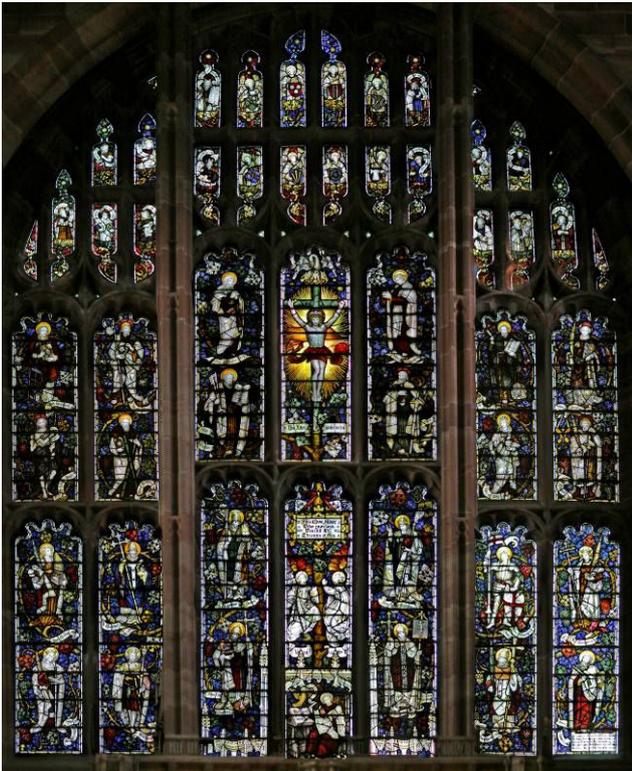


The Kempe Window – name that Saint!

The Editor



Spurred on by a sermon (by Jo), some notes (by Bill) and a determined photographer (Rachel) I have trying to fully document the content, story and intent of our great East Window.

I am now enlisting everyone's help by inviting you all to enter the **All Saints Window "Name that Saint" Competition**. The exact categories and prizes are at the editor's discretion. There will be a special prize (open to those under 16) for the most unlikely explanation of how Rachel managed to photograph St John the Evangelist (in the middle at the bottom) straight through the central tower of the Reredos!

Here's a 'starter for ten':

The window's motif is the verse 'I am the vine, you are the branches' (John 15, verse 5).

In the centre is the vine with Christ in Glory reigning from the cross above it. He has a royal red loin cloth and there is a golden sunburst behind him. The idea of sacrifice is indicated by the pelican in her piety nesting at the top of the cross. At the foot is St John the Evangelist with eagle and bible.

Arrayed round this centre are depictions of many of the greatest figures in Christian life -

including a number with a special place in the growth of Christianity in this country. They are grouped accordingly - for example St Alban, the first English Martyr, shares a panel with St Stephen, the first Christian Martyr.

The saints depicted in the main section (listed in order, top left to bottom right) are:

(Top Row): St Laurence (with gridiron); St James (with pilgrim's staff); St Mary the Virgin; (Christ in Glory); St John (?the Apostle?); St Mark (with winged lion, quill and bible); St Stephen (with palm, bag of stones and book);

(2nd Row): St John the Baptist (with camel skin); St Andrew (with Saltire Cross); St Peter (with keys and text "I will give you the keys..." Matt 16.19); (Christ in Glory); St Paul (with sword); St Mary Magdalene (with ointment jar); St Alban (with palm, coat of arms and sword);

(3rd Row): St Cecilia (with palm and organ); St Theodore of Tarsus/Canterbury (with cross); St Augustine of Hippo (with flaming heart); (vine); St Ambrose (with book and crozier); St George (in armour with dead dragon); St Margaret (Reading a book with dragon underfoot);

(Bottom Row): St Catherine (with palm and wheel); King Ethelbert (with orb and sceptre); St Anselm (with his book "Cur Deus Homo? - Why the God-Man?" and cross); (St John the Evangelist); St Augustine of Canterbury (with banner of the Crucifixion); St Boniface (No obvious symbol); St Matthew (with quill and Bible);.

Above the main section are angels holding shields depicting the emblems of Christ's passion: 30 pieces of Silver, the Scourge, the Pillar and Cord, a Reed Sceptre, the Crown of Thorns, the Nails, the Robe and Dice, the Sponge, the Lance, the Ladder, the Winding Sheet.

On the two sides of these angels are Old Testament characters: Moses (with tablets of stone), Zechariah, Elijah, Jeremiah, Job, Daniel, Ezekiel, Hosea, Solomon, David (with harp) and Jacob.

We would like to establish exactly who's who in the OT section, what all the various Latin phrases are (and where from), more about the symbols and why these particular saints were chosen (eg St Boniface). Examples of individual answers to each type of question are given above.

You can see more information and view a larger picture at www.allsaintshertford.org/eastwindow.php or download an enormous version (30MB) from www.allsaintshertford.org/images/bigwindow.jpg

Good luck!