**Newport Cathedral: Fabric and Estate**

**The Early Years**

**c.500**

A church, made of probably of wattle and daub, was built on the site of the Galilee Chapel, now the St. Mary’s Chapel, by the legendary Gwynllyw (Woolos is an English corruption of the name). He was married to Glawdys, and chroniclers relate that their son Cadoc converted the family to Christianity leading to the erection of the building as an act of penitence which became Gwynllyw’s grave.

**c. 800**

The original humble building was replaced by a stone structure. There is evidence of Saxon foundations still to be seen in the chapel.

**11th Century**

The church suffered a series of attacks and was plundered and left in ruins.

**12th Century**

Church granted to St. Peter’s monastery, Gloucester. The early Norman nave was added and linked to St. Mary’s chapel through the Norman arch. There was also a lean-to south aisle. The monks managed the church for 300 years.

**15th Century**

The tower was added to the west end

**16th Century**

The monastery at Gloucester was dissolved. Ownership of the church passed to the Bishop of Gloucester.

**17th Century**

The influence of Puritanism led to the demolition of the rood screen, some monuments and the font, and installation of box pews

**18th century**

South porch was the main church entrance. The St. Mary’s Chapel had become a charnel house.

**1853**

A full restoration of the church took place during the incumbency of Canon Hawkins. This included a new chancel arch and a new organ.

**The Later Years**

**1885**

Heating installed, and landscaping of the churchyard to create a main entrance to the church through the Tower doorway.

**1913**

A second restoration carried out. The font was moved to St Mary’s Chapel.

**1920**

Church in Wales separated from the Church of England

**1921**

Diocese of Monmouth was created (from Eastern part of Diocese of Llandaff) and St. Woolos Church became a pro-cathedral.

**1930**

Dean and Chapter created by the Church in Wales.

**1949**

The parish church of St. Woolos was granted full cathedral status.

**1960-1963**

Major work took place to create a more cathedral-like building. This included new vestries, a new choir chapel at the East end of the south aisle and a large chancel extension with an East window designed by John Piper.

**1962**

The Queen and Prince Philip visited the new cathedral.

**1987**

The former choir chapel was dedicated to St. Luke as a reminder of the closure of the daughter church of St. Luke in Bridge Street.

**1991**

A new hall was built, as an extension to the choir rooms and kitchen.

**1997**

Complete renovation of the organ.

**2015**

Removal of pews and restoration of the floor.

**2017**

Completion of restoration of medieval roof.