



Deaf Church North East

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

NEWSLETTER Issue 104

December 2009

Service Times:

all 3 p.m.

York Diocese

1st Sunday

St. Denys' Church
Walmgate, York
(Service 10.00am)

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 our Christmas Newsletter. The building work which has been going on at St Andrew's Church over the past few months has now been completed and everything is getting back to normal. The Deaf group coffee mornings will be resuming on Thursday 10th December (10.30am - 12.30pm) so please come along. No doubt you will all be busy making sure that you remember all who is on your list for cards and presents but take time to think about what Christmas is all about. The Birth of Jesus. May I take this opportunity to wish you all a peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year. **Best Wishes Alma x***



Christmas



By the time you read this, you may be very busy preparing for Christmas, fighting your way down the High Street, pushing your way through the crowds in the shopping centres; trying to get the presents you think your family and friends would really like.

You may be up to your eyes in baking and cooking in a steamy kitchen preparing food for all. You may be concerned about how you will fit everyone in, or worse, if you will see anyone over the holiday.

What kind of presents will you be looking for? What about clothes, CD's, games, computers, jewellery, toys, books, etc. etc.

The best present you can give anyone—is yourself! Following the example of Jesus, you can give your time, your love, your skills, your sympathy, your gentleness, your creativity, your joy in believing that **Christ** is what **Christmas** is all about. You can tell others why they are up to their eyes in shopping and baking and don't have time to stop, remind them that Jesus came for them as well.

Rev Linda Shipp



Special events for 2010

2009 was a good year again, monthly services at Ingleby Barwick, and trips to Holy Island and Faceby parish for a day doing Celtic Art.

Holy Island was kind to us at our second try; we had a much warmer day and dry! Unfortunately our pilgrimage to York Minster had to be cancelled, but we hope to go next year.

In 2010 I am planning three visits, one to Faceby near Stokesley, one to Hexham Abbey, and one to York Minster.

The day in Faceby will take place around the end of April or the beginning of May, and the day to Hexham will hopefully be in June or July. I hope to organise the day to York Minster around September and am waiting for dates for all these to be confirmed.



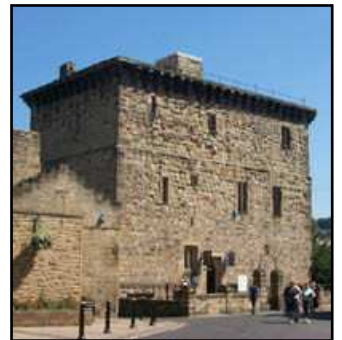
Hexham Abbey and town

The abbey is very old and there has been a church on this site over for 1300 years since Queen Etheldreda made a grant of lands to Wilfrid, Bishop of York c.674. In Norman times Wilfrid's abbey was replaced by an Augustinian priory: the church you see today is mainly that building of about 1170-1250. The choir, north and south transepts and the cloisters date from this period.

The east end was rebuilt in 1860 and the nave, whose walls incorporate some of the earlier church, was built in 1908. In 1996 a chapel was created at the east end of the north choir aisle. Named 'St Wilfrid's Chapel', it offers a place for prayer or quiet reflection. Since the Dissolution of the Monasteries in 1537 the Abbey has been the parish church of Hexham and today is still a centre for worship and witness to the Christian faith.

Hexham goal (jail)

One of the interesting buildings in Hexham is the jail, the **Hexham Old Gaol**. It is supposed to be the oldest purpose-built prison in England. It was built under the order of William Melton the Archbishop of York in 1330-33. It is now a museum the collections include 15th and 16th century arms and armour, and objects of local historical interest.



York Minster

Situated in the heart of the city, York Minster is the largest Gothic Cathedral in northern Europe. As is the way with many Christian buildings, it was built in the shape of a cross, and faces East, towards Jerusalem. The name "Minster" is derived from the Latin Monastarium, which means "Place of Learning".