



# The Prayer of St Richard of Chichester

Thanks be to thee my
Lord Jesus Christ
for all the benefits which thou
hast given me,
for all the pains and insults which thou
hast borne for me,

O most merciful Redeemer, Friend, and Brother,

May I know thee more clearly, Love thee more dearly, And follow thee more nearly: For ever and ever.



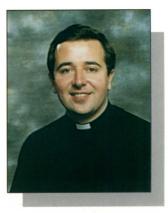


#### From the Vicar

THIS IS the story of the Church of the Good Shepherd. On our 75th anniversary we look back at milestones in the building of the Church; but it is not just a story of a building. It is a story of the vision and dedication of a group of people and of one woman in particular.

A church should serve the Parish in which it exists and the growth of the area around Dyke Road in the early years of the century provided the need for a centre from which the Gospel could be proclaimed. The Church of the Good Shepherd was the answer to that need.

I hope many people in the parish will read the book and come to the exhibition which it supports. And my prayer is that the Church of The Good Shepherd will continue to serve the people of Brighton and Hove through the next Millennium.



Jonathan Greener

From the





# Contents

Beginnings
A new church
The church is finished
Music
The bells
Clergy
A pictorial tour of the church today





### **Beginnings**

**THE BUILDING** of the Church of the Good Shepherd is inextricably linked to the growth of Brighton and Hove.

At the beginning of the new century, most of the area to the south and west of Dyke road was open farmland. It was part of the parish of Preston which had existed from mediaeval times and stretched from Brighton's race hill in the east to Sackville Road in the west.

In 1905 a new vicar, the Rev Gerald
Moor - later to become a Prebendary
Canon of Chichester Cathedral - was
appointed to the Parish. Five years later
a young priest, the Rev W.J.R. Allen,
came to the Parish on the National
Mission of 1910. Prebendary Moor could



The "tin church" in Dyke Road between Matlock Road and Tivoli Crescent

see the need for pastoral care for the rapidly developing area around Dyke Road and he gave his newly appointed "assistant missioner" special responsibility for this.

Fr Allen later described Prebendary Moor as "a devoted parish priest and an excellent man of business." There is no doubt that Prebendary Moor was well off, but his wife too had considerable personal wealth. Alice Mary Moor would use this wealth to carry forward her husband's vision for a new Parish.

Alice Moor is remembered with fondness and some trepidation by those who knew her. She was a short lady with an enormous personality. In later years she would be seen around Brighton in her car bellowing instructions to her chauffeur, Hibbert, through a speaking tube.

Within a year of Fr Allen being appointed assistant missioner it became clear that there was a need for at least some services near Dyke Road. Alice Moor had rented a room in Maldon Road for Mothers' Union meetings and in 1912 Fr Allen began regular weekday services there.

The demand continued to grow along with the population and it was clear to Prebendary Moor that Sunday services should be held in the area. Mrs Moor purchased a site in Dyke Road between Matlock Road and Tivoli Crescent on which was built a church of corrugated iron, soon to be known as the tin church.





Gerald Henry Moor



#### A permanent home

**THE TIN** church served the Dyke Road portion of the parish well over the next few years. But Gerald Moor's real vision was for a permanent building to form the centre of a new Parish. He and his wife had been instrumental in founding the Parishes of St Matthias and St Alban in Brighton. Indeed, according to records of the time, his appointment as a Prebendary Canon was for his great devotion "in extending the work of the church in that rapidly growing district." A new Parish to serve the growing population around Dyke Road would be his final achievement.

Sadly Gerald Moor was not to live to realise that vision. On Wednesday 31 May 1916, the eve of Ascension day, he died suddenly. Typically his wife vowed not to let the vision die with him. The Moors had originally intended that the Church of the Good Shepherd would be a memorial to their parents. She would carry forward his plans for a new Parish and endow a Church as a memorial to her husband. She worked with Fr Allen and appointed Edward Warren as architect for the new building.

The present site was acquired and the foundation stone was laid by Bishop Southwell on 18 October 1920, St Luke's day. Alice Moor had to release considerable funds, so building work proper did not begin until 2 July 1921.

# My dear Friends,

It is with a very real thankfulness that we can record the beginning of the building of the new church. A start was actually made on July 2nd, and readers who have visited the site will note that matters now begin to look like business. It will be generally understood that with the money at our disposal, only the first portion of the Nave can be built at present, but this alone is a handsome gift and it is a tremendous blessing to realise that the whole shall be completed later, and then we shall have a building that we trust shall prove a real spiritual home for many hundreds in this and the succeeding generations. We believe the gift will abundantly bless both the recipients and the generous donor, and we ask all our friends to pray constantly for that intention. We will only mention here that Mr. Edward Warren, F.R.I.B.A, of London, the architect, is in the front rank of Ecclesiastical architects, and that Messrs. Packham, Sons and Palmer, the builders, hold a local and wider reputation for first class construction, and the work is to have the personal attention of our friend, Mr. S. G. Palmer. At present we cannot say when the portion to be built now will be ready for consecration, but we venture to think it will be fairly early in the new year. Very probably this is the first post-war church being built in the diocese, but we do not know for certain if such is the case.

From the Parish Magazine, August 1921





Interior of tin

THE TRIUMVIRATE of Alice Moor, William Allen and Edward Warren continued to press forward with the church. But the coincidence of three forceful personalities gave rise to tensions. These showed themselves particularly as the day scheduled for consecration approached. Understandably Alice Moor wanted this to take place on 31 May, the anniversary of her husband's death. Equally understandably Edward Warren wanted to be sure everything would be ready.

The architect was worried about delays in ordering the Altar. In April 1922 he wrote to Fr Allen asking for definite authority to order this.

"There is not a moment to lose, and I am very much afraid that, with our best efforts, we shall hardly be in time to finish by the 31st of May. It is most unfortunate that the date for the opening was not fixed after full consultation with myself, and further unfortunate that it was at least two months ahead. I

am doing my best to get everything done."

Despite this last minute panic everything was ready for the consecration on 31 May 1922.



Laying the foundation stone; Mrs Moor is in the black hat





Alice Mary Moor





Trains in Preston Park Station, 1907







#### A new church

ON 31 MAY the first stage of building, the four bays of the nave, was consecrated by Bishop Burrows, the Bishop of Chichester. The events were described in the June issue of the Parish magazine.

We presume to think that some people in years to come will like to know something about the opening of our beautiful new Church. We will tell them how our Bishop had called the whole diocese to a "week" of prayer and self-denial for the needs of the Church of England as a whole and for this diocese in particular. This period of Prayer began on the 4th Sunday after Easter, and from that day onwards until the Wednesday after Ascension Day the Holy Eucharist was offered daily in the Iron Church with special intentions for the Church's several needs. There were held also little gatherings for Prayer each night and numbers of people proved that they did care about the Church as a whole, and although there was an air of expectation because the New Church in the parish was nearing its Consecration day, the people gave of their substance and the quota (about £25) was raised in the ten days. This we mention, not as a boast, but in thankful spirit only.

Then we will say something about the last Sunday in the little Iron Church that had been our spiritual home for nine years. It was a memorable day. Joy mingled with sadness, tears of farewell to a dear little Church welled up from hearts full of joyous thanksgivings to God for all His goodness in this parish.

After the blessing on that Sunday night we sang the Te Deum with all our hearts, but we knelt for the last four verses because in them was just the note of penitence that we sinful folk needed. "O Lord, in Thee have I trusted, let me never be confounded." The last Celebration of the Holy Mysteries in the little Church was at 7.30 on Wednesday 31st, and at that service we remembered before God the faithful departed, especially Gerald Henry Moor, formerly Vicar of Preston, who passed to his rest May 31st 1916. We also mentioned Edwin Eden, our first Churchwarden. We felt this service was a conclusion to the chapter of our history at the little Church that would commend itself to all.

Church of the Good Shepherd Parish Magazine, June 1922





Procession down Dyke Road from the Tin Church at dedication of the new Church



Jill the new Church really be ready for consecration on May 31st, was the question many were asking with some misgivings during the first fortnight in May. The answer has been given. It is sometimes said of the British workman that he will "go slow" and nothing can hurry him. Our experience of the men employed in this instance gives a flat denial to such a generalisation. One and all worked with a will, and the miracle happened. We desire to thank them very much indeed for all the work they have done. At 7 p.m. on the day all was ready. At 8 p.m. the Church was packed, and a large number were waiting outside to witness the arrival of the procession of Clergy and choir, arriving from the old Church. Fortunately, the weather was perfect. There was no wind, and it was warm. At the S.W. door a petition was read and delivered to the Bishop praying him to consecrate and set apart forever the new Church given as a free will offering by Alice Mary Moor to the glory of God and in memory of her husband. This petition was signed by the Vicar of Preston, the Churchwardens of Preston, the Priest in Charge and Churchwardens of the Good Shepherd.

After the reading of the petition the Bishop said, "I am ready to proceed to the consecration," and immediately the Choir and Clergy began a circuit outside the Church, reciting Psalms 68, 84, and 132, returning again to the S.W. door, which was locked. Then the Bishop knocked three times with his staff, saying "Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lift up ye everlasting doors and the King of Glory shall come in." When the reply from within had been given, and the Bishop had made answer, the door was thrown open, and the impressive Consecration service proceeded with quiet dignity and most impressive ceremonial. It must have been a stubborn heart that was not uplifted by it too. We refuse to think that anybody present was not moved by what they saw and heard the prayers they said, the hymns they sang so lustily, and the Bishop's sermon so wonderfully delivered.

Thus ended a historical day, but the Consecration was not yet complete, for there was to follow next morning at 7.30 the first Holy Eucharist. A goodly number came together for this, and so the Church of the Good Shepherd, Preston, Brighton, was duly consecrated and established, and a new life had begun.

Church of the Good Shepherd Parish Magazine, June 1922

The dedication of the first part of the new building marked the start of five years of hectic activity. In November 1922 Gerald Moor's vision of a new Church and Parish was complete when a new Parish was formed centred on the Church of the Good Shepherd. With a population of 4,000, the new Parish ran from the west side of Preston Park station, and included the Grammar School, Hove Recreation Ground and Park and Goldstone Waterworks.



THE chancel and other additions which complete the Church of the Good Shepherd, Brighton, were last night dedicated by the Bishop of Chichester. This service, denoting the fulfilment of a long desire, was attended by over 500 people, and was of an impressive character.

The church is a memorial to the Rev. Gerald Moor, who as Vicar of Preston, did a great work in clearing off the debt of his own parish church, founding the parishes of St. Matthias and St. Alban and appointing the Rev. W. J. R. Allen to develop the work in the Dyke Road district.

From the Sussex Daily News 24 June 1927

# PLACE FOR THE WORKMAN

Mrs. Gerald Moor was in last night's congregation which overflowed into the Lady Chapel. Workmen who had been engaged in building the church, occupied places behind the choir stalls.

Two processions marked the opening of the service. One was from the western end of the church, and consisted of the male choir and about 15 clergy, preceded by a Crossbearer. The other, which came from the vestry just outside the Chapel of Remembrance, was the more impressive. It consisted of the churchwardens, Messrs. E.

A. Wilson and M. C. Perry, the vicar, the Rev. W. J. R. Allen, and his curate, the Rev. W. A. E. Westall, the Vicar of Brighton, the Rev. F. C. N. Hicks, D.D., the Archdeacon of Lewes, the Ven. H. M. Hordern, Dean Hannah, the Chancellor of the Diocese, Mr. Kenneth M. Macmorran, M.A., L.L.B., and the Registrar, Mr. G. Ashley Tyacke, both bewigged with the Apparitor, the Bishop, in glowing cope and mitre of green and gold, and the Bishop's Chaplain, the Rev. Percy Leonard, Vicar of Chidham and late curate at the Church of the Good Shepherd.

#### GLAD MUSIC OF BELLS

The latter procession visited all the new parts of the church in turn for the dedication of the additions after Mr. Wilson had formally presented a petition to the Bishop. Immediately after the dedication of the bells, a peal was rung by a band of ringers from St. Peter's and they returned to their task at the close of the service until the whole neighbourhood rang with the glad music of the bells.

# SENTENCE OF CONSECRATION

At the order of the Bishop, who had seated himself in his chair, the Sentence of Consecration was read out

by the Chancellor, and this the Bishop signed, afterwards declaring:-"Good People, I have now signed the Sentence of Consecration of this Chancel, and I now declare it to be dedicated henceforth to the glory of God, under the title of the Good Shepherd, and in memory of Gerald Moor, Priest, and I direct that the document be enrolled and preserved in the muniments of the Registry of this Diocese".

The Bishop, in the course of his remarks from the pulpit, particularly commended the collection, which after the deduction of the Consecration expenses, would go to the St. Wilfrid's Building Fund. They had experienced a generosity of a striking sort; they had been given a church of beauty and glory, in more ways than one, and it was only right that, as a kind of thanksgiving, they should give towards the building of another church in a parish close by, which was so ill provided at present with a proper place of worship. "Freely ye receive, freely give."

The Bishop went on to point to a church like that as a standing witness of the truths of the faith, and to translate the additions which had been made into terms of inspiration and instruction.



#### The church is finished

**To THOSE** who had worshipped in the old tin church, the new church which was dedicated in the late spring of 1922 must have seemed enormously roomy. But the plans that were being formed by Mrs Moor, Fr Allen and Edward Warren demanded grander things.

In May 1925 the Parish magazine reported that Mrs Moor had "accepted the contract tendered by Messrs. Packham, Sons and Palmer, for the completion of the East end of the Church and to know that the work is to go forward at once. This will mean the addition of one more bay to the Nave, together with a Chancel, Lady Chapel, Vestries and Organ chamber. It is also hoped to add a small chapel on the North Aisle, to be called The Chapel of Remembrance, and it is intended to place the parish war memorial, whatever form it may take, either inside or in conjunction with this little chapel." This is now known as the Holy Redeemer Chapel.

Finally in July 1925 agreement was reached for the addition of a Tower.

"This is to be built in the south-west corner of the Church, and will be about 60 feet high."

To complete the final phase of the building Mrs Moor provided eight stained glass windows. The Sussex Daily News described the dedication service which took place on 23 June 1927.

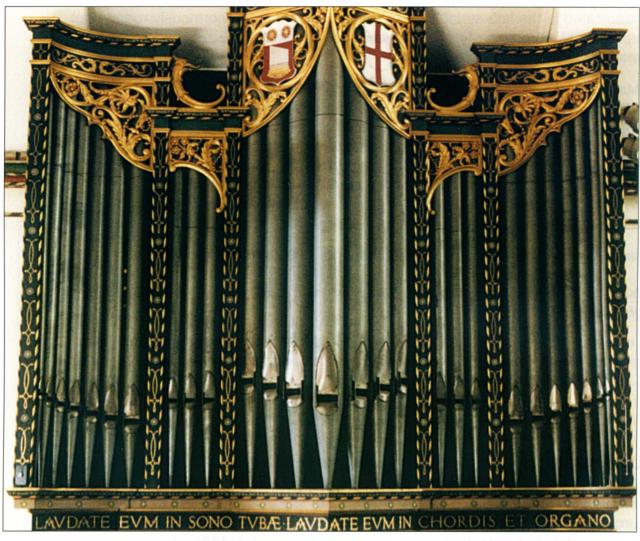
ALICE MOOR had a further act of generosity to bestow on the Church before she died in October 1936. When she first acquired the site in Dyke Road she had purchased sufficient land for the Church and vicarage. Later she bought the adjoining site for a church hall. The congregation had raised substantial funds towards the building, but she too contributed generously. She was present on 15 July 1936 when Major Tyron, the Postmaster General, opened the new hall.

Fr Allen reports that "It was then noticed by those who knew her best how poorly she was; but a holiday in Scotland had been arranged, and with her doctor's full consent she travelled to Pitlochry. It was soon quite evident that she was getting worse, and indeed was so seriously ill that her return home was made only just in time. It was the writer's sad privilege to be with her almost every day for nearly a month before she died."

At her memorial service, the Bishop of Chichester, Bishop Bell said:

"She was, besides, a generous supporter of the Church in all sorts of ways. Many a tired, hard-working parish priest has had help and encouragement from her for his holiday, or a liberal and cheering patronage at his sale of work or his fete - and not priests alone but workers of all kinds. As someone said 'Mrs Moor was a great little lady."





The Blacking Organ case



#### Music

RIGHT FROM the start Mrs Moor was determined that music should be an important part of Church life at the Good Shepherd. Design of the choir stalls formed an integral part of Edward Warren's plans for the second phase of the Church building. In September 1926 he wrote to Fr Allen with designs for choir stalls giving "three clergy seats, slightly raised above the Chancel floor, six seats for Men with space for an occasional seventh, and eight seats for boys, that is to say normal seating for a choir of 12 men and 16 boys..... This should, I think, answer all your requirements, and will exactly fit the space at my disposal."

At the same time approaches were being made to Harrison and Harrison of Durham, one of the world's most famous organ builders. They were asked by the Churchwarden, A E Wilson, for a specification for an organ costing £1,000, a considerable amount of money for an organ for a Parish Church. Even at this cost only an instrument with three stops could be provided.

Both Mrs Moor and Fr Allen underestimated the time that so complex a project as the installation of the new organ would take. Modifications would be needed to the Chancel area to accommodate the 16ft and largest pipe; and there was considerable design and planning needed.

Despite these delays Fr Allen pressed ahead with plans for music in the church and appointed Norman Richards "to take charge of the organ" from 1 January 1927. The Parish magazine reported:

"We hope men and boys will come forward and put themselves under Mr. Richards' training and direction for the high purpose of leading the songs and praises for the worship of the Most High. The Vicar is anxious to avoid unnecessary rules and "red tape" for members of the choir, but it must be understood that all adults must be full members of the Church of England and the boys to have been baptised. Boys of about 8 years to 10 are asked to signify their names (parents' consent being gained) to the Vicar in the first instance. Men wishing to join the choir will kindly interview Mr. Richards at the Church or by appointment with him elsewhere. Cassocks and surplices will not be provided until the Chancel is complete."

In early 1928 the first stage of the installation of the organ was complete and it was dedicated in February of that year. Norman



Richards continued as organist and choirmaster to see the organ's final completion in 1939 as a 16 stop two manual instrument. At the same time the instrument was installed in its present case which was designed by Randoll Blacking, who had succeeded Edward Warren as church architect. Blacking was considered one of the finest church architects of his day and was architectural consultant to Salisbury Cathedral.

The Church has continued the tradition of fine music with its organ and choir taking their central part in services and with regular concerts. Two examples stand out in recent years. In February 1983 a fine performance of Britten's Noyes Fludde was staged. During March 1992 the church was packed when members of the choir were joined by friends to perform "From Pharaoh to Freedom" by Roger Jones.



Harry Parry, the Church's second organist, and members of the Choir





The sanctuary is transformed into the set of "From Pharaoh to Freedom"



#### The Bells of the Church of the Good Shepherd

Bell	Weight	Inscription
Treble, F	4cwt.2qrs.24lbs	Prosperity to this Church and Parish.
2nd, E	4cwt.3qrs.16lbs	Glory to God in the Highest, and on earth peace, goodwill towards men.
3rd, D	5cwt.2qrs.22lbs	May God bless all whom we do call.
4th, C	5cwt.3qrs.10lbs	The rich and poor meet together.
		God is the Father of them all.
5th, B	7cwt.0qrs.25lbs	Awake my soul and with the sun, thy daily stage of duty run.
6th, A	8cwt.3qrs.4lbs	For the honour of God and the use of this Church these bells were raised
7th, G	11cwt.0qrs.24lbs	A.D. 1927
		George V. R.
		Winfrid, Bishop of Chichester
		Julius Hannah, Dean of Chichester
		William J.R Allen, first Vicar of this Parish
Tenor, F	13cwt,2qrs,16lbs	The Reverend Gerald H.Moor
		Prebendary of Colworth in Chichester Cathedral
		Vicar of Preston, 1905 - 1916
		Alice M. Moor, his wife.

Above the inscription on the tenor bell is a relief of the Good Shepherd with a lamb.

For those who have long forgotten (or never learned) a system of weights that included hundredweight, quarters and pounds, the treble bell weighs in at 695Kg and the tenor at 240 Kg



The Revd. W.J.R. Allen and Mrs Gerald Moor, 1927



#### The Bells

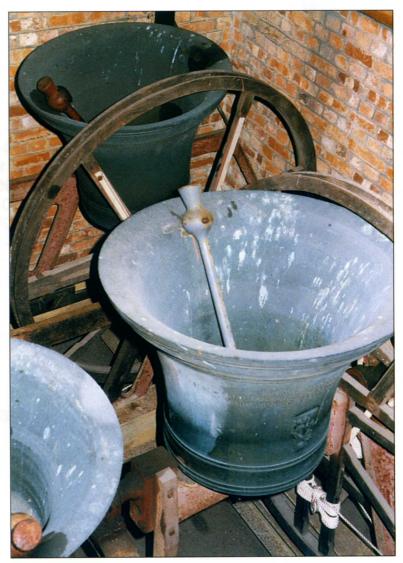
**THE EIGHT** bells in the tower of the Church of the Good Shepherd were cast by Mears and Stainbank, one of the country's leading bell founders, at their Whitechapel Bell foundry. They were installed in the newly-completed 60ft bell tower in early 1927 and "opened", that is given their first ring, at the service on 23 June 1927 by ringers from St Peter's, Brighton.

The bells are cast in bell metal - 23% tin and 77% copper. They are tuned to an octave on the "Simpson five tone principle". The bell ropes are 55ft long leading to a partially counter-balanced headstock which helps the ringers.

Originally there was no sound baffle between the ringing chamber and the belfry, so that ringers were deafened. In 1935 a false ceiling was installed in the ringing chamber to solve this problem. The first tower captain was Stanley Armstrong who kept this office for nearly 50 years until 1980.

For most of the war the bells, in common with those of churches throughout the land, were silent. But they were rung once to celebrate victory at El Alamein and occasionally during 1943 and 1944. On 8 May 1945 the bells joined in peals across the country to announce the surrender of Nazi Germany.

Probably the most celebrated peal in the tower was when the bells were rung to commemorate the life of Winston Churchill on 26 January 1965. The muffled peals of "grandsire triples" lasted over two and three-quarter hours and involved 5,040 changes. Other notable peals were rung on 10 September 1927 and 5 August 1929. In 1986 the tower's first quarter peal was rung to celebrate the 25th wedding anniversary of Janet White and her husband Geoffrey, then Vicar of the Good Shepherd.



The Bells of the Church of the Good Shepherd.



#### Other Clergy

The Church of the Good Shepherd is fortunate to have been served by many other clergy appointed either as assistant curate, assistant priest or parish deacon. Among these are:

P. Leonard (1923-1926)

W.A.E. Westall (1926-1930)

W.R.L. Palmer (1930-1933)

T. Jeffreys (1933-1935)

J.W. Reeves (1935-)

M.T. Wisdom (1940-1942)

J.E. Dieterlé (1942-1944)

J. Brown (1944-1948)

M. Hewlett (1948-1951)

R. Exon (1952-1953)

R.A. Pugh (1954-)

I.R. Phelps (1960-1962)

D.J. Cooke (1962-1964)

G. Grant (1968-1976)

C.B.Fletcher-Jones (1981-1984)

N. Greenfield (1985-1988)

M. Leppard (1991-1993)

R. Eke (1990...)

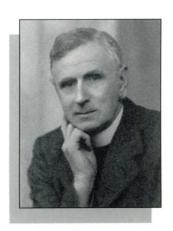
G. Low (1992-1996)



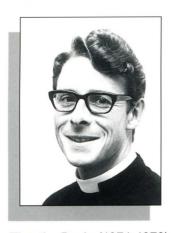
# Clergy

#### **Vicars**

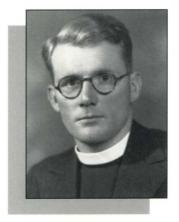
Fr Allen's tenure as Vicar took the church to its 25th anniversary in 1947. The Rev Jonathan Hills and Fr Chisholm saw the Church through to 1971. Timothy Bavin who succeeded them as vicar went on to become Bishop of Portsmouth. Following Ricard Eyre's time as vicar, Geoffrey White, latterly a Canon of Chichester Cathedral, served until his retirement in 1993.



William J.R. Allen (1922-1947)



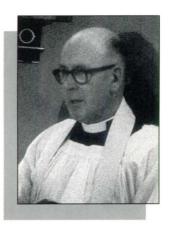
Timothy Bavin (1971-1973)



R.J.(Jonathan) Hills (1948-1959)



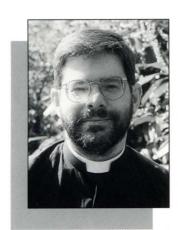
Richard M.S. Eyre (1973-1976)



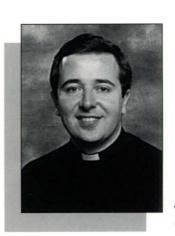
Cecil F. Chisholm (1959-1971)



Geoffrey G. White (1976-1993)



Paul M. Collins (1994-1996)

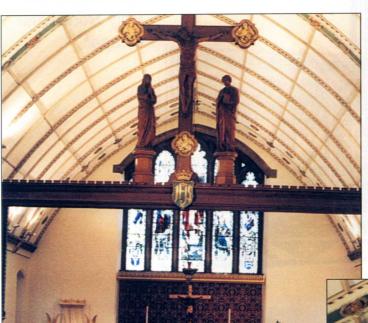


Jonathan D.F. Greener (1996...)





# A pictorial tour of the church today

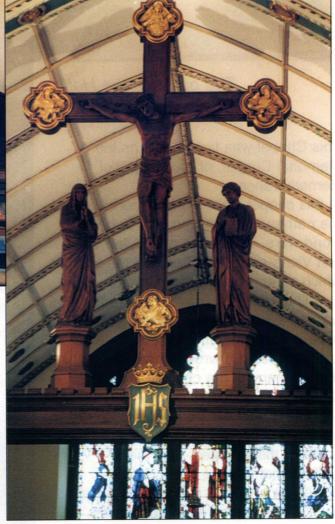


Looking towards the Sanctuary



The Rood Beam and Cross.

The three figures on the Rood were designed by Mr Howard, for the Warham Guild, and carved in Oxford. Edward Warren, the architect, drew the angels himself, and suggested that Mr Lawrence Turner should carve the angels on the beam and the quatrefoils on the Rood Cross.







The Altar and Reredos in the Holy Redeemer Chapel

The gates to the Holy Redeemer Chapel

This Chapel was first known as the Memorial Chapel, or the Chapel of Remembrance.

In this chapel is the War memorial, with the names of those who died in both world wars. The ashes of Fr Allen, the first Vicar, are buried beneath the altar, which came from the 'tin church'.

The architect, Edward Warren, wanted a 'considerable opening to the Aisle in order to admit light to the altar' and suggested a wrought iron screen 'like so many of the chapels in Chichester Cathedral.'

Mrs Moor had the idea of ordering a screen from Italy, of which the architect disapproved. 'It is most unlikely that anyone could design a screen for a church if they have never seen it, and merely from description.' Eventually a compromise was reached with a design for Italianate gates.







#### The Font

The font was given anonymously and was moved from its original position in the 'tin church'. The architect, Edward Warren, would have preferred a new font, but failing this he did suggest that the present font should be left plain.

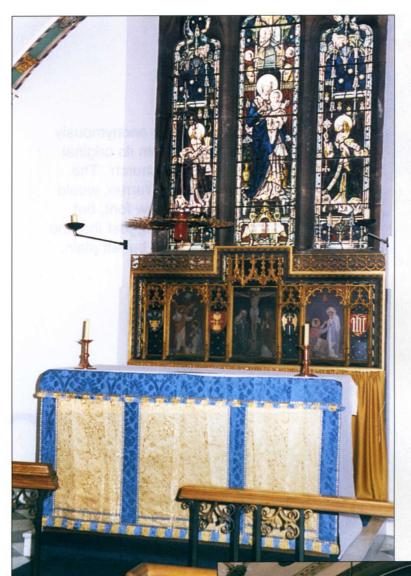
#### The Pulpit

This is reputed to have been used in an army garrison based at Shoreham in the lead up to the First World War



Page 27





# The Window and altar in the Lady Chapel

The Lady Chapel formed part of the second phase of the building of the Church dedicated in 1927. The Reredos was designed by the then Church architect, Randoll Blacking and the three panels painted by well-known local artist, Harry Mileham. The ashes of the wife of Fr Allen are believed to be buried in the chapel.

#### The east window

Mrs Moor chose the subjects for the windows in the Chancel. The East window takes the theme of Jesus the Good Shepherd. Figures in the window are based on parishioners.



# **Acknowledgements**

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And to our own parishioner contributors and the many others who gave us information and loaned us photographs and memorabilia.

The photographs on p10 are © Tony McKendrick-Warden. Copies of these and other early photographs may be purchased from him at 01273 565608

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The editor, Peter Rose, accepts full responsibility for any errors or inaccuracies in, or omissions from, the text. Please let me know of any of these so that they can be incorporated in any future edition.



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