

Thursford Church Windows  
PART 2

**2**

# **SANCTUARY WINDOWS**

Harry Woldridge (1845-1917)

**S Mary**  
**S Joseph**

**S Cecilia**  
**S Chad**

**Sir Charles Chad Bt (1779-1855)**

## THE SANCTUARY WINDOWS



There is one window on either side of the Sanctuary beside the East Window. Each has two lights depicting a saint as shown above. Designed by Harry Wooldridge (1845-1917) and made like the East Window by Powell and Sons in 1873. Each will be described in detail.



The view towards the Sanctuary

## WINDOW N.1

### THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Feast-day – August 15

(may be called The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary)

Mary was a young Jewish girl living in Nazareth when a messenger from the Lord announced that she was to be the bearer of the Son of God to the world. Her response "Let it be to me according to your word" revealed her natural sense of obedience to God and her reverence for his Word, showing her worthy to be the bearer of the Word made flesh. This day is now celebrated as the major feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary throughout most of Christendom.

*Exciting Holiness, Canterbury Press, 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1997*

Mary wears a halo and headscarf in blue – Mary's colour. Her other garments are of different colours although the lining of the outer garment is 'Mary Blue'.

She carries in the right hand a lily, a symbol of purity and her usual attribute. Sometimes the stylised lily, the 'fleur-de-lys', is used.



Mary's feet are not covered. Compare with the East Window where she wears red shoes.

The picture is named S MARY. The other Feast-days of the Virgin Mary are:

February 2 – The Purification of the B V Mary  
(The Presentation of Christ)

March 25 – The Annunciation

May 31 – The Visit to Elizabeth (BCP – July 2)

September 8 – The Nativity of the B V Mary

December 8 – The Conception of the B V Mary

December 25 – The Birth of Christ

### S MARY

In this light Mary looks towards the adjacent light which is St Joseph her spouse.

The remainder of the window has a variety of quarries (glass filling in the gaps).





## St JOSEPH of NAZARETH

Feast-day – March 15

In the gospel of Matthew, Joseph is depicted as a good man, a working carpenter, who trusted in God. He received God's messenger who shared with him God's will for him and for Mary, to whom he was engaged to be married. Luke's gospel describes how Joseph took the new-born child as if he were his own. He was with Mary when, on the fortieth day after the birth, Jesus was presented in the Temple, 'where every first-born male is designated as holy to the Lord'. The adoption of Jesus by Joseph also established Jesus in the descent of David, to accord with the prophecy that Israel's deliverer would be of the House and lineage of David.

*Exciting Holiness, Canterbury Press, 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1997*

Like the adjacent light St Joseph wears a Mary blue halo. His outer garment has a blue exterior with an orange lining. The under garment is green. This is the same range of colours as S Mary but differently arranged.

Joseph, with his bearded head slightly bowed, looks to the Blessed Virgin Mary and his left hand also points that way.

He characteristically holds a stick (wood for a carpenter!) which in this case has a rather productive branch.

He has bare feet.

S JOSEPH is clearly named

Also in the New Testament is Joseph of Arimathea who recovered the body of Jesus after the Crucifixion and arranged for its burial. He is not commemorated in the Church of England but is in the Church in Wales on July 31.

**S JOSEPH**

## WINDOW S.1

### ST CECILIA

*Martyr at Rome, c.230*

Feast-day – November 22

Cecilia was one of the most revered martyrs of the Roman Church, but the only thing we know for certain is that at some point in the second or third century, a woman called Cecilia allowed the Church to meet in her house in Trastevere in the city of Rome and that subsequently the church erected on that site bore her name. She was remembered as a brave woman who risked giving hospitality to the Christian Church when to do so was to court censure and possibly death. According to a tradition that can be dated no earlier than the fifth century, she converted her pagan husband and his brother to the faith, both of whom were martyred before her. She is honoured as the patron saint of musicians.

*Exciting Holiness, Canterbury Press, 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1997*

Cecilia wears an halo and carries in her right hand a small organ.



Her feet are uncovered.

**S CECILIA**



## WINDOW S.2

### ST CHAD

*Bishop of Lichfield, Missionary, 672*

Feast-day – March 2

Chad was born in Northumbria, the youngest of four sons, all of whom became both priests and monks. They entered the monastery on the isle of Lindisfarne and were taught by St Aidan. Chad's brother Cedd had founded the abbey at Lastingham and, on his brother's death, Chad was elected abbot. During the confusion in ecclesiastical discipline between the Celtic-oriented, Anglo-Saxon hierarchy and the pressure from Rome for conformity, Chad became Bishop of York for a time. He graciously stepped back with the arrival in Britain of Theodore, who doubted the validity of indigenous consecrations. This was eventually rectified and Chad became Bishop of Mercia, a huge diocese the centre of which he moved from Repton to Lichfield. Chad travelled extensively and became much loved for his wisdom and gentleness in otherwise difficult situations. The plague was prevalent at this time and Chad died on this day in the year 672.

*Exciting Holiness, Canterbury Press, 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1997*

St Chad wears an halo and because of his episcopal office a mitre.

About his neck he wears a gold appavelled amice.

He carries a crozier. He wears episcopal gloves – chirothecae.



His undergarment is orange and would normally be a black cassock. Then there is a rather short appavelled alb (the appavel at the right wrist may be seen).


A green chasuble with decorated blue orphreys and a blue lining completes the eucharistic vestments.

**S CHAD**



### Comment

The window on the north side of the Blessed Virgin Mary complements the reredos above the altar and is here with St Joseph. On the south the reason for St Cecilia and St Chad is less clear. Perhaps the latter is because of the great benefactor of the church, Sir Charles Chad Bt. During the Victorian restoration The Chad Chapel was created, raised to a higher level to accommodate the crypt mausoleum beneath.

	
<p>The raised Chad Chapel</p>	<p>To the GLORY of GOD and in MEMORY of SIR CHARLES CHAD THIS CHVRCH was RESTORED 1865 Looking from The Chad Chapel into the South Aisle of the Nave</p>

**Sir Charles Chad Bt** (1779-1855) was born on 24 April 1779. His father was Sir George Chad, 1<sup>st</sup> Baronet (1730-1815), who matriculated at Christ's College Cambridge in 1748 and was admitted to Lincoln's Inn in 1749. He held the office of Recorder of Lynn from 1769 to 1794. He married Sarah Rowles (b.1752) in 1775, inherited Pynkney Hall, East Rudham, Norfolk in 1781, and created 1<sup>st</sup> Baronet Chad of Thursford in the County of Norfolk on 28 July 1791. He died on 24 November 1855. There were eight children and Charles Chad was the second son. The older brother born in 1778 died when he was 15, in 1793. Charles married Lady Anne Turnour (1785-1832) on 14 June 1810 at St Mary's Church, Chiddingfold, near Godalming, Surrey. There were no children. He became the 2<sup>nd</sup> Baronet on 24 November 1815. Lady Chad died on 2 February 1832, aged 46. He died on 30 September 1855, aged 76. The Barony then became extinct.



Pynkney Hall