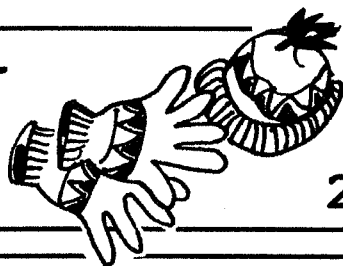


Deane Parish Magazine

February



2006



Parish Diary

February 5	4 Before Lent
9.00 a.m.	Holy Communion (CW)
10.30 a.m.	Family Parade Service
6.00 p.m.	Holy Communion (CW)
February 12	3 Before Lent
9.00 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30 a.m.	Service of the Word
6.00 p.m.	Service of the Word
February 19	2 Before Lent
9.00 a.m.	Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
10.30 a.m.	Family Service with Baptism
6.00 p.m.	Holy Communion (Common Worship)
February 26	Sunday Before Lent
9.00 a.m.	Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
10.30 a.m.	Family Communion (Common Worship)
6.00 p.m.	Service of the Word

Communion Readings

February 5	1 Corinthians 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39
February 12	1 Corinthians 9:24-27; Mark 1:40-45
February 19	2 Corinthians 1:18-22; Mark 2:1-12
February 26	Colossians 1:15-20; John 1:1-14

Ladies' Guild meets on February 14th and 28th.

DEANE HANDICRAFT GROUP

Stitch and Creative Craft Show February 3rd at G-Mex.

Tickets £5; concessions £4.

Travel by rail 10.07 a.m. from Lostock £2.75; concessions £1.10

Group Workshop by Tricia Moss

February 13th 1.30 Memorial Hall

Ribbon crafted card. All materials and equipment required in the session are included in the price of £5 payable in advance.

Speak to Julie Cooper if you are interested in either session or would like more information about the group.

The Rector Writes

Have any of you seen the film "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe"? I have to confess that I haven't, although I do intend to see it before it moves off the big screen. The writer of the book upon which the film was based is C.S. Lewis. He was not only a notable scholar of his day but was quite a prolific writer. He wrote in all six Narnia novels (I gather that Disney are intending to film them all over time—although how this is going to work out I don't know as the first book is not "The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe" but "The Magicians Nephew"), and even wrote some Science Fiction novels. But most off his writing was concerned with explaining to others the Christian faith. Two of the books which Lewis wrote which hold a special appeal to me are "The Great Divorce" in which Lewis attempts to explain heaven and hell, and does so in a truly unique way, and "The Problem of Pain" in which Lewis grapples with the question "If God is good and all-powerful, why does he allow his creatures to suffer pain?" In such a short article as this I cannot attempt to tell explain to you what Lewis wrote. All I can do is encourage you to read the book.

However it is undoubtedly the case that all of us, at some time or other, face pain and difficult and trying situations and often end up asking ourselves "Why has this happened to me?" There are two schools of thought when it comes to the problem of pain. Our first says, "Sometimes the going will get tough, and in those times you need to remember that your faith will get you through and something good will come out of the hardship. What you have to do is hang in there, whatever your trial, it will soon be over." The other school of thought says, "Get use to it. Pain, suffering, and hardship are necessary for growth. They will be constant companions to those who desire to know and love God deeply. Get ready for the long haul. If you're feeling good and life is relatively painless, that's the abnormal experience,

not the norm. Enjoy it, but don't expect it."

These perspectives present what appear to be subtle differences, when, in fact, they have huge ramifications for the follower of Christ. One says that suffering is a glitch on the spiritual map, a storm one can weather, a malfunction easily corrected with a certain degree of patience and determination. This perspective believes that there exists a "normal" state for a believer that is relatively comfortable and risk-free. But in reality, this perspective is unbiblical and actually lines up more with a culture that treats discomfort as something we deserve to have alleviated. Multi-million pound industries are dedicated to creating and maintaining this myth, and convincing us all that the good life is attainable now with, of course, the help of the product being touted. "Normal", in other words, is just around the corner.

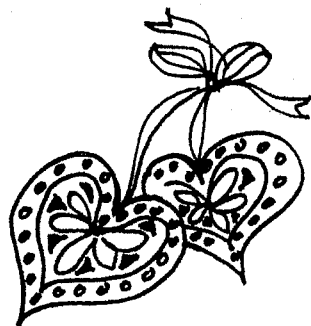
The other perspective is much more in keeping with reality and the belief that our real purposes go way beyond this life and this present darkness. It is a perspective that expects hardship and pain to be in the day-to-day programme. If we are waiting for anything, we are waiting for eternity with Christ, not for everything to get better here on earth. We have learned that trials are such an integral part of our growing life in Christ that we even welcome trouble when it comes our way, because we know that by it, our faith is found worthy of being tested, and our endurance will have a chance to grow (James 1:2,3).

This is not at all about being pessimistic. It's about being realistic and learning how to find joy in the midst of even the most difficult things.

As Paul wrote, "I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead." (Philippians 3:10-11).

February 14th is St Valentine's Day

There are two confusing things about this day of romance and anonymous love-cards strewn with lace, cupids and ribbon: firstly, there seems to have been two different Valentines in the 4th century - one a priest martyred on the Flaminian Way, under the emperor Claudius, the other a bishop of Terni martyred at Rome. And neither seems to have had any clear connection with lovers or courting couples.



There are no churches in England dedicated to Valentine, but since 1835 his relics have been claimed by the Carmelite church in Dublin.

The very first Valentine card - a legend

The Roman Emperor Claudius II needed soldiers. He suspected that marriage made men want to stay at home instead of fighting wars, so he outlawed marriage.

A kind-hearted young priest named Valentine felt sorry for all the couples who wanted to marry, but couldn't. So secretly he married as many couples as he could - until the Emperor found out and condemned him to death. While he was in prison waiting execution, Valentine showed love and compassion to everyone around him, including his jailer. The jailer had a young daughter who was blind, but through Valentine's prayers, she was healed. Just before his death in Rome on 14 February, he wrote her a farewell message signed 'From your Valentine.'

So the very first Valentine card was not between lovers, but between a priest about to die, and a little girl, healed through his prayers.



**Pray for
Christian
marriages, that
they will be**

**protected and filled with
the love of God. Pray for
faithfulness within
marriage in our country.**

Lent begins on March 1st

Why not be ready by buying a Lent book?

Lent with Luke

Daily readings from Luke's Gospel using paintings to aid contemplation
by David Thompson £3.99 ISBN 185078597X

Lent with Luke offers the reader a daily passage from Luke's Gospel, with thoughtful reflections, suggestions for prayer, and study notes. A special feature of the book is its use of reproductions of famous and not-so-famous paintings of the gospel scenes to open up our reactions to familiar passages, especially the Passion narrative, which is covered in full and forms the heart of the book. The daily studies continue into the week after Easter.

Archbishop's Lent Book 2006

Free of Charge

By Miroslav Volf £7.99 ISBN 0310265746

We are at our human best when we give and forgive. But we live in a world in which it makes little sense to do either. In our increasingly graceless culture, where can we find the motivation to give? And how do we learn to forgive?

A deeply personal yet profoundly thoughtful book, Free of Charge explores these questions - and the further questions to which they give rise - in light of God's generosity and Christ's sacrifice for us.

Miroslav Volf draws from popular culture as well as from a wealth of literary and theological sources, weaving his rich reflections around the sturdy frame of Paul's vision of God's grace and Martin Luther's interpretation of that vision.

Blending the best of theology and spirituality, **he encourages us to echo in our own lives God's generous giving and forgiving.**

The Archbishop of Canterbury's Lenten study book for 2006 is at the same time **an introduction to Christianity**. Even more, it is a compelling invitation to Christian faith as a way of life. Miroslav Volf, one of the most celebrated theologians of our day, offers us a unique interweaving of intense reflection, vivid and painfully personal stories and sheer celebration of the giving God.

Quotes for Valentine's Day

- Marriage requires falling in love many times - always with the same person. Anon
- Marriage is like twirling a baton, turning handsprings, or eating with chopsticks; it looks so easy till you try it. Helen Rowland
- Life has taught us that love does not consist in gazing at each other but in looking outward together in the same direction. Antoine De Saint-Exupery

and cheekily...

- A woman is a man's solace, but if it wasn't for her, he probably wouldn't need any solace. P Burns

Taking Stock

- Christianity is the total commitment of all I know of me to all I know of Jesus Christ. William Temple
- Every action of our lives touches on some chord that will vibrate in eternity. E H Chapin
- It is dangerously possible for activity to be no more than a dizzy whirl around a central emptiness. Anon
- God would not rub so hard, were it not to fetch out the dirt and spots that be in his people. Thomas Brooks
- I am so busy at this present time I cannot do with less than four hours each day in the presence of God. Martin Luther
- No man ever said, at the end of his days, 'I have read my Bible too much, I have thought of God too much, I have prayed too much, I have been too careful with my soul.' J C Ryle
- That faith which is never assaulted with doubting is but a fancy. Assuredly that assurance which is ever secure is but a dream. Robert Bolton
- It costs to follow Jesus Christ, but it costs more not to.
- If God brings you to it, He will bring you through it.

Faith, Hope and Love in Today's World:

'Hope'

In today's society the tangible symbols of hope for many are the scratch card and credit card. The lottery scratch card expresses peoples' aspirations for a better life and secure future. In a world where many have lost confidence in the future and the present is the only thing they can be sure about, the credit card expresses the all encompassing power of consumerism. It enables us to live for the present by 'taking the waiting out of wanting'.

To a large extent we have lost the 'big story' that makes sense of the world in which we live. Individual choice has replaced progress as a core value and belief in society. Christianity is viewed sceptically when it comes to offering a coherent 'grand narrative'. However, there is still a genuine desire to find hope in an uncertain world, as often seen in the response to high profile deaths.

In the light of this, how does the Christian Faith offer hope in our current culture? The challenge involves Christians living a lifestyle which can offer an alternative image of the 'good life', based in the hope of a future that is worth living for. The ministry of the Holy Spirit is the key, for God 'has anointed us, set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come' (2 Cor. 1:22). Within the Christian community, we can encourage each other to live in the Spirit and express our future hope. This means looking together critically at our lifestyle, spending, habits, giving, ministry to the poor, response to God's call and so on and asking:

- **To what extent are we witnessing to a hope in the future?**
- **How can this impact on the people around us?**



Pray that as a church and as individuals we will live in the Spirit and express our future hope and that we will =consider how much we just live for the present and not for our future in Christ's kingdom.


The number of Christians continues to grow

The world Christian population continues to grow. It stood at 2,140 million people in the middle of 2005, the latest published figure, some 140 million more than five years earlier. This is one-third, 33%, of the world's population, which was 6,450 million in 2005.

Furthermore the increase in Christian numbers is growing slightly faster than the population generally, 1.3% per annum against 1.2%. This is because of the huge continuing growth in Asia and Africa (respectively growing at 2.6% and 2.4% per year). It is only in Europe that the numbers are decreasing.

However, although they have smaller numbers overall, the Muslims and the Hindus are growing faster than the Christians. There were 1,310 million Muslims in 2005, growing at 1.9% per year and 870 million Hindus, growing at 1.5% per year, but it will take many decades before these overtake the number of Christians!

The charismatic independent churches are growing the fastest (2.4% per year), something which is also seen in the growth of the charismatic black churches in the UK.



Pray for a growth in the number of true disciples of Christ throughout the world. Pray for growth in our own parish. Pray for the Witness working group as they consider how we might be more effective

FROM THE REGISTER OF BAPTISMS

9th February	Henri William Ogunby	3rd Anniversary
9th February	Adam Jack Frankland	3rd Anniversary
20th February	Rebecca Emma Louise Downes	1st Anniversary
20th February	Emily Chloe Downes	1st Anniversary
20th February	Lauren Elizabeth Quigley	1st Anniversary



Pray for all these children and for those being baptised this February, that they will grow up to love and serve Christ.

National Nest Box Week

February 14 to 21

National Nest Box Week begins on St Valentine's Day, the traditional date for birds to pair up for the new breeding season.

The British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) aims to urge everyone with nest boxes to clean them out and check that they are in tip-top condition for the coming breeding season. This is also the very best time to put up new boxes.

Nest Boxes are important for birds and other wildlife - including mammals like bats and hedgehogs and insects like bumble bees and hornets - because modern habitats are often very short of the holes and cavities they need to nest and roost safely. The best boxes for an ordinary garden are those for tits - they have a very good chance of being occupied. In many gardens, particularly those in modern developments, these nest boxes are the only places for these birds to nest safely.

Making Boxes: The design and materials of a nest box are important since it needs to be well insulated and of the correct dimensions for the birds to be successful. Unfortunately some boxes are not well made and many do not last long. Making boxes is easy and an excellent family activity. Details of how to make standard tit boxes, and how and where to erect them, are available free-of-charge from: NNBW, Freepost 1155, CANTERBURY, Kent CT3 4BR. The same address can be used to order the 'Official Nest Box' and to find out about others that are available for birds, bats and even insects!

Nest box-making events will be taking place all over the country organised by county Wildlife Trusts, RSPB local groups and others and they should be contacted for details of local events.

As we hear more and more of species which are under threat throughout the world, pray that God's wonderful creation will be protected from further harm and that we will all act responsibly.



WHO'S WHO and WHAT'S ON

Rector:	Ian Mainey	61819
Vicar:	Paul Ellis	651851
Readers:	David Dewhurst	651347
	Nola Kilsby	492351
Wardens:	Les Kilsby	492351
	Bryan Shephard	01942 817288
	Craig Mochrie	652324

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Lay Chair:	Jane Hampson	848433
Honorary		
Treasurer:	Alan Cheetham	405829
Honorary		
Secretary:	Les Kilsby	492351

OTHER OFFICIALS

Organist:	Lisa Atherton	840741
Flowers:	Josie Crompton	655964
Archivist:	Rodney Howard	652417
Gift Aid		

Secretary:	Les Kilsby	492351
Deane Mag:	Elizabeth Plant	63730

MEMORIAL HALL

Bookings:	Julie Cooper	660946
Caretaker:	Ian Cooper	660946

BELLRINGERS

	Kenneth Higson	63754
	Anthea Morris	63754

CHURCH CHOIR

Lisa Atherton
Rehearsals 2nd & 4th Sundays 12 noon

MUSIC GROUP

Beccy Rutter 01942 814946

Rehearsals 3rd Sunday 12 noon

DEANE LUNCH AND LEISURE

Wednesdays 12 noon to 2.30 p.m.	
Julie Cooper	660946

YOUNG PEOPLE

Scramblers:	3 to 5 years
Climbers:	5 to 7 years
	Lynda Smith 62093
Explorers:	7 to 11 years
	Elaine Cockerham 650347
All meet in the Memorial Hall on 2nd and 4th Sundays at 10.40 a.m.	

The Element: 14 to 18 years

	Karen Greenhalgh 64340
Memorial hall Thursday 8.00—9.30 pm	
Voltage:	11 to 14 years
	Karen Greenhalgh 64340
Memorial Hall Friday 7.15—9.00 p.m.	

UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS

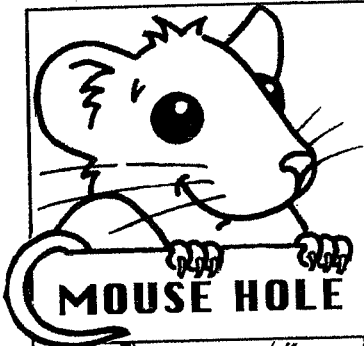
Meet in the Scout/Guide Hut	
Brownies	Tuesday 6.45
	Ann Calderbank 398206
Brownies	Wednesday 6.30
	Elizabeth Valentine 651692
Guides	Monday 7.15
	Carole Baxendale 419167
Beavers	
	Liz Yarwood 855163
Rainbows	Friday 6.30
	Margaret Latchford 657101

LADIES' GROUPS

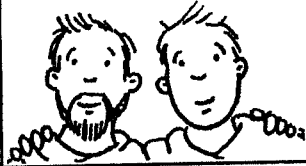
Meet in the Memorial Hall	
Ladies' Guild alternate Tuesdays	7.45
	Brenda Dixon 653333
Parents and Toddlers	Tuesday 9.15 am
	Jean Mainey 61819

Church Administrator

Anne Roberts	849468
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ANDREW JOHN
ABEL JACOB
JAMES JAPHETH
SHEM CAIN
JOSEPH AARON
MOSES PETER
ESAU BENJAMIN



Use the clues to find the names.
The last letter of one name is the first of the next name.

J S

- Mary's first child
Luke 1: 30-31
- Hannah's son
1 Samuel 1: 20

M T

- He wrote the third Gospel
- Followed Elijah
2 Kings 2: 15

A W

- The first man
Genesis 2: 20
- Baby in a basket
Exodus 2: 1-10

 S

- A wise king
1 Kings 4: 29
- He built an ark
Genesis 6: 13-14

Z H

- Wrote the 28th book of the Bible

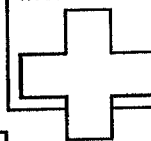
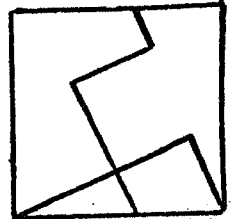


WHICH BOOK IN THE BIBLE...

- ...is the first?
- ...is the last?
- ...has the most chapters?
- ...is the last in the Old Testament?

HOW
...many books are there in the Old Testament?
New Testament?
and whole Bible?

Enlarge this puzzle, cut out the shapes inside...



then make into a cross

J	O	J	E	S	J	U	D	P	H	T	E	J
M	J	U	D	M	A	T	T	H	E	W	A	E
A	O	D	J	A	M	E	S	I	M	O	N	S
T	H	A	D	D	E	U	S	L	E	H	D	U
T	N	S	I	M	S	T	H	I	W	O	R	S
N	O	T	H	O	M	A	S	P	E	T	E	R
A	B	A	R	T	H	O	L	O	M	E	W	S

CAN YOU FIND
JESUS AND ALL
THE APOSTLES?
ANDREW • THOMAS
MATTHEW • SIMON
BARTHOLOMEW
THADDEUS • PETER
PHILIP • JOHN
JAMES
JAMES
JUDAS

