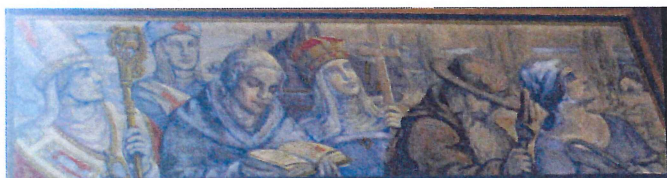


hear the angels' song, while beneath is God's promise to Isaiah: "Peace to him that is far off and to him that is near" saith the Lord "and I will heal him". In the two exterior lights are shown four traditional examples of daily labour—activities affected by war and able to resume normally once peace was restored. On the left, a sower with the words "sow to yourselves in righteousness" (Hosea 10:12). Underneath is a picture of masons engaged in the building of a church and below are the words "Jesus Christ being the chief cornerstone". On the right, a reaper with the words "Reap in mercy". Below the reaper, blacksmiths at their anvil, with the words "They shall beat their swords into ploughshares". The final inscription records the occasion which inspired this window of peace: "A thank offering to God who giveth victory".

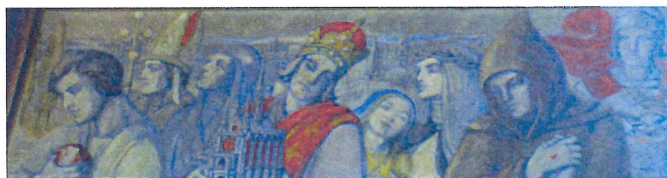
Lady Chapel

Front screen: Funded by public subscription in 1911. Side screen added a few years later in memory of a churchwarden, Dr. Wills. Oak floor: 1926 in memory of Florence Selle.

Ceiling:

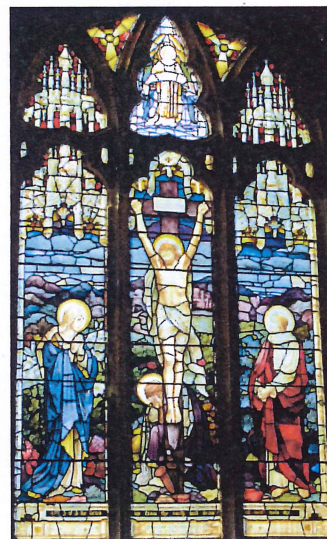


Painted in 1922 by Miss M. Tongue of Arundel, and shows French influences. Figures in frieze above: St. Augustine, St. George, Venerable Bede, St. Helena, St. James (brother of John), Joan of Arc. Below: St. Stephen, St. Thomas à Becket, St. Geneviève, St. Louis (with model of Sainte-Chapelle), a child martyred in 1215, St. Catherine of Siena, St. Francis of Assisi, St. Martin of Tours.



In 1909, when the church was enlarged by the addition of the wide south aisle, the windows were removed from west, north and south aisles and placed in the three-windowed apse of the Lady Chapel. One was a memorial to Evelyne Stanley Clarke (above left). This is the only one of the original Lady chapel windows to survive.

The original "Good Physician" window depicting St. Luke was destroyed in 1942, apart from six small panes in the tracery at the top. The replacement (above right) was installed c. 1960.



South Wall:

Window showing the crucifixion of Our Lord with Mary Magdalene kneeling behind, and St. John and the blessed Virgin Mary on either side.

The window is dedicated to the memory of Canon Mortlock, first Vicar of St. Barnabas: "At Rest May 24th 1908".

For more information:
01424 210036

ST. BARNABAS CHURCH

Sea Road, Bexhill-on-Sea

Notes on the Building



As newly built in 1891.



As it is today, showing the South Aisle added in 1909.

Origin: founded by the Rev. Leopold Stanley Clarke. In 1876 he was appointed Rector of St. Mark's Little Common and St. Peter's, Bexhill. Population expansion rendered these inadequate, so in 1887 the new Rector set up a temporary church in Sea Road, with an adjoining Parsonage and school. After retirement, he donated £6,000 of an inheritance towards the building of a new church.

The project however stalled through public apathy until Lord De La Warr donated an acre of ground in Sea Road. The church, designed by Sir Arthur Blomfield in Gothic Revival style, was consecrated in 1891, with a single nave and narrow aisles on each side. The organ chamber, choir and clergy vestries were then at the north end of the chancel.

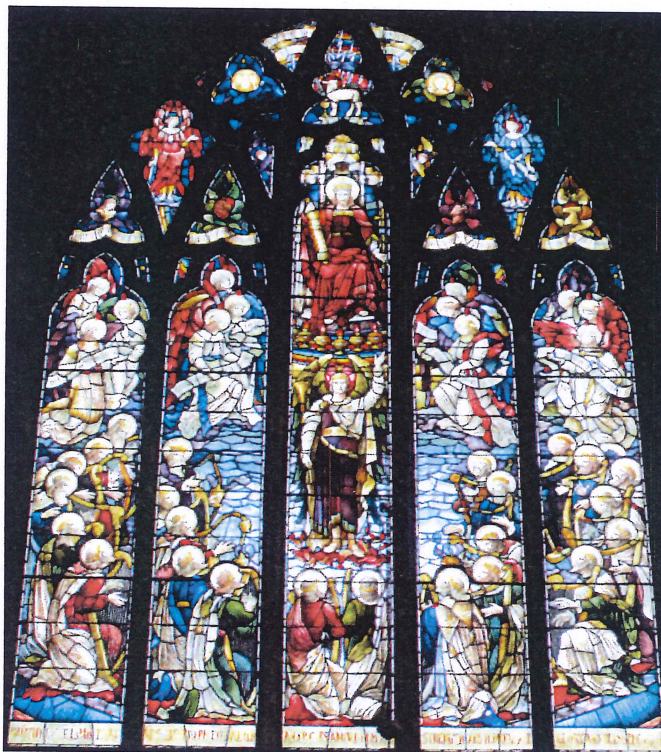
Construction: Flint pebble with Bath Stone dressing outside, red brick inside, open-timbered roof (Memel fir), pitch-pine block floor. Pews were never installed. The step levels of the original sanctuary are of Rust's Mosaic, using techniques developed in ancient Rome. Choir stalls, altar & chancel screen: carved oak panelling. Font: Hopton Stone.

Development: The first Vicar was Canon Mortlock, who officiated for thirty-five years. The Great War of 1914-18 was uneventful for the church, and in 1939, Bexhill was regarded as safe from bombing. When it received children evacuated from London, St. Barnabas provided an occupational centre in the lower vestry, which, blacked-out and reinforced, did double duty as an air-raid shelter. The Vicarage was hit and almost demolished by a bomb, whose blast also blew in most of the windows on the south side.

West end (through double doors): Three small windows (1895): "Faith", "Hope", "Charity".



The East window:



Plans for the window above the altar go back to 1891, but were not realised till 1914. It shows Our Lord seated in glory, surrounded by the multitude of the redeemed, as described in the Book of Revelation.

Above are the Alpha and Omega, and the Lamb. In front of the throne is the rainbow and the "the sea of glass like unto crystal".

You may see the "four living creatures", inscribed "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty, which was and is and is to come". Below are the four and twenty elders playing harps.

About the throne are hosts of worshipping angels singing "Blessing and honour and glory be unto him that sitteth on the throne and unto the Lamb for ever and ever".

At the bottom of the window is the universal ascription of praise recorded by St. John the Divine: "Worthy is the Lamb, that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing!"

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North Aisle Apostle windows:



St. Luke, in memory of Miss Helen Griffin (d.1927); St. Barnabas; St. John; St. Peter (1897, anonymous donation).

Window at west end of nave:



The window at the west end was given by parishioners and members of the congregation as a thank offering for victory and as such is a memorial to those who died in the 1914-18 war. At the top of the window is a dove poised over the earth. This is the symbol of God the Holy Spirit who at the beginning brought order out of chaos. Coming to the two central lights are angels at the nativity of the Prince of Peace, the forerunners of a multitude of a heavenly host bringing God's message of peace to a stricken world. The two angels in the foreground carry a scroll with the words "Glory to God in the Highest and on earth peace, good will toward men." Below them are the shepherds looking up from the earth to heaven to