



Caritas
Deaf Service

A REVIEW OF 2023

We had a busy year in 2023 with events taking place both in person and online. Sadly it was a year where we had a lot of funerals, but many celebrations took place too. Here are a few of the highlights of the year.



Chrim Mass



Bible study sessions



Our retired group members celebrating
the King's Coronation



Walsingham pilgrimage



Fr Keith's 40th anniversary celebration



Receiving of the sacraments

Holy Week

We were delighted to be back at Maria Assumpta Chapel with the Srs and thank them for their continued support. Our grateful thanks too, to Mgr Vladimir Felzmann, who led our Holy Week services.



Statistics for 2023

- 45 Signed or Interpreted Masses
- supported 7 priests with their signing skills
- 11 seminarians have received training in basic BSL and liturgical signing
- 15 people attend our BSL taster course
- 240 Signs of Hope counselling sessions took place
- 1750 followers on social media for Caritas Deaf Service and 1163 for Signs of Hope



2023 was a sad time for many as well, with a larger than usual number of funerals. Those who have finished their earthly journeys were remembered at our Holy Souls Mass in November.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Thank you all for your support of the Deaf Community and the team.

Bishop Paul McAleenan, Canon Shaun Lennard, Fr Willie Skehan, Fr Brian O'Mahony,
Canon Norbert Fernandes, Fr Robin Ellwood, Fr Keith Stoakes, Fr Paulo Bagini, Mgr Vladimr Felzmann
and Fr Daniel Daley

We continue to be very thankful in the many ways the team of clergy who sign and who work with the Deaf Community and the Deaf Service staff support us. We are truly grateful for all you do.

The Lord bless you and keep you: the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you. The Lord lift his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

We also would like to recognise the support of Fr Dominic McKenna RIP and Fr Terry Murray OMI RIP both of whom supported our work in many ways over the years.

May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

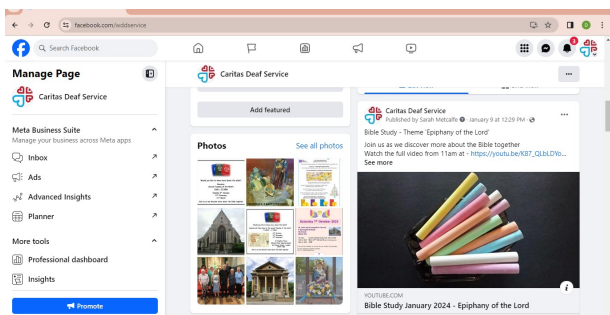
Deaf Awareness and BSL Taster Courses

At the end of 2022 and throughout 2023 we have been teaching basic BSL and liturgical signing at Allen Hall seminary. Overall there have been 11 seminarians who have taken part in the training sessions. Towards the end of the year we also ran a BSL taster course at Sacred Heart, Quex Road, Kilburn.

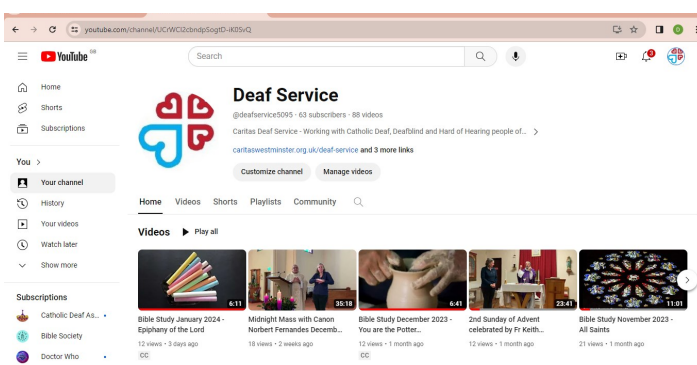


We have a Facebook page, a YouTube Channel, an X (twitter) feed and an Instagram feed.

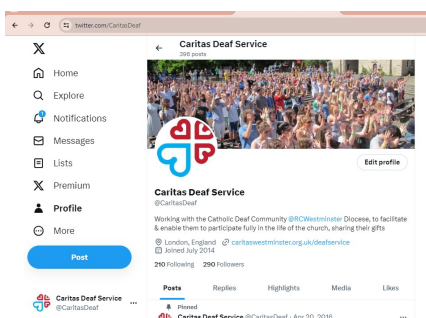
Have a look at what we have posted in 2023



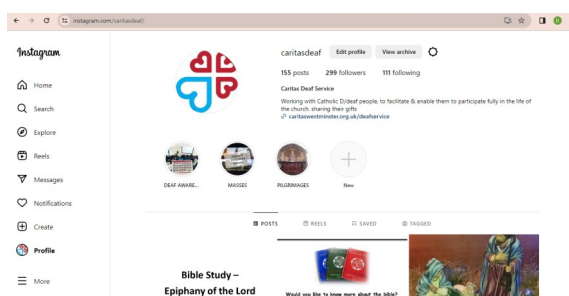
www.facebook.com/wddservice



www.youtube.com/@deafservice5095



X (Twitter) — @CaritasDeaf



Instagram — @CaritasDeaf

Or follow our events and news on our webpages: www.caritaswestminster.org.uk/deafservice

The Caritas Deaf Service team:



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