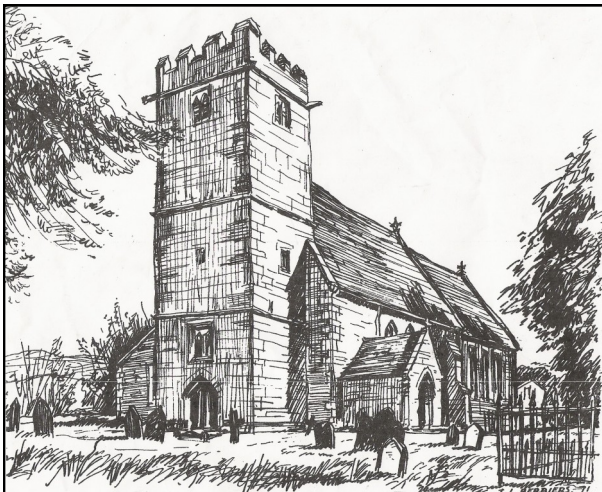


ALL SAINTS' CHURCH LLANFRECHFA

A VISITOR'S GUIDE AROUND THE CHURCH

*"Enter His gates with thanksgiving;
go into His courts with praise."*

Psalm 100



THE CHURCH IN WALES
DIOCESE OF MONMOUTH

A BRIEF HISTORY

There has been church here at least from the 800's shown in parts of the porch, which has a 1300's carved roof. A tower was built in the 1400's as an addition to the original church. A line of tiles on the inside west wall of the present nave shows the outline of the roof of the original nave. It indicates a much smaller structure similar to our neighbouring church of St Tegfedd, Llandegfedd.

The nave and chancel were rebuilt 1872 - 1874 to serve the rapidly increasing population of the parish which then extended over much of the area of modern Cwmbrian. The cost of the rebuilding was £4,316 18s 3d, met by voluntary contributions, with considerable assistance from the Mitchell family, owners of the nearby Llanfrechfa Grange, and Elizabeth Mary Rolls of Llangattock Manor (later famous for the Rolls Royce connection at the Hendre, Monmouth) who married into the Mitchell Family. The rebuilt church was Consecrated by Bishop Olivant, Bishop of Llandaff in September, 1874.

The alterations conformed to the requirements of the Tractarian or Oxford movement to bring back full dignity, ritual and colour to worship. Thus the Chancel is particularly large for a village church, can accommodate a large choir (still very flourishing at Llanfrechfa) and features such as the *sedilia* for the priests and servers.

The two Victorian architects for the extensive alterations were very well known nationally. Charles Buckridge was a leading architect for the Oxford movement and pupil of the world famous architect Sir George Gilbert Scott.

He designed the nearby but sadly abandoned church of St Luke, Pontnewynydd, the now ruined church for Capel-y-Ffin Monastery, and most noteworthy Ascot Priory and Holy Trinity Convent, Oxford - now St Anthony's College. On his death, just after the rebuilding work commenced, John Loughborough Pearson (architect of Truro Cathedral and numerous churches) took over and is probably responsible for the design of many of the interior features such as the altar piece, the two fonts, and timber screen, together with the elaborate chimney over the vestry.

A magnificent collection of stained glass is to be found throughout the church.

(See plan & separate detailed guide.)

SERVICES

Sundays:

- 8.00am Holy Communion
- 10.30am Family Service (1st Sunday)
Choral Eucharist (2nd, 3rd & 4th Sundays)
Morning Prayer (5th Sunday)
- 6.00pm Choral Eucharist (1st Sunday)
Choral Evensong (2nd Sunday)

Wednesdays & Feast Days:

- 10.00am Holy Communion (1st Wednesday)

ALL SAINTS'
CHURCH
LLANFRECHFA

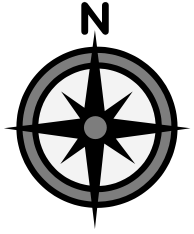
Contact Details

Rev Frieda Evans,
3 The Firs,
Malpas,
Newport, NP20 6YD
Tel: 01633 850600

We would welcome a donation
towards the upkeep of our church

Please consider using the *Gift Aid*
envelopes, if you are a tax payer

A Guide Around The Church, With A Brief Description Of Notable Features



10 Under the heavy oak top is a unique *submersible baptistry*, dated 1873, which is a long stone bath lined in lead for total immersion baptisms. Three Christian symbols are carved on the outside—the fish, the Chi Rho & the ark.

9 The modern stained-glass window installed in 1993, is a memorial to Corp. DE Denbury, who died serving with the SAS in the Gulf War.

8 The wall collages were made by Jackie Jacob & Norma Lowerth to celebrate the Millennium.

7 The early Victorian stained-glass window, by George Rogers, with two lights, *Suffer the Little Children* & *Noli Me Tangere*

6 The Caen stone *Rerodos*, designed by James Redfern, in 1873, over the altar, is an impressive large scale relief of *The Last Supper*.

5 East stained-glass window by Clayton & Bell in 1873, featuring the *Te Deum*.

4 *Sedilia* or stone seats for priests & servers. This is carved with likenesses of the heads of Bishop Olivant of Llandaff & the Rev. JB Gwyn, Vicar of the parish at the time of the rebuilding. The original *piscina* from the medieval church has been retained. (A *piscina* is a stone basin, perforated for water to drain back to the earth, used for the ablutions after the celebration of the Eucharist.)

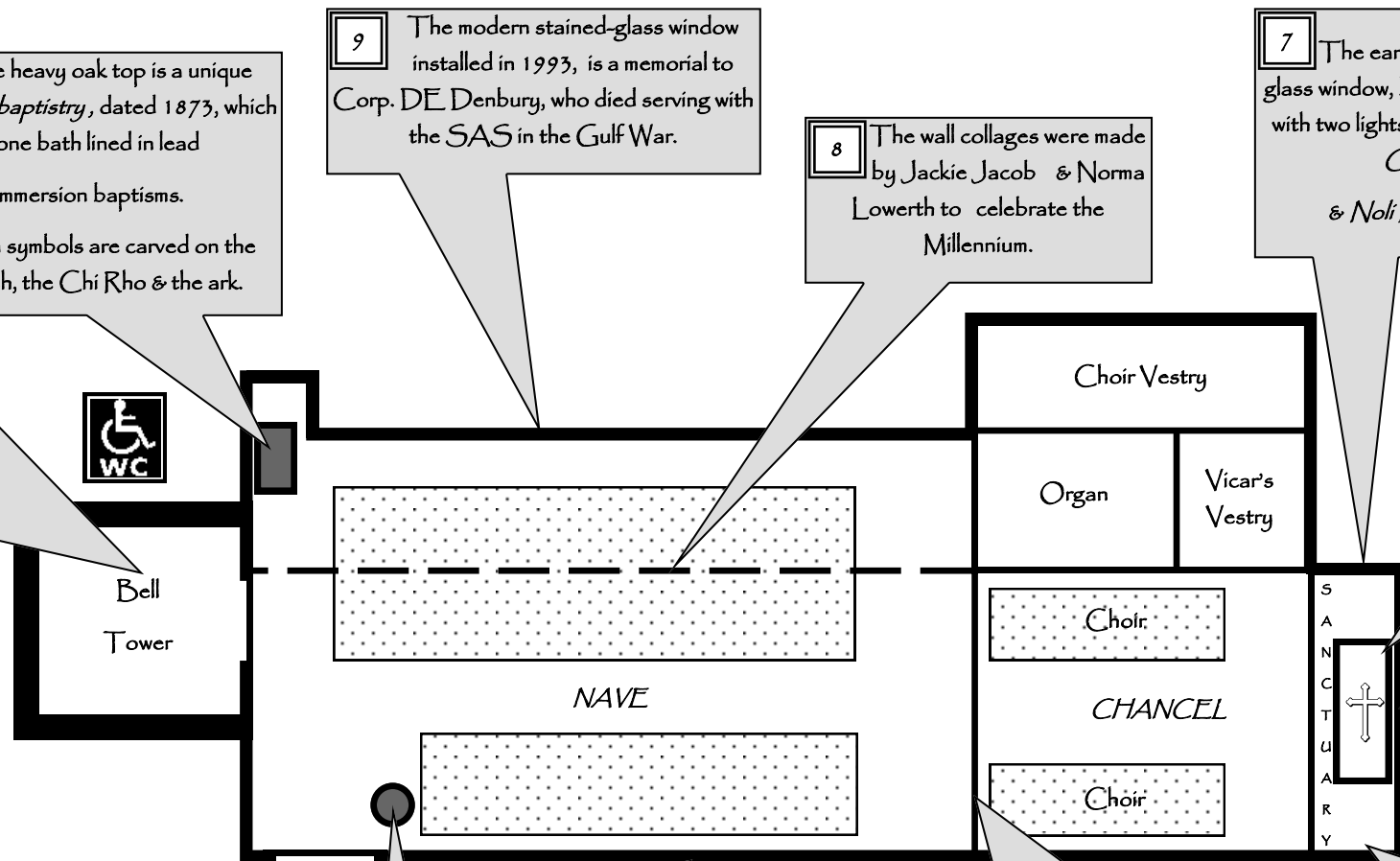
3 The 'transparent' tall oak screen, made in 1873 by Pearson has a group of three figures, from Oberammergau, that were fixed in 1933.

2 The *Holy Family* window (1916). Installed as a memorial to John Williams & his wife Ann, by their sons Edwin & Edmund.

1 The *Medieval Font* & oak cover were gifts to the old church.

12 The *Medieval Preaching Cross*, still used at Rogationtide for the blessing of crops, was restored by the Mitchell family at the time of the rebuilding & further recently restored with church funds.

11 The Tower contains a fine peal of eight bells, six of which were cast in 1874 by Blews & Sons of Birmingham. Their inscriptions were selected from a 14th century hymn 'Salutatio Jesu'



The churchyard is a tranquil haven to a variety of wildlife. At various times of the year, lesser celandine, primrose, dog violet & cuckoo flower are to be found. Five wonderful English yews also reside here, the largest possibly over 500 years old. Bats, birds & insects forage amongst the lichen-covered headstones. Please do pass on to us details of any plants/animals you spot during your visit!
[Source: Gwent Wildlife Trust]

ENTRANCE

