

All Saints Church, Chedgrave

Visiting : See www.norwich.anglican.org or www.achurchnearyou.com

Address : All Saints Church, Hardley Road, Chedgrave, Norfolk. NR14 6NQ

General Information

The church was built and extended over many years it thus incorporates : a magnificent Norman doorway and tower, a Georgian north aisle, a 19th century (1819) renovation and a 1990s extension!

Although it has few windows the 16th/ 17th century continental glass contained in the east window is particularly attractive and is believed to have originally been made for Rouen Cathedral.

East Window

The majority of the glass in the window dates from the 16th/17th century. Much of it was from Rouen cathedral and it became available for sale after the French Revolution. It was imported by John Christopher Hampp (a Norwich weaver and merchant) and was bought by Lady Beauchamp Proctor who arranged for the glass to be installed here and at Langley & Thurton.

It was originally installed by S C Yarrington (who built his reputation installing foreign glass), however, it was restored c1960 by Kings of Norwich.

The glass is characterised by its brilliant colour and strong figural representation, which reflects the style adopted at Rouen after the time of the Renaissance.

Looking at some of the glass in more detail :

The Tracery Lights : include kneeling donor figures (the lady second from the left appears to have been heavily restored/replaced) and “The Madonna & Child”

First Row (Main Lights) : The first panel illustrates a scene from The Book of Revelations where the Devil appears as a “great red dragon with seven heads.” The theme is carried to the third panel which includes a banner bearing the words “macula non est” – which refers to Mary’s Immaculate Conception.

Second Row (Main Lights) : The outer panels appear to have been heavily restored/replaced. In the central panel we see the saints Paul & Peter appearing to St Dominic (founder of the Dominican Order) in order to and help him interpret scripture, the scene is overlooked by The Madonna and Child.

Third/Fourth Row (Main Lights): Again colours are strong and scenes are dramatic in style.

Chancel South

The window was probably set c1818 when the church was restored. Two small fragments of medieval angels are set in the tracery lights

West Window

The window contains a single roundel depicting a coat of arms consisting of three lions. It appears to be the Royal Coat of Arms of England, first adopted around the turn of the twelfth century after which it remained in place for the next 140 years.

