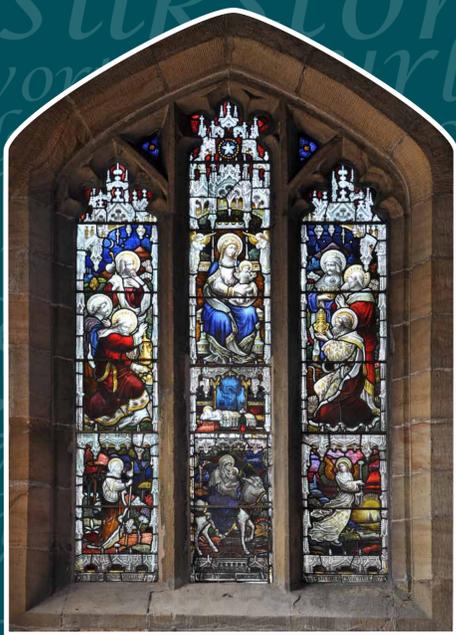


THE STAINED GLASS

ALL SAINTS CHURCH SILKSTONE

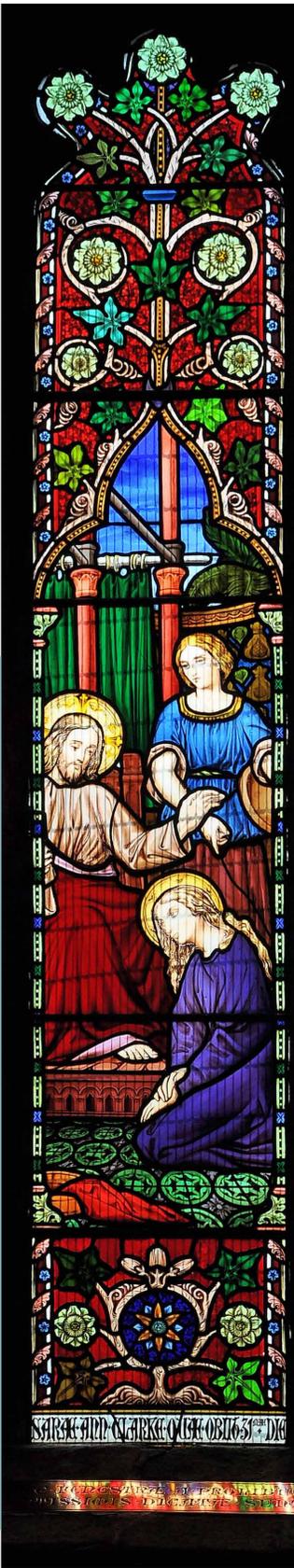


Stained glass has been part of religious imagery in churches since Roman times.

Window glass of glowing tints and intricate patterns in a web of stone tracery have told the Christian story down the centuries. Coloured glass filtering light through scenes telling of the glory of God.

Stained glass is coloured by adding metallic salts during its manufacture, different salts combine with the glass to create different colours. The glass is crafted into windows by arranging small pieces to form patterns or pictures, which are held together by strips of lead. Painted details and yellow stain are often used to enhance the design, the pieces fired to make it part of the glass.

Stained glass is an art and a craft, requiring artistic skill to conceive a fitting and practical design, and technical skill to assemble the piece. A window must fit snugly into the space for which it is made, it must resist wind and rain, and especially in the larger windows it must support its own weight.



Most medieval stained glass was lost following the reformation and during the civil war. In Silkstone the only example of early stained glass is one shield of Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk, and another shield made up of fragments of glass. They are both in the Bretton Chapel.

During the Victorian era, there was a revival of interest in stained glass. Windows were often installed in memory of family members or events. Much of what we see today dates back to that period.

Between 1857 and 1876 seven windows were installed in memory of the Clarke family. The east window is in keeping with the religious thinking of the time, depicting the Passion, Christ in Majesty surrounded by apostles and saints, a bishop and a king. The west window represents the Resurrection, and one in the south aisle shows scriptural events. A north aisle window depicts St Stephen, Christ the Light of the World, and St John. At the top centre is the Clarke coat of arms.



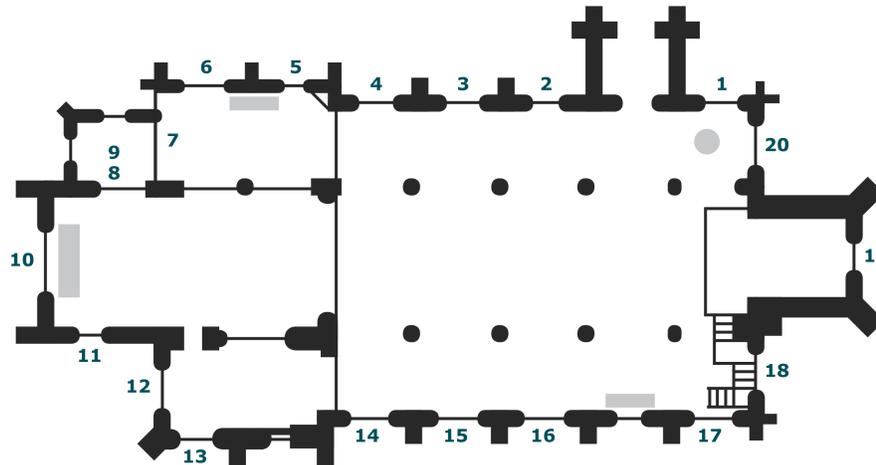
In 1907, a window in memory of Edwin and Martha Teasdale was installed in the north aisle. It portrays Faith, Christ the Word and St Cecelia. Edwin was employed by the Clarkes.

The baptistery window of 1898 was given by the then Vicar, Revd W S Barker, in memory of his mother Mary Ann Barker. It portrays the story of the birth of Jesus and the flight into Egypt.

There is also 21st century stained glass, the community-made Huskar Window and a memorial window of St Francis.



why not pick up more information about our beautiful windows...



As you go round looking at the windows can you find a donkey, a lamb and a dove?

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