderful to see.

Shelia Anderson (St Luke's)



Andy, Kati and Eva Walsh visit Stranton



Andy, Kati and Eva visited Stranton on Sunday 6th September and spoke to congregations at both morning services. It was wonderful to see them all and to hear of God's hand on their amazing work in prisons in Brazil.

July Newsletter

Dear friends,

We are grateful to be able to share an update on some recent developments across our mission in Florianópolis. One of the most significant moments came during what we assumed would be a routine Saturday morning prison visit. "You're 20 minutes late!" the prison guard exclaimed as we arrived at the gate. We were slightly puzzled. We were exactly on time, expecting to begin our usual evangelistic work along the perimeter fence with the men inside the prison. "You're supposed to be in the chapel right now!" the guard insisted. "The chapel?" I replied. What followed took the three of us completely by surprise. As we were escorted through the prison grounds, it became clear that something significant had shifted. Our routine visit was suddenly an unexpected opportunity. I (Andy) am learning that this is often how things unfold in this mission; unexpectedly and without announcement. God is at work quietly and steadily, without us needing to force outcomes. We also see this clearly in Acts 16, where Paul's direction changes not through planning but through an unexpected opening from God. In the same way, we simply found ourselves stepping into what God had already opened before us.

As we entered what was formerly a training room, we found ourselves in a chapel. Around 25 men were already seated, waiting for the first church service to begin. What we stepped into that morning was the beginning of something we, along with many of you who support and pray for this work, had been praying for over the last couple of years.

Throughout our involvement in this mission, we have sensed God leading us beyond routine prison visits towards more sustained discipleship and pastoral care. We have prayed for ongoing opportunities to teach God's Word, including through the Prison Fellowship International course. Ultimately this vision points towards the model Christ established of the local church gathering and aligns with our partners in the Brazilian Baptist church who long to see a church in every penitentiary. Taking this vision forward, over the last 12–15 months we have engaged prison governors across the region with proposals for church services to be established within the prison system. The prospect of approval often felt more than ambitious. We received feedback such as, "It can't be done," or, "There is no real appetite for this right now." Even though Brazilian law allows for regular religious services within prisons, this is rarely allowed in practice.

What we have now stepped into at Palhoça penitentiary is the fruit of prayer, relationship-building and faithfulness in our work. Regular church services have been taking place on Saturday mornings since March. Together with the men, we worship, open the Scriptures, preach the gospel and lead prayer ministry. Each gathering is a profound encouragement and a living testimony to God's love at

work. This means that each prison we serve is now at a different stage. In one, we continue evangelism through a hatch or in a courtyard. In three prisons, the discipleship course is established, providing structured teaching over 12 weeks. And now, in Palhoça, regular church services are underway. We are not doing all this simultaneously; rather, we go where the work is – sometimes with Pastor Antônio, sometimes to courses in progress, but always to Saturday morning church services!

Together, these developments represent a growing and holistic approach to prison ministry across the region. Palhoça now serves as the model that we hope to replicate in other prisons. With that in mind, we met with Governor Flavio of São Pedro de Alcântara, the region's maximum security prison, together with the chief of security, Adelmo. We were encouraged by their willingness to engage seriously with the proposal. However, we learned that the prison is currently operating at around 150 per cent capacity, and this level of overcrowding makes approval impossible at this time due to safety concerns. It was nevertheless a disappointing outcome, as I had hoped we might begin something simple and easy for prison staff to implement. I had proposed a Friday evening gathering for around 25 men who already meet for Bible study after work. Many of these men have already completed the Bible course I lead in other establishments.

At the end of our conversation, Adelmo turned to me with a smile and said, "We cannot forget that Brazil is a nation of miracles." It was a gentle reminder to keep hoping, and that this is not a "no" but a "not yet". At the end of our meeting, Pastor Antônio invited me to pray. I prayed simply that, in God's timing, this establishment would become a place not only of incarceration, but also of encounter – where men discover forgiveness, and begin lives marked by restoration in Christ.

For now, we are required to wait, but we continue to hold the vision with patience and faith, trusting God with the timing.

We are grateful for prayers regarding the women's prison. After a long period of resistance from the previous director towards our work, there is now a change in leadership. This renews the possibility for us to re-engage later this year.

We are encouraged by the progress within the Vineyard church. We have continued to strengthen the leadership structure. We were pleased to receive Pastor Marcelo and his family from Vineyard Brasília, who preached and greatly encouraged the congregation.

Marcelo has kindly agreed to act as my local supervisor, for which I am very grateful.

We look forward to returning to the UK in mid-August. We will spend time with family and visit some of our supporting churches. These opportunities to reconnect and share are always a great encouragement.

Thank you once again for standing with us in prayer and your support. We are deeply grateful to walk this journey with you

Andy, Kati and Eva

Revd Claire officiates at the wedding of Nicola and Callum Measor



Revd Claire officiated at the marriage of Callum and Nicola Measor on Saturday 5th September. This was Revd Claire's first time officiating at a marriage service since her ordination to the priesthood in June.

Bigger Barns Quiz

- B** Fill in the missing words - All things **b**_____ and **b**_____
- I** Fill in the missing words - **I**_____, **I**_____
- God only wise
- G** Which **G** did the Israelites settle in Egypt? **G**_____?
- G** A city destroyed by God? **G**_____
- E** Which **E** was a cousin of Mary? **E**_____
- R** Which **R** was Joseph's older brother? **R**_____
- B** Which **B** is another name for apostle **N**? **B**_____
- A** Which city did Joshua burn? **A**_____
- R** Which **R** was Joseph's grandmother? **R**_____
- N** Which **N** is an apostle? **N**_____
- S** This woman met Jesus at a well? **S**_____

900th Anniversary Celebrations

Organ Recital with Daniel Cook



As part of our 900th Anniversary celebrations we were privileged to receive the gift of an organ recital performed by Daniel Cook, Master of the Choristers and organist at Durham Cathedral.

Daniel is an internationally acclaimed artist, having held posts at Westminster Abbey, Salisbury Cathedral and St David's Cathedral.

He has been a finalist in the St Albans International Organ Competition, and has played across the UK, Europe, Australia, and the USA, with performances in the Royal Albert Hall, the Royal Festival Hall, and the Grand Organ Festival at Westminster Cathedral. He has worked as an organist and conductor including with the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, BBC National Orchestra of Wales, Onyx Brass, The London Mozart Players and the BBC Singers.

Many of us will remember Daniel as a young member at Stranton Church starting his musical education with Alf Peacock who was our Organist for over 60 years. Daniel has never forgotten his roots and has given many fundraising performances for us in the past. On this occasion we were treated to a range of music from Bach to the present day, each piece being introduced by Daniel with very personal insights about their composition and the significance of each in his own musical journey.

Our thanks to Daniel not only for a heartwarming performance raising over £350 for the restoration of the Organ, but also for the many hours he spent preparing and tuning the instrument in advance.

<http://www.danielcookorganist.com/>

David Craig



Bell Tower Captain in Fund Raising Event



Joseph Wilson, Bell Tower Captain here at Stranton Church, is one of seven athletes who has benefited from Euro Lottery Winner Frances Connolly's charitable trust. To honour Frances's 60th birthday the athletes will undertake a series of challenges to help raise money for the trust. They will take part in the '60 for 60 Challenge' for which they will run, swim or cycle a total of 60 miles. The challenge will culminate in a team

taking part in The Great North Run on Sunday 13th September.
Copywrite **Christian Oliver** in **The ipaper**.

STRANTON & ST LUKE'S

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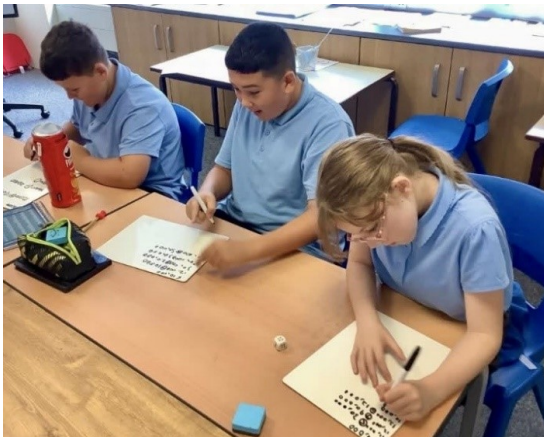
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MORE INFO: REVD CLAIRE MEAD, CURATE
07598 070481, CURATE@STRANTON-CHURCH.ORG.UK



Ward Jackson CE Primary School Update

Pupils in all year groups were happy to return to school and enthusiastically participated in all their lessons.



🧑‍🎓 A new addition to our sensory provision! 🧑‍🎓

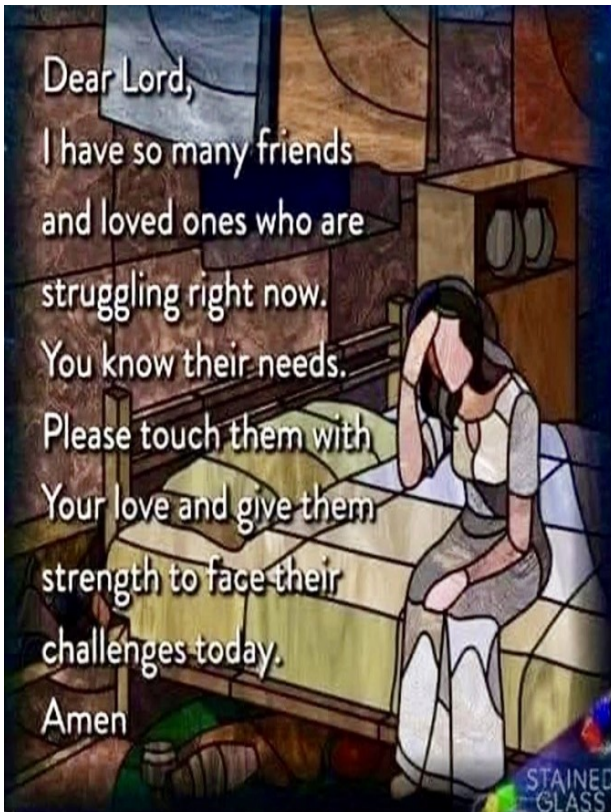
We're very excited about our new indoor sensory climbing wall! 🌟

It gives our children another way to develop strength, coordination and confidence, while also supporting sensory regulation and giving them a safe, purposeful way to move their bodies.

Another little addition to help make sure our environment meets the needs of all of our children 💛

[#wardjacksonway](#)





900th ANNIVERSARY

Messy CHURCH

SUNDAY
11TH OCTOBER

4 PM TO 5:30 PM

Bible Story
Healing of the Paralysed Man

Shared Meal

Games

Singing

Crafts

COME AND JOIN US
ALL WELCOME
LOTS OF FUN FOR THE FAMILY

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Bigger Barns Quiz Answers

B Fill in the missing words -

I Fill in the missing words -

G Which G did the Israelites settle in Egypt?

G A city destroyed by God?

E Which E was a cousin of Mary?

R Which R was Joseph's older brother?

B Which B is another name for apostle N?

A Which city did Joshua burn?

R Which R was Joseph's grandmother?

N Which N is an apostle?

S This woman met Jesus at a well?

All things Bright and beautiful

Immortal, Invisible God only wise

Goshen

Gomorrah

Elizabeth

Reuben

Bartholemew

Ai

Rebecca

Nathaniel

Samaritan

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God leaves quiet reminders everywhere:

in the song that finds you,
the call that comes at the right time,
the stranger who says what you needed,
the wrong turn that somehow leads you home,
and the small mercy timed so perfectly
it almost feels like nothing.

God has a way of being found
in the places we almost overlook.

ONE ...

One tree can start a forest;
One smile can begin a friendship;
One hand can lift a soul;
One word can frame the goal;
One candle can wipe out darkness;
One laugh can conquer gloom;
One hope can raise your spirits;
One touch can show you care;
One life can make the difference.
be that one today.

The miracle

There was nothing wrong with his hearing; that was for sure!
He heard the farrier's hammer hit the anvil as he shaped the horseshoe.
He heard the market sellers call out their deals of the day.
He heard exhausted mothers reprimand their boisterous children,
He heard the unpleasant sound of desperate rats scratching the dry, dusty ground, hoping for crumbs or scraps of food that people may drop.
He was glad of his other senses. He smelled the fresh bread on the barrow that wheeled past him. It made his mouth water.

Bartimaeus felt the ground with his hands, finding the edge of his well-worn mat. He smoothed it so it lay flat beneath him. He sighed, knowing it would be another long day sitting, waiting, and hoping for a few kind and generous people who would drop a few coins into his bowl. He needed food today as he had gone to bed hungry the night before. The delightful sound of a coin dropping into his bowl made him jump. He called out, "Thank you for your generous spirit". He waited to hear their footsteps fade away until he reached for his bowl and felt the shape of the coin. It wasn't a lot, but it was a start! He tucked it into his cloth pouch tied around his waist. He tried to work out how many coins he would need to have a hot meal.

A wave of grief washed over him. He grieved for the sight that was taken away from him by the stupid accident. Tears slowly fell down his weathered cheek. How he longed for the days when he would sit at his potter's wheel, creating works of art that would light up the faces of people who came into his workshop. He grieved for the times when he had enough money to choose where he would eat that day, not what he could afford. He grieved for the wife and family he could have had. Bartimaeus had tried so hard to keep throwing pots even with no sight, but he had to admit defeat. You just needed the ability to see whether or not the pot was formed perfectly. People didn't want to spend their well-earned money on misshapen pots.

Bartimaeus tried hard to sit upright. But soon the sun beat down on him, his head drooped, and he started to doze. He dreamt of a time when he could see. He noticed trees that stood erect beside a babbling brook. He splashed cool water over his hot face and kicked water at the nearby children. He looked up into the blue sky and saw buzzards soaring high. He noticed the delicate, vibrant colours of the flowers. He was jolted awake by a thundering sound. He was confused as he didn't really know what the sound was. Then he realised he was hearing crowds of people walking towards him. He heard excited voices. He strained his head to try and hear what they were talking about. Another wave of grief hit him, then frustration and anger. I just want to be able to see what is happening. As people walked past him, he heard the name, 'Jesus'. A sense of excitement flooded Bartimaeus. He had heard many people talk about this man. Some said that he was the messiah. He had heard stories of how this Jesus had healed the sick and the lame. He sensed this Jesus just might be able to help him. Could this Jesus be in the crowd? Bartimaeus, giving no thought to what others may think of him, started to cry out.
"Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me"

People in the crowd told him to stop shouting. This made him want to shout louder,
"Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me"

Jesus heard his heart cry and told the people close to him, "Tell the man to come to me". Bartimaeus felt warm breath on his cheek, and a man whispered in his ear.

"Cheer up, Jesus wants you to go to him"

Bartimaeus, for the first time, felt hope. He leapt up, threw off his cloak, and, with his arms stretched out in front of him, tentatively felt his way through the crowd. Hoping he wouldn't bump into people. He walked to where he thought Jesus would be. The first words that Bartimaeus heard Jesus say were: "What would you like me to do for you?"

With no thinking required, he replied, "My rabbi, I want to see".

Jesus replied, "Go; your faith has healed you"

Bright light hit his eyes, and then the first person he saw was the beautiful, gentle eyes of his healer. Bartimaeus blinked again and again, testing his sight. Was he dreaming?

He reached out and touched Jesus' face.

His heart was full of pure joy. Jesus smiled at him.

"Thank you seems so feeble a response to what you have done for me", Bartimaeus whispered. "You have given me my life back I will be forever changed."

Jesus reached forward and enveloped him in a warm hug. Then he turned and walked away.

Bartimaeus wanted to talk more. He had so many questions. He turned to look around at all the different faces that had swarmed around Jesus. He couldn't stop smiling.

He was once blind, and now he could see.

The crowd began to move forward as Jesus walked ahead of them. They all began following him. Bartimaeus left his mat and begging bowl. He no longer needed them; he had received his miracle.

There was only one place he wanted to be, and that was to be as close to Jesus as he could be...

Ang Hall



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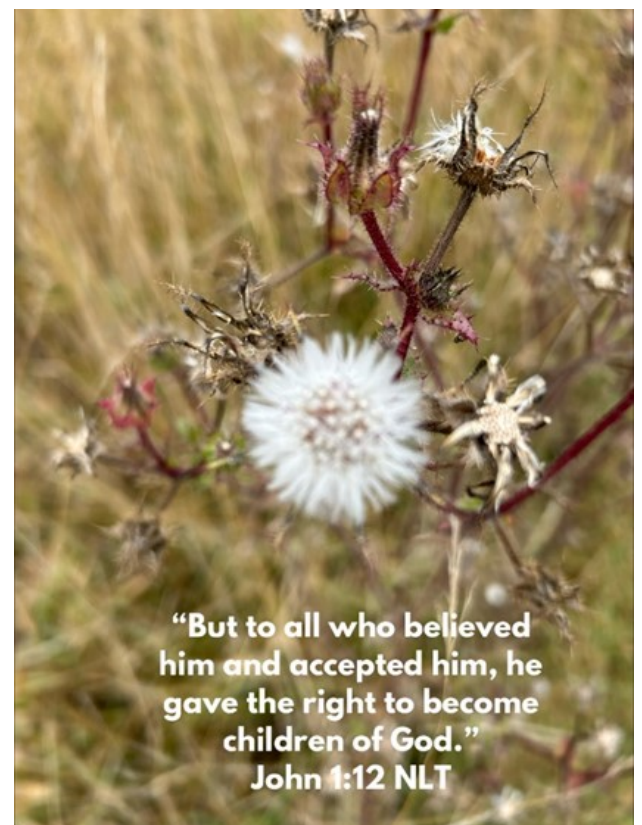
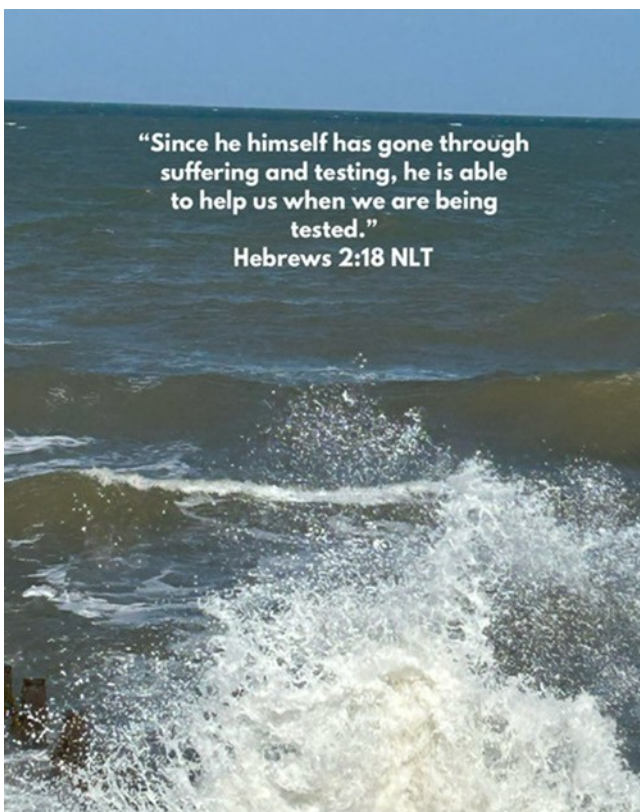


Venue
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Elwick Road
TS26 9JF

Contact Stranton Church 01429 894006 for more information

No matter how much
time you spend
fasting, no matter how
much you sleep on a
hard floor and eat
ashes and sigh
continually, if you do
no good to others, you
do nothing great.

-St. John Chrysostom



All Saints' Day

All Saints' Day is a Christian holy day celebrated in honour of all the saints of the Church, whether they are known or unknown. From the 4th century, feasts commemorating all Christian martyrs were held in various places, on various dates near Easter and Pentecost. In the 9th century, some churches in the British Isles began holding the commemoration of all saints on November 1st, and in the 9th century this was extended to the whole Catholic Church by Pope Gregory IV.

In Western Christianity, it is celebrated on November 1st by the Roman Catholic Church as well as by many Protestant Churches, such as the Lutheran, Anglican, and Methodist traditions. With respect to its festal ranking, All Saints' Day is a solemnity in Catholicism and a festival in Lutheranism.

In the Western Christian practice, the liturgical celebration begins with its first vespers on the evening of October 31st, All Hallows' Eve (All Saints' Eve or Hallowe'en), and ends at the compline of November 1st. It is thus the day before All Souls' Day, which commemorates the faithful departed. In many traditions, All Saints' Day is part of the season of Allhallowtide, which includes the three days from October 31st to November 3rd inclusive, as well as the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church (held on the first Sunday of November), and in some Christian denominations, such as Anglicanism, extends to Remembrance Sunday. In places where All Saints' Day is observed as a public holiday, cemetery and grave rituals such as offerings of flowers, candles and prayers or blessings for the graves of loved ones often take place on All Saints' Day (along with other days of Allsaintstide, especially on All Hallows Eve and All Souls Day). The use of candles by Christians symbolized the light of Christ and the use of lamps at the tombs of Christian martyrs dates back to the early Christian period.

The Christian celebration of All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day stems from a belief that there is a powerful spiritual bond between those in heaven (the "Church triumphant"), the living (the "Church militant"), and the "Church penitent" which includes the faithful departed. In Catholic theology, the day commemorates all those who have attained the beatific vision in Heaven. The Lutheran branch of Christianity, on All Hallows' Day, remembers "those blessed fellow-believers who died in the Lord and are now at rest even as we wait with them for the Last Day and the resurrection of the body to eternal life with Christ." In Methodist theology, All Saints' Day revolves around "giving God solemn thanks for the lives and deaths of his saints", including those who are "famous or obscure". As such, individuals throughout the Church Universal are honoured, such as Paul the Apostle, Augustine of Hippo and other saints, varying according to the hagiographic traditions of the Church in question. In some traditions, the day is also used to celebrate individuals who have personally led one to faith in Jesus, such as one's grandmother or friend.





Boys' Brigade



Company Legacy Gift Refurbishment

Sadly Ricky Hanlon, (Jack's uncle) died and a donation was made to our Company so that we could purchase a double flag holder, which we can use both at St Matthew's CC and in Stranton Church.

Initially we had a problem with the stand which would tip over due to an imbalance of weight between our two flags (The Kings Colour and the Company Colour).

We have now had this refurbished and will use it at the Harvest Festival Service and on all other official occasions.



National Competitions

This year we are entering the Chess and Master Team Competitions. We have applied to be hosts which allows us to show other Companies our facilities. The finals will be in April next year, so for now all we can hope is that we can reach both of the finals.

Recruiting Course

On Tuesday 3rd November we are attending a Boys Brigade Headquarters run recruiting course - hopefully this will help us to strengthen our Anchors and Juniors.

Anchor Boys have made pictures for the Harvest Festival service which will be on display in Stranton Church (along with work from the Juniors). They have also enjoyed playing games. We still have room for new starters.

The Juniors have started marching and participated in group activities. Again we have room for more starters in this section.

Some action shots from our first nights back of 26/27 with our Juniors Section. If you know anyone School Years 4-6 who may be interested, bring them along



The Company had a great return with 31 Lads attending on our first night back - our best attendance, so our recruiting space is very limited in this section until we establish a full pattern of programme and retainability.

We have also re-started the band and hopefully we can build that up and develop our own instructors for the future

If you would like to see us in action you can find us on Facebook

George Bainbridge 4th Hartlepool

CELEBRATE!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

to

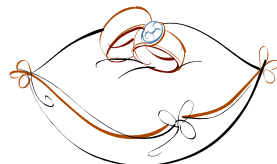
October

Daniel Bell
Rev John Bell
Ewan Craig
James Harkness
Rebekah Grosvenor
Joan Hill
Evie Lee
Ken Shepherd
Pam Stockton
Asher Thornhill



Wedding Anniversary

**Peter & Maureen Anderson
Duncan & Trish Playfor**



If you have something to celebrate we would love to share it - email
admin@stranton-church.org.uk
or phone 894006.

All entries to be in by the 16th of the month.

Dates for the Diary

September

Wed 30th Prayer Evening Stranton Church 6.00pm

October

**Sat 3rd Macmillan Fundraiser - Coffee Cake & Company
St Matthew's CC 2.00-4.00pm**

Mon 5th Funeral of Eva Busby Stranton Church 12noon

**Thurs 8th Meeting for Light Party volunteer team
Stranton Church 7.00pm**

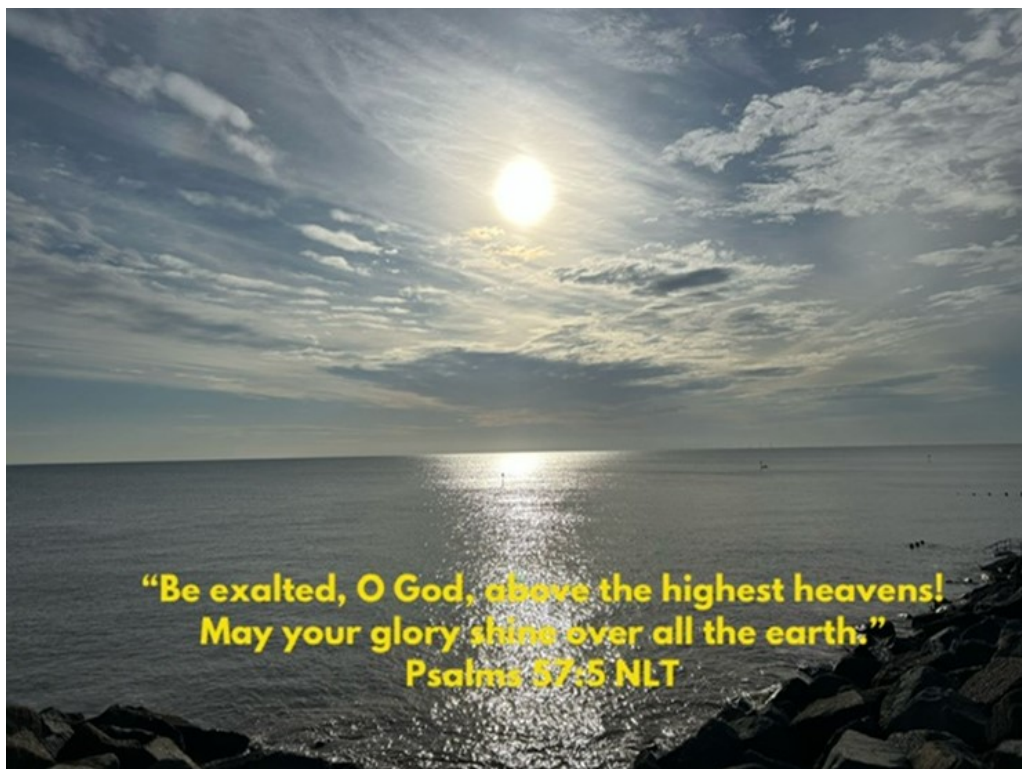
Sat 10th Family Quiz Night with food Stranton Church 5.00-6.30pm

Sun 11th Messy Church St Matthew's CC 4.00-5.30pm

Sat 31st Light Party St Matthew's CC 2.00-4.00pm

November

**Sun 1st Bishop Rick – Joint Service to mark finale of
900th Anniversary Celebrations.
Stranton Church 10.00am**



Who's Who

Church Office	St Matthew's Community Centre Arncliffe Gardens TS26 9JF
Administrator	Trish Playfor "Tues- Fri, 9.00 to 11.00am" 01429 894006 or 07305 550009 E-Mail: admin@stranton-church.org.uk Web Site: www.stranton-church.org.uk
To contact clergy by E-mail	E-Mail: clergy@stranton-church.org.uk

Priest in Charge 34A Westbourne Road 07512 481115
 Revd. John Bell
 Email: **revdjohndbell@stranton-church.org.uk**

Curate
 Revd Claire Mead (Stranton & St Luke's) 07598 070481
 Email: **curate@stranton-church.org.uk**
 Usual day off – Friday

Reader
 Mary Tones 40a Blakelock Road 07972 342890
 Hayley Liversidge hayey@hartlepoolcch.coh.org.uk 07712 008772

St Aidan's & Columba's Church

Priest in Charge
 Revd. Becky Reeve 5 Tunstall Avenue 01429 671358
 Email: **revbeckystaidanandcolumba@gmail.com**

Safeguarding: Jacqui Rogers (Stranton Parish Safeguarding Officer)
 Email: **safeguarding@stranton-church.org.uk** 07749 163606

Churches Together in Hartlepool

Secretary Robert Proud: **pastor.nlfh@hotmail.co.uk**

Church Wardens Peter Anderson 22 Thetford Road 871266

PCC Secretary Maureen Anderson 22 Thetford Road 871266
Treasurer David Craig 57 Claremont Drive Contact Stanton Office
 894006

Asst. Treasurer Maureen Anderson 22 Thetford Road 871266
Loyalty Treasurer Ken Shepherd 251 Park Road 268007

Notice Sheet The Office (Notices by the preceding Wednesday)
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Signpost Advertising Maureen Anderson 22 Thetford Road 871266
St Matthew's Booking Trish Playfor Church Office 894006

Magazine articles to the parish office by 16th of every month.

