



Deaf Church North East

Supported by York, Durham and Newcastle Dioceses and Northumbria Deaf Church

NEWSLETTER Issue 86

September 2007

Service Times:
all 3 p.m.

York Diocese

1st Sunday

St. Denys' Church
Walmgate, York

3rd Sunday

St. Francis' Church
Barwick Way
Ingleby Barwick

Last Tuesday

Hull and East Riding
Deaf Institute

Durham Diocese

1st Sunday

Stockton Parish
Church,
High Street, Stockton

3rd Sunday

Sunderland Minster

4th Sunday

Holy Trinity Church,
Woodland Road,
Darlington

Newcastle Diocese

2nd & 4th Sundays

St. Andrew's Church
Newcastle

Mondays -

check website

St. Luke's Church
(at 12.15 pm)

Frank Street
Wallsend

All services are followed
by refreshments.

See dates on website

www.ndm.org.uk

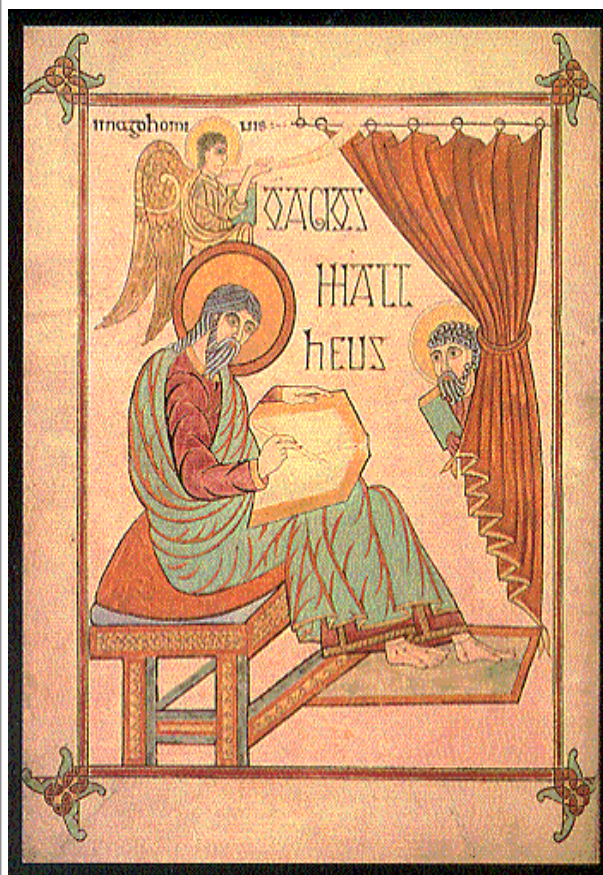
Dear friends,

Welcome to Septembers newsletter and sorry for it being a bit late. I have just returned from a 2 week camping holiday, where the weather wasn't to bad but could have been much better. We had our fair share of rain and wind but we did see some sunshine and managed a couple of barbecues but no suntan!! When returning back to work after a holiday there is always the problem of what should I tackle first!! Post, telephone messages, emails etc. Those things are now out of the way and its newsletter time.

Best Wishes Alma

Matthew -- Gospel writer

September 21st is the day when the Church remembers this disciple [follower] of Jesus. He was a tax collector. Many people hated tax collectors because they worked with the Roman forces that ran the country. Jesus called Matthew to follow him and later he was named as an apostle, one of the Twelve. It is the first of the Gospels.



The gospel of Matthew was written specially for Jewish readers. It tells of the birth of Jesus giving the only story about the magi or wise men, the 3 'kings' who bring special gifts to the baby Jesus. There are lots of quotes from the Old Testament prophecies. The writer is saying that this has come true in Jesus and you can see it if you look. Many of the stories also appear in Mark and Luke but with slightly different emphasis.

Each of the 4 Gospels have special symbols that are drawn in some old Bibles and in church windows or tiles. Matthew is always shown with a man in the picture. The Lindisfarne Gospel shows an angel with a trumpet in his mouth as if to show that an

important announcement is being made. The man looks form behind the curtain carrying a book. *By Rev'd Bill Rigby*



Saed Khatamy (centre kneeling), with friends at the 'Teach Me' weekend at Minsteracres



Minsteracres

Teach Me Course

Arriving at Minsteracres monastery in sunshine I met other deaf people. We began introductions, chatted and had a look round. Friday was a relaxing night to see Dr Hannah Lewis explain the course outline. "Snapshots of the Church" were shared in sign language (BSL) and pictures. We began with small group discussion about why Jesus came to earth. This pointed us to the beginning of the Christian Church.

Saturday began with Jesus disciples and the early church spreading out from Jerusalem and Judea. We looked at the story in Acts, Christian symbols, recognising the importance of prayer, teaching, sharing and 'breaking 'of bread' for the Church family. That is a lesson for us now.

The Church spread to the British Isles. We know a lot from the writing of Bede, a monk at Jarrow about 70 to 731. There were lots of missionaries who came to spread the Good News. They came to Iona, Ireland, St Albans, Lindisfarne (Holy Island) and the Church grew with kings and nobles accepting the Christian faith and encouraging their people.

Next we looked at the Church dividing about 1530 to 1550. Protestants and Catholics disagreed about many things as well as Bible translations. The new technology of printing to send out the Bibles was very important. In England Henry VIII encouraged a different approach, a middle way, as lots of small church groups started across Europe.

Finally we examined how the Deaf Church began. Matthew Burns, a deaf man, was very influential. Church for Deaf people began in Edinburgh in 1830, in London in 1841 (to become the Royal Association for Deaf, RAD). The first Chaplain was the Reverend Samuel Smith in 1861 in London. Other cities developed their own Deaf Church with chaplains using sign language. Deaf Clubs and Associations had their own chapels. There were many more changes during the 1900's to bring us to today.

On Sunday I was part of the group that offered some drama as part of the worship. We told the story of Saul becoming Paul and his vision, meeting Jesus, on the road to Damascus. It was a good weekend. Our final session was a revue and report back with comments. One really helpful addition would have been to video each presentation and then make up a DVD for each person to take home. They could share this with their own Church and friends. I look forward to the next course.

By Saed Khatamy

Church Services:

If you would like any of the following services signed:
Weddings Funerals
Baptisms Confirmation
or for more information please contact:

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www.ndm.org.uk

www.ndm.org.uk Website

Have a look at the newly organised and updated website.

See all the photos on the website.

Also posted on the website are our forthcoming events.

A Prayer for September

Heavenly Father, we give you thanks for the Good News about Jesus, for all who read, teach and preach in His name. Help us to see your love in the hands of all who communicate this wonderful story of salvation. Move our hands to retell this story in Jesus name and the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.