

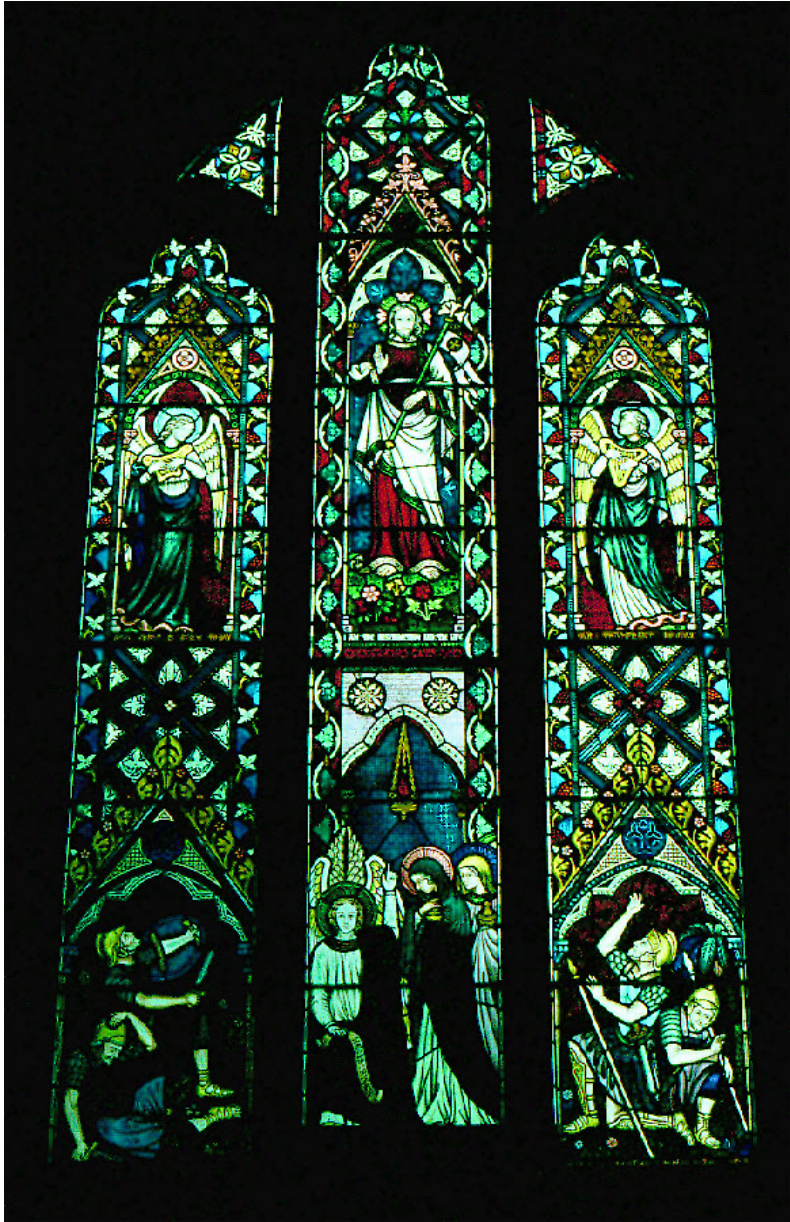
The Stained Glass of St. Leonard, Bretforton



**A GUIDE TO THE WINDOWS IN THE
PARISH CHURCH OF**

**ST. LEONARD
BRET FORTON**

One of the beauties of the Church is its Victorian stained glass windows. There are also fragments of Medieval painted glass in a few of the windows.



East window (a)

This is a copy of the original window which was removed in AD 1855. It is in three panels depicting the Resurrection of Christ. In the central panel is Christ in Majesty, with Mary Magdalene and Mary, the mother of James, carrying spices, and an angel with a banner "He is Risen". At the top are the words "I am the Resurrection and the Life" In the left and right-hand panels are Roman soldiers guarding the tomb and angels above. Below the angels are the words "Jesus Christ is Risen today, our triumphant Holiday". Across the base of the three panels are the words "Since by man came death, by man came also the Resurrection of the dead".

This window is in memory of Lt. J. Collins Ashwin, Lieutenant in the 57th Regiment who fell at the storming of the Redan (Crimea) on June 18th 1855.

In front of the East window is the Reredos carved in wood, in memory of Hannah Shawcross who died on July 22nd 1911, given by her children.

The window is notable, in that it was produced by Frederick Preedy (1820 -1898) the well known church architect and stained-glass designer. Preedy was born in the neighbouring parish of Offenham, before working first in Worcester then in London



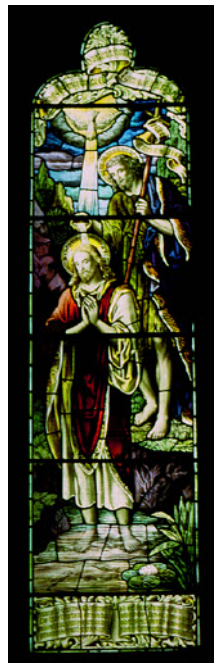
(b)

Two panels. On the left is St. Leonard, deacon and confessor, to whom the church was rededicated in 1295. The window is dated about 1889. On the right is the Virgin Mary. The inscription "To the Glory of God and in memory of the Rev. G. S. Morris, Vicar for 43 years who died June 8th 1889 and of Susan Emma his wife who died December 4th 1877". Erected by subscription. This is a cinq-foil headed window with a diamond shape in the head which contains a crown and initials N.K.

(c)

A trefoil-headed lancet window dated about 1901. Christ being baptised by John the Baptist. Inscription "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased".

Dedicated in Latin to Samuel Hewins from Wolverhampton who came to Bretforton aged 66 with Caroline, his wife, and family. Died 1st July 1901.





(d)

Rounded trefoil window dated about 1896. The window shows Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus travelling to Egypt to escape persecution.

N.B. Pyramids top left. Inscription "Arise and take the young child and his mother and flee into Egypt", and at the base "He took the young child and his mother and departed into Egypt". In memory of Maud, wife of Rev. Belton Young of Lowestoft, daughter of William Ashwin of this parish, born on March 27th 1862. Married in this church September 28th 1881. Died at Ventnor March 31st 1896.



(e)

Cinque-foil headed with diamond, date about 1892. Christ breaking bread with the disciples at the Last Supper.

In the diamond head is a pelican piercing its breast to feed its young with blood; this became the symbol of the sacrifice of Christ on the Cross.

Dedicated to William Henry Ashwin by his neighbours and friends.

Born 11th March 1835.

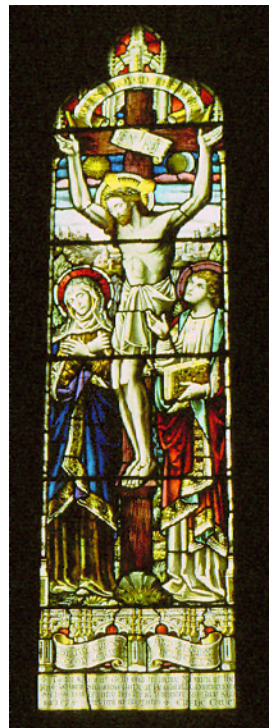
Died 21st February 1892.

(f)

Rounded trefoil. Christ on the Cross. Inscription above Christ's head "God so loved the world". At the base "By Thy Cross and Passion good Lord deliver us".

In memory of

Rev. William Shawcross, Rector of Hewelsfield, Gloucs. 1881-1899 who departed this life at Worcester 20th June 1900 aged 67 and is interred at Bretforton.



(g)



Cinque-foil headed with diamond with King David playing a harp. Two panels with landscapes with angels above and below. Partly painted glass? The two scenes illustrate lines from Psalm 1.

Left panel : The angels' banners read "The Lord knoweth the righteous, his delight is in the law of the Lord", and "Whatsoever he doeth shall prosper". Below the landscape, "He is like a tree by the waterside".

Right panel : The angels' banners read "The ungodly shall perish, he shall not be able to stand", and "His leaf also shall not wither". Below the landscape, "Like the chaff which the wind scattereth".

In memory of William Henry Ashwin born 11th March 1835.

Died 21st February 1892.

"This window is designed to illustrate Psalm 1 and is erected with much affection by his relatives".

The bottom left corner of the window has the mark "AL MOORE Del ex PINXT LONDON WC".



(h)

Date about 1941.
Christ as the Good
Shepherd.

Designed by Paul
Woodroffe of Axminster.
“In loving memory of
Charles Ashwin.”

Born November 26th 1902.

Died April 21st 1932

There are also a number of medieval glass fragments .
The most notable of these is:

(i)

Three panelled window.
Contains some medieval glass
fragments, including the head of
Christ.

A number of diamond-shaped
panels-grisaille (mono- chromatic
patterns on clear glass) which were
used as in fill or background in
Medieval windows.



Other medieval glass includes

(j)

Medieval glass
with the head of a winged angel.

(k)

Medieval glass in the quatre-foil head with a flower
pattern and a face.

Plan of Church

