

Extracts from:
The History of S. Katharine's Church,
Southbourne, Hants
For a quarter of a Century
From its Foundation in 1876 to the Death of
Queen Victoria
And the departure of its Vicar
The Rev. Laurence Robert Whigham, M. A.
To his new Living of Holy Trinity Church,
West Cowes, Isle of Wight in 1902
By
WALTER M. DARE, ST. HELENS, SOUTHBOURNE.

On Sunday, 29th September, 1895, five stained glass windows, placed in the Church the previous week, were dedicated at the festival of S. Michael and All Angels. I here insert an extract from the "Guardian" of May 13th, 1896, an admirable description of them, and others added shortly afterwards:

"A series of stained-glass windows has recently been placed in the Church of S. Katharine, Southbourne, near Christchurch. Hants. by Mr. A. L. Moore, of Southampton Row. The Vicar, the Rev. L. R. Whigham, wished to illustrate the continuity of the Church in the diocese of Winchester by placing figures of Winchester worthies in the single-light windows of the aisles of the Church. In conjunction with Mr. Moore, he made careful search to secure the historical accuracy of the dresses and vestments of each period represented. The sources from which the various figures are taken are mentioned in the following description of the windows, commencing at the south-west end of the south aisle:

(1) S. Haedda, first Bishop of Winchester, A.D. 676. He moved the "Bishop-stool" of the kingdom of Wessex from Dorchester (Oxon) to the Royal city, and took with him at the same time the bones of the first Bishop of Wessex, S. Birinus, who had been consecrated forty-two

years previously. He and Birinus are both canonised. The figure is taken from the statue of the Bishop on the restored screen in Winchester Cathedral, and is habited in full Episcopal vest-ments, with pastoral staff and the "vexillum " suspended underneath the crook, as all the pre-Reformation Bishops of Winchester are shown; the gauntlets, with ring on first finger. The background of each figure is a group of arches, with sky beyond, and a pavement of chequers over a pedestal, with scroll for names and designations. The words "To the glory of God " and the names or initials of the donors are on glass at the bottom of each window. This window is the gift of Miss Burrows, daughter of a former Vicar of Christchurch, in memory of several members of her family.

(2) The next window is a figure of Winfrid, better known as "St. Boniface, the Apostle of Germany," 717 to 756. Born at Crediton, in Devon, he was a monk of the then famous monastery of Nutsall (Nursling), near Southampton, whence he started to evangelise Germany. He was subsequently consecrated Archbishop of Mainz, and was martyred. His memory is held in reverence throughout Germany. He always wore his black habit as a Benedictine monk beneath his Episcopal vestments. This is shown in the window, and also the emblems of his martyrdom - a Bible transfixed by a sword. S. Boniface represents the missionary character in the Saxon Church in Wessex. The window is the gift of General and Mrs Parsons.

(3) To the famous Prior and Bishop of Winchester, S. Swithun, A.D. 852. He was mentor to King Ethelwulf, who first gave legal sanction to the payment of tithes as voluntary offerings to the Church, a practice which had been in use for probably 300 years previously. He was also tutor to King Alfred, as well as Chancellor to the Kingdom; and many of the great King's famous and wise laws were due to S. Swithun's inspiration. The see of Winchester has given more Episcopal Chancellors to the kingdom than any other diocese. Swithun was the first of the eleven Bishops who have been Chancellors; amongst the others were William Gifford, Nicolas Ely, William of Wykeham, Cardinals Beaufort and Wolsey, and Bishop Gardiner (who was the last Bishop of Winchester to hold the Great Seal). The window is the gift of the members of the family of the Vicar and Mrs. Whigham, in memory of their respective fathers, who were connected with the law. The drawing was taken from Winchester College Chapel.

(4) Swithun's famous pupil, Alfred the Great. The swathing on the legs and the circlet crown on the head are characteristic of the period. The King is represented in a tunic, with a regal mantle, orb, and sceptre. The window is the gift of the Misses Swaisland, in memory of their two brothers. The series thus far is representative of the Church (specially in the Saxon kingdom of Wessex) as a united and organised body 350 years *before* there was a united kingdom under Cnut in 1017; and 598 years before the first representative Parliament in 1265.

(5) William of Wykeham, Bishop and Chancellor (1324-1404), immortalised as the founder of our oldest public school, Winchester College, and the college of "Seinte Marie, of Wyncestre, in Oxenford," better known both then and now as "New College," in close connection with each other. William Longe (as his real surname was ; Wykeham was the place of his birth, a village between Bishop's Waltham and Fareham) was not only a man of great and genuine devotion, but was skilled in mathematics, engineering, and architecture, and canon law. He was appointed by Edward III. architect of Windsor Castle at a salary of one shilling a day when at work there, and two shillings a day when on the King's business elsewhere ! In 1367 he was made Bishop, and soon after Chancellor. He passed through much trouble from the hatred of John of Gaunt, but was beloved and trusted by the nation and his diocese. "England," says Dean Kitchin, formerly of Winchester and now of Durham, has seen no better example of high abilities well under control and practical ends prudently attained." The figure is taken from the well-known engraving at Winchester College; the pastoral staff is preserved in the Chapel of New College. The window is the gift of Mr. Theodore Cornish, and bears the well-known motto, *Manners makyth Man.*"

(6) The last in the present aisle is Bishop Lancelot Andrewes, 1618-1626, the famous author of the Devotions. From his learning, activity, and poetry he was called "Doctor Andrewes in the Schools, Bishop Andrewes in the diocese, S. Andrewes in the closet." He is represented in the Episcopal robes of the Stuart period, approximating to our present style, but with the ruff round the neck and the soft round cap of the D. D. (still worn by the doctors at Oxford), which is the usual college "mortar-board" without the stiffening, and which is familiar to us in the pictures of Laud. The mantle of garter blue is worn over the Bishop's robes, the Bishops of Winchester being *ex-officio* Prelates of the Most Noble Order. The pointed beard and moustache give a curious effect to our present

ideal of a Bishop's face; but were commonly worn at the Stuart period by ecclesiastics of high degree. The window is the gift of Mr. and Mrs. G. Reeks, "a thankoffering for family mercies."

On the north aisle there are only four windows, the space of the other two being occupied by the door:

(1) East of the door the first window is Bishop Ken, of Bath and Wells (taken from the Print-room in the British Museum), who was a Prebendary of Winchester at the time of his consecration, 1685 - 1711, famous as one of the seven Bishops who were imprisoned in the Tower, and as the author of the well-known morning and evening hymns. The window is the gift of the widow of Prebendary Malcolm Clerk, who was at his death, in 1893, the senior Prebendary of Wells Cathedral, having been appointed in 1840.

(2) Next to Ken, appropriately comes the other great poet of the English Church, John Keble, Vicar of Hursley, near Winchester, who died at Bournemouth, 1866. He is represented in surplice, black stole, and M.A. hood; the face being drawn from a photograph of Richmond's well-known picture at Oriel College, Oxford. The window is the gift of pupils at the school of Mr. Jones, and in place of the donors' names is put the couplet from the morning hymn of the Christian Year - Help us this and every day, To live more nearly as we pray.

The windows to west of the door are:

(3) Simeon with our Lord in his arms, and the opening words of the Nunc Dimittis on the scroll beneath the figure. It is a memorial window to Mr. John Barnes, an Old man who was respected by all who knew him, and who had always been a regular and reverent worshipper in the Church from its first building. It is placed here by his friends and family. The pose and draperies of the figure are very effective, and the old man's face and head are specially good.

(4) The tenth window, at north-west end of north aisle, and which (with the last-named) is close to the font, is S. Katharine of Alexandria, the Patronal Saint. The figure is taken from Raphael's well known picture in the National Gallery, and has been treated by Mr. Moore with great softness of colouring and yet strength in the face and outlines. It is to be the gift of the children baptised in the font beneath the window; and the inscription is, "To the glory of God and in memory of baptisms in this Church."

(5) The eleventh window is a long lancet, at west end of south aisle, and represents S. Gabriel as the Archangel of the Annunciation.

The deep red (shaded) of the upturned wings, between which is seen the star over clouds in the sky, is very effective. The figure is shown as in the act of moving forward, and bears a lily in the right hand and a scroll with the words, "Ave, plena gratiâ" ("Hail, thou that art highly favoured"), the salutation to the blessed Virgin, in the left. The window is the gift of Mrs. Alfred Birt, of Dulwich, the wife of the architect of the Church, and in memory of her mother, Mrs. Compton, who died in Southbourne a few years ago.

The total cost of these eleven windows was £156 5s.

It is not often that a series of such windows can be put in all at once, and it is believed that the tracing of the continuity of the Church in a diocese, from the earliest down to the present time, in coloured glass windows is possibly unique. The congregation is thus reminded through the eye of the great heritage and lengthy lineage of the Church in the diocese and country at large, and the various phases of her great mission, to witness to the "Faith once delivered to the Saints," through Apostolic order; godly sovereigns like Alfred, evangelisers like Boniface, educationalists and builders like S. Swithun and William of Wykeham, devotional writers like Andrewes, sacred poets like Ken and Keble, with administrators like Haedda.

It is proposed to include Bishop Harold Browne, who consecrated the Church in 1886, in the three or four remaining windows, when the nave is completed."

Bournemouth Guardian, 1st December 1917

St. Katharine's Church.

A friend who wishes to remain anonymous (says St. Katharine's Parish Magazine") has offered two stained glass windows for the north wall of the chancel at a cost of about £170. The subjects are **St. Augustine of Canterbury** and **Archbishop Laud**. A faculty has been obtained for their erection from the Chancellor of the Diocese, and they will be put in place in due course. They are being made by Mr. A. L. Moore, who made the other "historical" windows in St. Katharine's, and will prove a valuable and edifying addition to the church.

Bournemouth Guardian, 10th May 1919

St. Katharine's War Memorial.

"We shall honour our dead by paying cash not by floating a debt," writes the Vicar of Southbourne (the Rev. E. G. Forse), in regard to the war memorial proposed for St. Katharine's Church, and he adds that "we shall certainly not follow the dreadful example of Portsmouth, and hold subscription dances to raise money for such a purpose!" The memorial is to take the form of a tablet with the names of the fallen inscribed thereon and also the filling of the west window with stained glass.

Extracts from

Fifty Years of Southbourne Parish 1876 – 1926

A detailed Chronography

by **EDWARD, J. G. FORSE, M.A.**

Third Vicar of Southbourne-on-Sea, Hants.

In September 1895, the first five stained glass windows of the present series of eleven were placed in the South Aisle. They created great interest in those days, but the whole series of eleven only cost £156 5s. (The West Windows, erected in 1920, cost with the tablets attached £600.) – The [Bournemouth] “Guardian” newspaper of May 31st, 1896, contained a lengthy and eulogistic description of these windows, which, like all the windows in S. Katharine's, I believe, except the Archangel by the Font, were made by Mr. A. L. Moore, of Southampton Row, London. (Future students of nineteenth century art will find it interesting to note how greatly the style of our windows improves from the earlier to the later: and this is the more notable as all the windows were made by the same firm.)

The subjects of the Nave Windows are:

(1) S. Haedda, first Bishop of Winchester, A.D. 676. He moved his See from Dorchester (Oxon) to Winchester, bringing with him the relics of S. Birinus, first Bishop of Wessex.

(2) S. Boniface (or Winfrid), the Apostle of Germany, 717-756 A.D. He was born at Crediton in Devonshire, and became a monk of S. Benedict at Nutsall near Southampton. He was martyred as Archbishop of Mainz-am-Rhein.

(3) S. Swithun, Bishop of Winchester, 852 A.D., and Tutor to King Alfred.

(4) King Alfred the Great.

(5) William of Wykeham, Bishop Of Winchester (1324-1404 A.D.), founder of Winchester College, and architect of Windsor Castle.

(6) Lancelot Andrewes, Bishop of Winchester (1618 - 1626 A.D.), who did so much to promote the practice of Confession in the Church of England.

In the North Aisle,

(7) Bishop Ken of Bath and Wells, who was a Prebendary of Winchester at the time of his consecration (1685 - 1711 A.D.), and was one of the " Seven Bishops" imprisoned in the Tower.

(8) John Keble, Vicar of Hursley near Winchester, who died at Bournemouth in 1866, and is held to have been the actual originator of the " Oxford Movement" in the English Church. (The face is a portrait).

(9) Simeon with the Holy Child.

(10) Our Patroness, S. Katharine of Alexandria.

(11) The Archangel Gabriel.

The other four windows in the Nave represent (S) **Queen Victoria: Queen Bertha.** (W) **The Annunciation.** (N) **Roundell Palmer, Earl of Selborne** : and **George Morley, Bishop of Winchester.**

In 1906, the East Window of the Church was completed in stained glass (only the central light having hitherto been coloured), and unveiled on March 31st at 3.30 p.m. by the Vicar.

1920. The designs for the War Memorial were now finished, and a Faculty for their erection obtained from the Diocesan Registry. The windows represent our Patron Saints : **S. George, S. Andrew, S. Patrick, S. David** : and four Military Saints, **S. Alban**, the Protomartyr of Britain; **S. Oswald**, the Saxon King; **S. Martin**, on whose Festival the Armistice was signed; and **S. Joan of Arc**, in memory of Marshal Foch's command of the joint armies of England and France. (It should be noted (i) that this window was made before her Canonisation, (ii) that the Vicar obtained the Diocesan Chancellor's private approval before making public application to erect this window, (iii) that this would seem to be the first memorial to S. Joan of Arc ever erected in the English Church : almost certainly the first erected with Faculty : there have been plenty since.) All these windows, and the two Marble Tablets, were made by Mr. A. L. Moore's Firm ; the designs for them were made by the Vicar, who took considerable trouble over the historical accuracy of the costumes of the Military Saints. The total cost, including Tablets, was £611.