



Deaf Church North East

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

NEWSLETTER Issue 91

February 2008

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 February's newsletter. Easter is arriving early this year, the first day of Lent is the 10th February, Palm Sunday is the 16th March and Easter Sunday is the 23rd March. Lots of people give up something for Lent. What are you going to give up? I haven't decided yet.

Best wishes Alma

Thank You and Farewell



Don's Retirement with friends



Don with friends at Holy Island

October 28th was an important day, not only for the deaf church of Durham Diocese but also for Don Read. After more than 50 years in ministry Don has retired. Don will be a miss to many people, both among the deaf and hard of hearing. He along with Fred Hardy taught me my signing and has been a huge support to myself, Bill and Linda as both colleague and friend. So we could not let this day pass without marking it in some way, so at the Darlington Signed service we shared friendship and fellowship with Don and as can be seen from the picture a good time was had by all and everyone enjoyed immensely the cake.

Although this is officially farewell to Don I am sure he will continue to join us at Darlington and be spiritually nourished and fed by receiving ministry and if Don wants to take a part he will be more than welcome.

So on behalf of myself and the deaf churches I want to say, thank you Don for being such a wonderful teacher, loyal friend and an inspiration. My work among deaf Christians would have been much poorer without you and I hope your retirement is enjoyable and fruitful.

God Bless. *By Rev'd David Boddy*

Come one come all to St Margaret's Church, Durham

On Sunday 30th March we will be holding the third of our signed services in St Margaret's Church, Crossgate, Durham City. The service begins at 3 o'clock and we warmly invite you to join us there.

After the service we will be having a cup of tea or Coffee in the parish rooms to meet friends old and new and share in good times. *By Rev'd David Boddy*

LENT 2008

The 'mardi gras' party is over. Pancakes were eaten on Shrove Tuesday the big party day. Ash Wednesday 6th February has been and gone We are well and truly into Lent. It is so early this year. Did you know that in 285 years time Lent will begin on the 5th February? This is the earliest Lent can begin. I'm sure it is not important for us to have to worry. Lent is sometimes called the season of Penitence, a time when we can say 'sorry to God' and seek to change our lives.

Lent is the time in the church year when we prepare ourselves for the celebration of Easter. Usually Christians do this by examining their lives, thinking about what they do day by day and how God is involved in those activities. Some people want to collect all their sinfulness and confess that to God in a particular way. There are many ways to deal with this. One person will find it helpful to talk to a priest, to ask for penance and receive a prayer of forgiveness. Another will take their list of sins, week by week to church and offer that within the ordinary service and receive absolution from the priest. Absolution is another word for 'forgiveness' from God. The idea is that we will try to 'amend our lives'. That is, we want to stop doing those things that we know to be wrong and try not to be led astray from doing the right things, even if it is hard. It will mean making small changes or perhaps one big change. It is an opportunity to 'be good' in a way that is helpful to our faith. The idea of penance is to do 'something' right and helpful to say sorry to God. It is an action in prayer, reading, talking to someone about what you did wrong, or some other act. A priest will often suggest some small act at the time of confession. Really it is up to you to find a way of 'saying' sorry to God by trying to do a kind act or making a donation to a charity.

All of this takes place during the 6 weeks of Lent. We are getting ready to celebrate on Easter Day. That is the great celebration of the church when we remember the Resurrection of Jesus. First we read the Bible, pray and ask the Holy Spirit to help us in all we do. We learn more about what Jesus has done to help us through his time on earth, especially through his suffering, loneliness and isolation on the way to the Cross.

It might help you to read the story of all that Jesus did. You can find this in the Lion Graphic Bible starting on page 170. It might be a challenge to try and read all of the gospel of Mark over the 6 weeks of Lent. Your chaplain can offer other ideas of where to find helpful readings and prayers. I pray that your Lent will be helpful to your growth in faith. *By Rev'd Bill Rigby*

A Prayer for February

Lord, God of all mercy, I bring before you all my sins and selfishness; I place them all in the Light of your Presence. Lift me out of the dark places in my life; Lord, let your light shine on me, for without light how can I be seen to communicate your love? How can I see others who share their burdens and their joy in you? In your Light let me see light and know your forgiveness.
Amen.

Church Services:

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

Rev. Linda Shipp
Voice: 01642 701777
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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.

Forthcoming Event

'Pop In' Event

Monday 18th February

10.30—12.30

St Andrew's Church Hall

Newgate Street, Newcastle

