

The Church is medieval, much of it having been built in the 14th Century. The tower is possibly the highest in the county and is a prominent landmark for many miles around.

A famous feature of the Church is the medieval graffiti in the base of the tower recording the Black Death and a great storm in the late 14th Century, together with what is believed to be a drawing of Old St Paul's Cathedral.

Guide books are available at the back of the Church where you can discover more historical information and locations of even more graffiti.

For all of us though, this is God's house and it is 'alive' with prayer and worship in His name.

We worship with a varied service pattern throughout the month and have a flourishing children's church called 'Discoverers'.

More detail is shown on notices in the porch.

We hope you enjoy your visit, whether for peace, quiet and prayer or to see the wonderful building with its special character.

God of place and wonder,
we thank you for all those
who have worshipped in this
building over the centuries;
for those who were inspired to build it,
for its witness in the community,
and for those who presently care for it.

Let your spirit inspire us
today in this place
that we may carry your love
in our hearts
and show it in our daily lives.
Amen.

Building and running expenses for St. Mary's are high – about £1700 per week and so we especially thank you for any gift that you may be able to leave and we hope you visit us again.



www.stmarysashwell.org.uk

Free Guide

St. Mary's Ashwell

welcomes you.



*Please use this leaflet while you explore,
and keep it to remember your visit today.*



North Door Banner

This beautiful banner by Percy Sheldrick is of 'Christ in Majesty'. Look for the symbols of the Gospel writers in the four corners and the ChiRo background.



The Medieval Graffiti

Amongst all the Graffiti in this Church this is special. Look carefully: it is believed to be a drawing of St Paul's before the 17th Century fire of London. Look above it for another one - 14th Century this time.



Clerestory windows

There is little old stained glass in the Church because it was all removed by the Puritans in the 1640s. These windows high up in the Church, contain fragments of recovered glass.



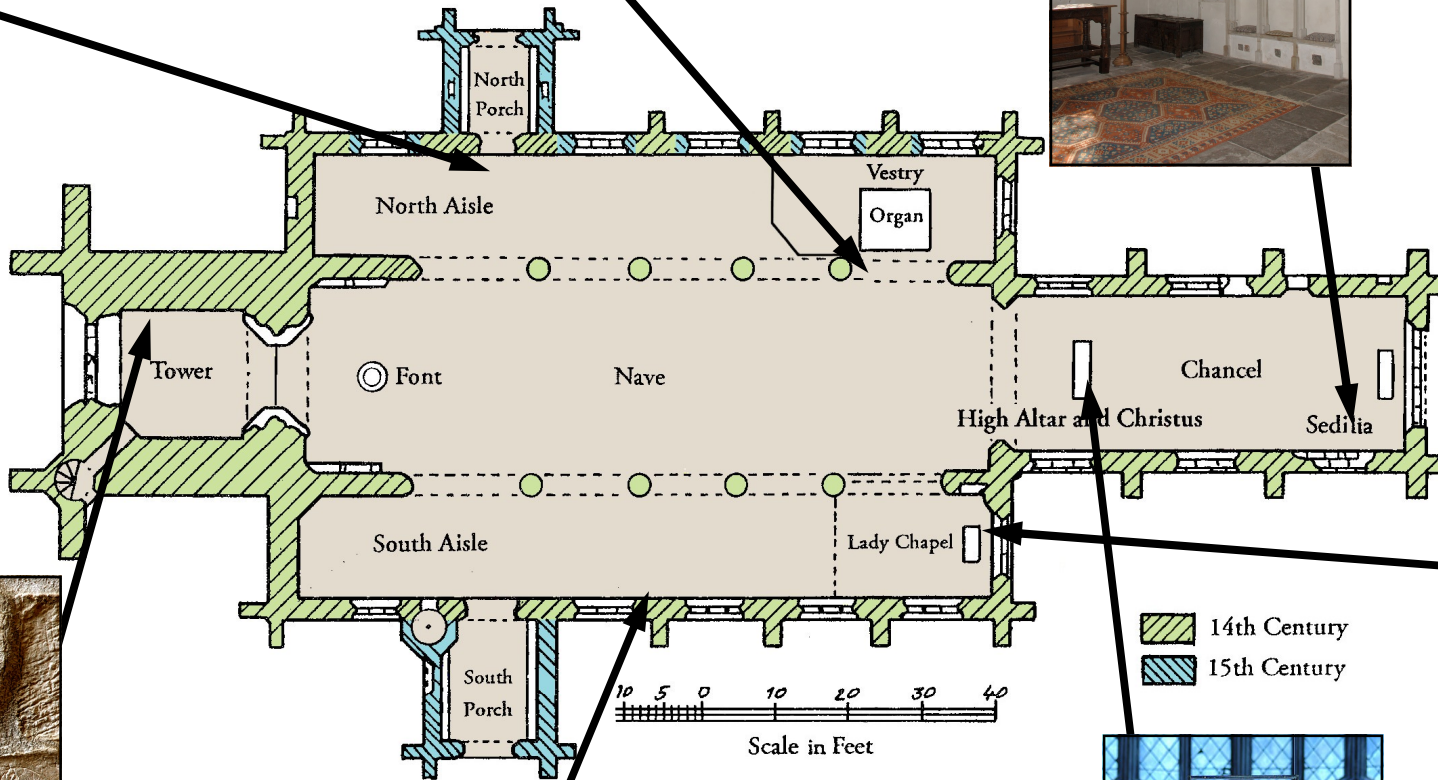
Sedilia

These three seats date from the 14th Century and are there for those officiating at the Altar for the Eucharist. They are close to the original position of the Altar which was under the east window.



Lady Chapel

Enclosed by 15th Century wooden screens, this is a Chapel we use for quiet prayer and small weekday services for all faiths. It contains a statue of Our Lady on the south side.



Clock

This wallclock is a copy of the original supplied by a local clockmaker. It was about 100 years old and stolen in 1997. The replica has a case made in Harlow using old salvaged wood with the clockwork mechanism made in Clunderwen, Narbeth, Wales and was set running in 2001.



The Resurrection Cross

This beautiful cross is by John Mills, internationally known and local sculptor. The material is faux ivoire which pays homage to the medieval use of ivory and alabaster.