



Welcome to St Mary and All Saints Church:

This church is Listed Grade 1. Parts of the present church date from the 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries. The earliest known reference to a church on this site (probably a wooden framed building) is from 1130, during the reign of Henry 1.

## 1 FONT

The font has **8** sides, so is **octagonal**. It is used **to baptise people** with water as a sign that they have become members of the Christian church. Eight sided fonts refer to the eighth day, the first day or resurrection. It is made of stone, believed to be Early English, approximately 1340.



## 2 LECTERN

The **Holy Bible** is usually found on the lectern. From the Holy Bible the words of God are read. The bird is an **eagle**. Eagles are thought to be the birds that can fly highest and so nearer to the heavens.

## 3 ROOD SCREEN

A Rood Screen **separates** the nave, where the congregation sits, from the **choir**, where both the choir and the priest sit. It is so called because originally it was topped by a Rood [Olde English 'Rod' = cross], a large carving of Christ on the cross with the figures of the Virgin Mary on one side and St John on the other. At the Reformation churches were ordered to remove the cross and figures. The brass plaque commemorates **World War I**. The Rood Screen was put in place in 1919 and was the gift of Mr J G Baldock as a thanks offering for peace after the 1914-18 war.

## 4 CHANCEL

The table is called the **Altar**. It is the focal point of the church. It is used for **the main Christian act of the Eucharist (Holy Communion)**. It is also called "The Lords Table", "The Holy Table", or "The Communion Table".



## 5 EAST WINDOW

Shown in this window are **St Mark** and **St Luke**. No one knows what the Saints actually looked like. Stained glass windows were the visual aids of their day as many people could not read.

Alpha and Omega are the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet and refer to Jesus? 'I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end.' Revelation 1.11.

## 6 PULPIT

The **Priest** would stand up in the pulpit to give his/her sermon or talk. It is up so high so that **(s)he can be seen by everyone** in the church. **(S)/he can be heard easily** and **(s)he can see everyone** too! Pulpits are made from any building material e.g. wood, stone or metal, and are sometimes highly decorated. (*From the Latin Pulpitum meaning platform or staging*).

## 7 PISCINA IN THE NORTH CHAPEL

The basin is **used for holy washing up – rinsing the communion vessels**. The Piscina is an arched niche or alcove near the altar with a basin carved into it. There is also another piscina near the font.



## 8 NORTH CHAPEL

There are **8** monumental figures or effigies (a carved representation of a person, used as an architectural decoration or monument).

Sir Hugh Willoughby (d.1448) has a **lion** (lion couchant) and Lady Margaret, Margaret Freville, his second wife has **two puppies**.

Look for the bells on the dogs' collars and that one of them is gnawing the hem of the lady's dress?



## 9 MONEY BOX

There are **3 locks** and 3 people would be allowed to have keys.

It has locks on it **to prevent the money being stolen**.

There is another wooden chest in the nave. In the Middle Ages, the wooden chest was the most common item of furniture and would have been used to store fabrics, items of clothing or church valuables.



## 10 SMALL OVAL PLAQUE



The **brass** plaque is in memory of **Colonel Michael Stanhope** (1624-1648). It is decorated with skull and crossbones, above, and an hourglass flanked by angel's wings, below. (The symbols of skull and crossbones are a Reminder of Death (Memento Mori). The angel's wings which are 'down' shows Col Stanhope had an untimely death.) The plaque reads (in transcription) 'Here lies the body of Col. Michael Stanhope who was slain in Willoughby Field (one of the last battles of the Civil War) in the month of July 1648 in the 24<sup>th</sup> year of his age being a soldier for King Charles I.'

## 11 BELL TOWER

The ropes are used **for ringing the bells**. The bells are rung to summon people to the church and for celebrations.

There are **6** bells and they were made at different times. All 6 bells were made at John Taylor & Co, Bell Founders, Loughborough, Leicestershire who are the only remaining bell foundry in the country.



## 12 HASSOCKS

Hassocks may be used when **kneeling to pray**.

They are not to be confused with Cassocks which are garments sometimes worn by clergy and choir members or Haddock which is a fish!

## ENDPIECE

We hope you have enjoyed helping the children with this Trail. Perhaps you can use this time to congratulate the children on completing The Arts Society Children's Trail and discuss with them what they have learned about St Mary and All Saints, Willoughby on the Wolds. If you would like to find out more about St Mary and All Saints, please visit the website of the Southwell and Nottingham Church History Project – [www.southwellchurches.nottingham.ac.uk](http://www.southwellchurches.nottingham.ac.uk)