

All Saints Church, Fleet.

Useful Dates

1827 Birth of William Burges

1857 Death of Janet Lefroy, wife of Charles Edward Lefroy

1860 Foundation stone of All Saints Church laid. Architect: William Burges

1862 Church consecrated 15th April.

1879 Organ installed

1897 Employment of first curate

1898 Organ moved to present position

1934 Church extended by 2 bays. Architect: A. J. Stedman.

1934 Lefroy monument moved from the chancel to present site

1938 Choir vestry built

1949 Chancel and apse whitewashed.

1958 Lady Chapel built. Architect: John Purser

2015 Arson attack rendered the church completely unusable. The fire destroyed the roof and much of its interior, leaving only the main brick structure intact. The Lady Chapel built in 1958 was unstable and had to be demolished.

2021 Work started on the restoration of the church. Architects: Acanthus Clews, Building Contractor: Buxton Building Contractors, Conservation: Cliveden Conservation.

2023 Restoration completed with new West Entrance. Church reconsecrated 30th April.

Doors Church originally built with one door in the middle of the back wall with an open Narthex. Doorway moved to South side when 2 new bays added 1934 and additional door to North constructed. Central West door reinstated in 2023 as part of restoration of the church following 2015 fire.



Original door moved to south side (main door). Sculpture over door by Thomas Nicholls, (c.1825-1900) who had a long working partnership with Burges.



North door added 1934. Sculpture over door by George Parsons, a local wood carver who carved doors for Westminster Abbey among other church works. He was also the carver of the large Nativity panel now in the narthex of St Philip and St James



New West entrance in the renovated church following the 2015 fire. The community sponsored bricks to help fund the new porch and entrance.

Walls Construction: A concrete core faced with brick.

Interior decoration of coloured geometrical patterns stencilled directly onto brick to Burges design.

After the 2015 fire every brick was cleaned and the original painted decoration traced onto stencils. The original colours were carefully matched and meticulously repainted.



Ceiling Original patterns on ceiling were stencilled onto paper, and stuck to the ceiling like transfers. Prior to the fire, some of the paper starting to peel off.



The roof was completely destroyed in the 2015 fire. A new wooden ceiling was constructed.

Font and Pulpit Both original Burges designs using black marble and Bath Stone. Pulpit presumably carved by Nicholls.

Following the 2015 fire, the pulpit was badly damaged. It was dismantled and taken to the conservator's workshop to be cleaned and restored, before being returned and rebuilt as before, Sadly the font was destroyed beyond repair.

Bells Made by J Warner and sons London 1861 After the 2015 fire the bells were sent to Nicholson Engineering, Bridport, Dorset for restoration and rehanging.

The Organ Built 1879 by Forster and Andrews of Hull. Moved to current position 1898. Restoration and enlargement in 1995 by F H Browne and sons of Canterbury. Mechanical action replaced by direct action and detached console.

The pipe organ was destroyed in the 2015 fire and replaced by a Viscount Envoy 35F digital organ.

Stained Glass Windows The Stained glass in the three windows in the Sanctuary is by Clayton and Bell and was installed in 1902. The windows survived the 2015 fire.



St Agnes. Memorial to Mildred Spurling, died 1902 aged 15.



Christ the King. Memorial to Colonel Bircham, died 1900.



St Mary of Bethany. Memorial to Grace Claire Oakley, died 1895, aged 14.

Memorial Windows The two windows on the South wall of the Chancel were restored and reinstated following the 2015 fire. The windows had been removed from their position on the North wall when the Lady Chapel was built in 1958 and stored above the choir vestry.



Reinstated windows engraved 'Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service' and 'Faith, Hope, Charity 1883'. Memorial to Miss M.A Roe.

Rose Window The Rose window originally contained plain glass. This was replaced with stained glass in 1906.



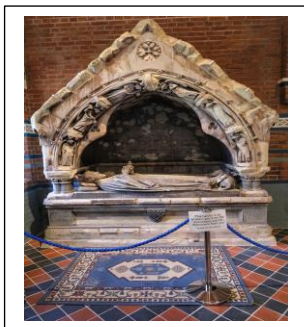
Christ in Majesty. Memorial to William Mascall Kenrick who carved the panels on the high altar. Stained glass by Arthur Louis Moore.

Sadly, the Arthur Louis Moore rose window was destroyed in the 2015 fire. Local glass artist, Amanda Winfield was commissioned to design and make a new stained-glass window entitled 'Devotion'. Each leaf on the window was sponsored and a name of choice inscribed on the leaf. The new window was installed in 2022 as part of the restoration of the church.



Devotion - In the centre is the dove, a symbol of The Holy Spirit, peace, love and devotion. The five large panels represent water and air. Water within the Christian faith is a metaphor for divine wisdom. Here it also represents Fleet Pond, showing geese in flight in the top panel and fish in the bottom two panels.

Windows All the windows in the Nave, apart from two (protected by the organ pipes) were shattered and replaced with clear glass by Barley Studios in Yorkshire.



LEFROY MONUMENT of Charles and Janet Lefroy. Designed by Burges and carved in alabaster by Thomas Nicholls, also sculptor of the reredos and the carving over the south door. Charles Lefroy is depicted holding a model of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem. Not their tomb. They are buried in Crondall churchyard. Although damaged in the 2015 fire, the memorial has been cleaned and stabilized by Clivedon Conservation

Tympanum Above Vestry Door Attributed to Thomas Nicholls, long-time collaborator with Burges. Winged figure holding a model of the original church.



High Altar Panels carved by William Mascall Kenrick, badly damaged in the 2015 fire but stabilized and retained as a memorial.

