

Tour of the Stained Glass Windows of St Edmund's Church, Roundhay



All Photos courtesy of Leeds Photographic Society

In medieval times stained glass windows were used as visual aids to teach the Christian faith to those who were unable to read – the poor man's Bible. Stained glass continued to flourish in England until the Reformation of the Church in the 1540s when changes in religious outlook undermined the need for sacred arts. Only in the 19th century was there a serious attempt to rediscover the techniques of the medieval glazier.

The stained glass windows in our church have been donated in memory of former members of the congregation. Fourteen of our windows were made by James Powell & Sons, makers of glass since the 17th century. Stained glass production commenced in 1844. This firm played a leading part in the quest to produce a less "flat" and more luminous range of coloured glass, i.e. glass of medieval quality. Their glassworks were situated in the Whitefriars part of London, so their windows were signed with a small monk. See if you can spot the small monk in those windows made by James Powell & Sons.

St Edmund's stained glass windows

Only the Memorial Chapel (built in phase 2 of the building) had stained glass windows fitted before dedication. All the other windows were filled with plain glass described in the specification as "clear or slightly muffled glass in leaded squares with some slight geometrical ornament in leadwork in keeping with line of tracery". There still remains such original glazing in the windows over the servery.

Glossary

Light – one discreet section of a window of any shape.

Tracery – the pattern of stonework found at the tops of many windows.

Predella - the smaller bottom section of a stained glass window.

The windows are identified on the floor plan on page 12. Each window has a two-part reference; E, W, S or N followed by a number. The letter E denotes "east" and W denotes "west", etc.

S11 and N8 West End Authors of the four gospels



In grateful memory of Arthur Craven Churchwarden of this church 1914-31. These windows are placed here by his friends.

In September 1931 Arthur Craven, Vicar's Warden since 1914, died in office. He had been a tireless worker for St Edmund's for many years and as a memorial to him the four "Apostle Windows" at the west end of the church were donated by his friends.

On the west wall in the lobby next to the north door and in the nave near the south porch door are small windows representing the writers of the four New Testament gospels, St Matthew, St Mark, St Luke and St John.

Window S11 The left hand light depicts Matthew, labelled vertically on the left and with his symbol of a man, winged.

The right hand light depicts Mark labelled vertically on the right and with his symbol of a lion, winged.

Window N8 The left hand light depicts Luke, labelled vertically on the left and with his symbol of an ox, winged.

The right hand light depicts John, labelled vertically on the right and with his symbol of an eagle.

Sketch design by James Hogan, cartoon by Erridge, made by James Powell & Son in 1933 at a cost of £150 for the two windows.

W1 The great West Window behind the Font



To the glory of God and in loving memory of Jane Chadwick of Harrogate who entered into rest January 27 1911 Aged 77 years.

This window opening was the first to have the plain glass removed and replaced with stained glass. It was installed in 1912 only three years after the completion of the Nave (Phase 1 of the church). It was the gift of Mr J G Chadwick, JP, of Harrogate, offered to the Church Council in December 1911 to be in memory of his wife who had died the previous January. The window was designed by Victor Milner whose work was very much in the style of the Gothic Revival.

4 lights with tracery.

The window represents God blessing the little children. Christ (in the third light) is shown with three disciples each holding a book; one in the second light and two in the fourth light (thought to be Peter, James and John being those closest to him, but not identifiable).

St Edmund's crown with crossed arrows symbolising martyrdom, a crown of thorns on a cross, scourges representing the scourging of Christ and an orb and cross symbolising Christ's dominion over the world are displayed in the predellae. **Designed and made by Victor Milner in 1912. Cost unknown.**

With your back to the west window proceed down the left hand side of the church.

The stained glass windows on the north side of the nave illustrate the early history of the Church of England. All these windows were reglazed between 1933 and 1963.



N5 King John signing Magna Carta and Saint Hilda

The gift of Lilian Nettlingham with thankfulness to God for the opportunity of 50 years worship and service. November 1963. (Miss Nettlingham was Sunday School Superintendent)

This left hand light of this window depicts King John signing the Magna Carta in 1215.

Magna Carta which means great charter is famous as a symbol of justice, fairness, and human rights. For centuries it has inspired and encouraged movements for freedom and constitutional government in Britain and around the world. But when it was issued by England's King John in June 1215 it was an attempt to prevent a civil war between the king and his powerful barons.

The Bishop (along with 3 barons) seen standing behind the King in this window suggests the Church's influence in this event.

The right hand light depicts Saint Hilda 614-680. Hilda is a Christian saint and the founding abbess of the monastery at Whitby. An important figure in the Christianisation of Anglo-Saxon England, she was abbess at several monasteries and recognised for the wisdom that drew kings to her for advice. In the window there are depicted a nun, a

Bishop and King Oswald with St Hilda in the foreground.

The window was designed by Rupert Moore for James Powell & Son in 1963 at a cost of £640.

N4 St Paulinus and St Augustine preaching to King Ethelbert



In memory of James Oldham who died on 22 April 1939.

The left hand light depicts Saint Paulinus who was sent by Pope Gregory to help Augustine's mission to England. He converted the pagan Edwin of Northumbria along with many of Edwin's subjects and built some churches. One of the women Paulinus baptised was the future saint, Hilda of Whitby. St Paulinus is shown baptising Edwin in this window.

The right hand light depicts St Augustine preaching to King Ethelbert who was the pagan King of Kent and who he eventually baptised.

The small picture below depicts St Augustine meeting the bishops.

This window was designed by James Hogan for James Powell & Son in 1944 at a cost of £275 and was the gift of Mrs Oldham.

N3 St Gregory and the English children and Martyrdom of St Alban



To the greater glory of God and in thankful and ever loving remembrance of Flight Sergeant Adam Desmond Stanley Boult RAF VR Fighter pilot who gave his life for his country on the Burma frontier 16th January 1943. Aged 22 years. This window is placed here by his parents.

The left hand light depicts St Gregory and the English children.

Eight figures are shown including three young people in an urban setting above the inscription "St Gregory and the English children".

Gregory belonged to a rich, noble Roman family but decided to become a monk. In the year 587 he saw some boys offered for sale in the market place in Rome. When he enquired about their nationality he was told they were Angles. "Not Angles, but Angels" he replied. He became Pope in 590 and in 596 he sent Augustine on a mission to England.

The right hand light depicts the Martyrdom of St Alban. Five figures are shown plus one holding a sword aloft in the act of execution. St Alban kneels in prayer awaiting the blow.

Little is known of St Alban, the first English martyr. Bede tells us that a priest, fleeing for his life in time of persecution, came to the house of Alban who was a Roman and a pagan. The priest was given shelter and Alban was converted to Christianity. When the pursuers caught up with the fugitive, Alban helped him to escape and was captured

himself. Because he refused to renounce his Christian faith he was executed by Roman solders during the 3rd or 4th century reputedly in St Albans.

The two predellae display coats of arms - the left hand of Pocklington School and the right hand of the Royal Air Force.

Tracery – In the dominant light the arms of the Boult family – a gold shield with three crosses and a red chevron with silver lion, motto below "Industrie".

This window was designed by James Hogan for James Powell & Son in 1944 at a cost of £275.

N2 The Nativity and Adoration of the Shepherds and Magi



The gift of Marie Ridge July 25th 1948 AMDG (Ad majorem Dei Gloriam – To the greater glory of God)

This window illustrates the Nativity of our Lord and the Adoration of the Shepherds and the Magi. The left hand light depicts the Adoration of the Shepherds. The centre light shows Mary nursing the infant Jesus with Joseph behind; two angels with hands in prayer are in the background above. The third light depicts the Three Wise Men offering their gifts.

In the tracery is the Dove representing the Holy Spirit.

The three panels at the base illustrate the Hymn "All things bright and beautiful" with birds and animals, including a robin, squirrels and rabbits, also flowers and fruit trees, a rainbow, hills and river. Below these panels is the first verse of the hymn.

Designed by Charles E Moore, made by Charles E Moore in 1948. Cost unknown.

E1 The East Window The Last Supper



A thanksoffering to the Glory of God. The gift of Marie Ridge

Here Jesus is shown with his twelve disciples sharing the Passover Meal on the night before his Crucifixion.

One can see four disciples in light 1, two disciples in light 2, Christ in the wider 3rd or middle light, two disciples in light 4 and four disciples in light 5 in which Judas draws aside the rear curtain. In a band below the table are the words "This do in remembrance of me" above plain glass squares. Note that the trestle supporting the right hand of the table is unstable as shown; the stud or bolt is not through the joint.

Above Christ at supper is Christ in glory with the girdle arranged in the form of a red cross, the cross of martyrdom and below his feet the words, "My peace I give unto you". Christ is flanked in lights 2 and 4 by winged angels offering eternal worship. St Michael is depicted in light 1 and St Gabriel in light 5, both named beneath their feet. Note the marks of the nails in Christ's hand and feet.

The tracery at the top shows the Chalice and the Wafer, reminding us of Holy Communion. Just below, the symbols of the four evangelists appear, a kneeling man for St Matthew, a lion for St Mark, an ox for St Luke and an eagle for St John.

Designed by Charles E Moore, made by Charles E Moore installed in 1950 at a cost of approximately £2000.

Memorial Chapel

The windows in the Memorial Chapel were installed around 1925. (The second set of stained glass windows to be installed after the west window in 1912). The dedication of the chapel in October 1925 had been delayed to allow the windows to be fitted.

These windows all follow the theme of the Te Deum, an early Christian hymn of praise.

S2 The Te Deum

To the glory of God in loving memory of Charles Herbert Powell died 22nd February 1921, also of Louise Sarah his wife died 13th June 1925. This window is the offering of Vernon and Ida Powell.

This window was the gift of Mr and Mrs V S Powell in memory of Mr Powell's parents. Mr Powell was Vicar's Warden later on and a vigorous supporter of the chancel project.

The opening words of the Te Deum "We praise thee O Lord: We acknowledge thee to be the Lord" are seen in scrolls carried by angels in the left and right hand lights.

The left hand light contains figures of St Nicholas and St Mary the Virgin (in purple rather than the usual blue) and beneath them St Peter with the keys and St John bearing a chalice.

In the right hand light are figures of St Augustine and St Stephen and below them St John the Baptist and St Paul holding a sword.

The centre light (upper part) depicts Christ in Glory with seraphim behind and above and cherubim at his feet.

The lower part (left) depicts the figure of Christ on the cross and two kneeling angels/women holding a scroll with the words "whom thou has redeemed with thy precious blood". Note that Christ's loin cloth is purple the same colour as Mary's dress, the colour of Lent, suffering and austerity.

The small lights at the top contain the figure of a dove, symbolising the Holy Spirt, flanked by two angels with the words "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts."

Designed by Penwarden, made by James Powell & Son, London in 1925 at a cost of £260.



S3 Te Deum

To the glory of God in loving memory of Edmund Leatherbarrow aged 32 years killed in action in France 1st July 1916 also of William Leatherbarrow aged 19 years wounded at Suvla Bay. Died at sea 21st August 1915.



The left light depicts the figure of St John the Evangelist. Note the red dragon of sin being driven from the chalice by the holy wine of the communion. The right light depicts the figure of Isaiah.

The tracery shows an open book with the Latin inscription "Scripta sunt ut spem habeamus", an abbreviation of Romans chapter 15, verse 4.

Designed by Penwarden, made by James Powell & Son in 1925. The gift of Mrs Fanny Leatherbarrow and her daughters in memory of her two sons.

S4 Te Deum



In thankful remembrance of the devoted ministry of Charles C E O'Connor Fenton MA, first Vicar of this parish, afterwards Vicar of St James the Greater, Leicester.

This window was paid for by public subscription and cost approximately £140. It shows St Edmund, King and Martyr, wearing a crown and carrying arrows and St Aidan holding a Bishop's crosier. The tracery above contains a chalice with the wafer and grapes, symbol of the Holy Communion.

Designed by Read, made by James Powell & Son in 1925.

S5 The St Edmund Window

The gift of Marie Ridge 1968

In this splendid window the story of St Edmund, King and Martyr, the Patron Saint of the parish is illustrated.

Almost nothing is known about Edmund but there are several different versions of the legend of St



Edmund (c. 841–869). This is the version our window depicts.

Edmund was a Saxon prince born in 841 when the Christian Offa was King of East Anglia. Towards the end of his reign Offa made a pilgrimage to the Holy Land staying on the way with Edmund's parents who were his kinsmen. He was so impressed with the young boy that Offa appointed Edmund to be his successor. Offa then continued on his pilgrimage to Jerusalem but died during the return journey. On hearing of this Edmund set sail for East Anglia coming ashore near Hunstanton after being ship-wrecked.

Only 15 years old he was crowned king by Bishop Humbert on Christmas Day in the year 855. Some eleven years later East Anglia was invaded by the Danes and the young king led out his army to meet them. They were defeated and Edmund was taken prisoner but he refused to renounce his faith.

Edmund was then bound to a tree, shot through by arrows and beheaded. The date was 20th November. His decapitated head is said to have been reunited with its body with the help of a talking wolf who protected the head and then called out "Hic, *Hic, Hic*" ("Here, Here, Here") to alert Edmund's followers.

The story is illustrated in twelve scenes in four tiers of three. Window to the east of the pillar Left hand light:-King Offa talking to a monk about building a monastery. King Offa makes the young Edmund his heir. King Offa sets out for the Holy Land. He wears his crown but is dressed as a pilgrim carrying a staff topped with the scallop shell of the pilgrim. Right hand light King Offa dies. (left)

Edmund receives news of Offa's death. Edmund prepares to travel to East Anglia.

Window to the west of the pillar Left hand light The ship which brought Edmund to East Anglia Edmund arrives at Hunstanton and is greeted by Humbert Edmund is crowned King.

Right hand light Edmund fights the Danes. Edmund is taken captive, tied to a tree and shot with arrows. A wolf guards Edmund's head.

Designed by Rupert Moore, made by James Powell & Son in 1968 at a cost of £2400.

The windows on the south side of the nave illustrate subjects from the life and ministry of Jesus Christ and his apostles from the New Testament.

S6 The Epiphany and The Baptism of Christ

To the glory of God and in loving memory of Thomas Maude entered into rest 25th March 1931. This window was placed here by his widow.



The left hand light depicts The Epiphany, the festival when the Church celebrates the visit of the Three Wise Men to the manger at Bethlehem bearing their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Our window (left) shows the three wise men with Mary and the new-born Jesus. Above Mary's head is the star which guided the wise men on their long journey.

The predella below illustrates the Annunciation when the Angel Gabriel told the Virgin Mary she would bear the Son of God. Lilies, symbols of virginity and purity appear in the border.

The subject of the right hand light is the Baptism of Christ. Jesus is shown in the River Jordan. Overhead is the dove, symbol of the Holy Spirit.

The small picture below shows Joseph and Mary presenting the child Jesus at the Temple. Anna (the prophetess) on the left and Mary are shown before Simeon who is holding the infant Jesus.

Designed by Penwarden. The Annunciation is known to have been designed by Harry Stammers. Made by James Powell & Son in 1933 at a cost of £250

S7 Jesus Calls Peter and Andrew and Christ healing the sick

In memory of Maud Christine Rickard. This window is placed here by her father 1936.



In the left hand light Jesus calls Peter and Andrew. Jesus is seen facing Peter and Andrew on their fishing boat hauling on the net. At the top of the light are shown the keys of St Peter, "the word of God" and the cross of St Andrew.

In the panel below Jesus is calling Matthew, the tax gatherer, who is sitting at a table with money bags.

The right hand light shows Christ healing the sick (left). Depicted are two men carrying a third between them and a kneeling woman cradling a child; all are facing Christ standing with His right hand outstretched. At the top of the light are shown the fountain of the living waters and the trees whose leaves are for the healing of the nations.

In the predella is illustrated the scene at the pool of Bethesda with a man lying on his sick bed and a lame man in the background. The centre piece of tracery contains the emblem of the pelican feeding its young with its own blood, a symbol of love.

Sketch design by James Hogan, cartoon by Edmund Hogan, made by James Powell & Son in 1936 for £250.

S8 Christ preaching

In loving memory of Jean Harrison. This window is placed here by her parents 1938.



This window illustrates the Sermon on the Mount. The small picture on the left shows a boy with a basket containing the five loaves and two fishes with which Jesus fed the 5000. The right hand side depicts the resurrected Christ appearing to Peter, Andrew and John on the shore of the Sea of Galilee. In the tracery at the top is a picture of the Virgin Mary and the infant Jesus.

Cartoon for part of the window by Erridge, made by James Powell & Son in 1937 at a cost of £250.

S9 The Crucifixion and Resurrection

To the greater glory of God in everlasting remembrance of Thomas Maude who died 25th *March* 1931. *This window is placed here by his widow.*



The left hand light (left) depicts the Crucifixion with Mary his mother and John standing at the foot of the Cross. In the circles at the peak of the light are the sponge and ladder, the crown of thorns and nails and the pincers and hammer, all symbols of Jesus's Crucifixion. The small picture at the bottom shows Jesus being laid in the tomb.

The right hand light depicts the Resurrection and the small picture below shows Jesus meeting Mary Magdalen in the garden. The tracery at the top shows the Lamb of God, Christ's seamless robe and the cock which crowed after Peter had denied Jesus during his trial.

Designed by James Hogan, cartoon by Harry Stammers, made by James Powell & Son in 1944 at a cost of £275.

S10 Pentecost and Peter Baptising

To the greater glory of God in every loving remembrance of Lucy Maude who died May 1944 in her eighty fourth year.



The left hand light (left) illustrates eleven apostles (the twelve disciples minus Judas) receiving the Holy Spirit in tongues of fire, the inscription below the scene being "They were all filled with the Holy Spirit!".

The predella below shows the Ascension of Christ. The inscription below the scene is "He was taken up". Note his footprint in the grass.

The right hand light shows Peter baptising Roman soldiers with others looking on above the inscription "He commanded them to be baptised".

In the predella below Philip is shown baptising the Ethiopian eunuch on the way from Jerusalem to Gaza with chariot and horses in the background, above the inscription "He baptised him".

The tracery at the top shows the Holy Spirit in the form of the dove, flanked by tongues of fire.

Designed by James Hogan, made by James Powell & Son in 1944 at a cost of £275.



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