


A Guide To
St. Cuthbert's Church
DARLINGTON


A Description of the Stained Glass Windows in Saint Cuthbert's Church, Darlington

As you enter the Church, the windows on your left or Gospel side of the Church depict incidents from the life of the Patron Saint, Cuthbert. Commence looking at the windows from the front or Sanctuary end of the Church.

THE QUINLIN WINDOW

This window was given by an anonymous donor, to the memory of a one time Rector of this parish, Lennard Sydney Quinlin.

The subject is the conversion of St. Cuthbert.

Cuthbert lived in the middle of the seventh century, and is a very well documented personality of the early church in England.

This window depicts the dramatic conversion of Cuthbert, a Tweed Dale shepherd lad keeping watch on the banks of the Landor. One night, in a vision, he saw the soul of St. Aidan transported to heaven by angels. In the morning he resolved to become a monk. This was in A.D.651.

Small fragments of hand made glass in many hues gives the window a mosaic effect, and change the colourings throughout the day. The treatment is contemporary and a radial effect provides the glory surrounding the transporting of St. Aidan's soul, hands and wings convey the effect of the angels. A Shepherd's crook is at St. Cuthbert's feet, and the vivid greenery of English fields is shown in the vibrant glass.

The hopper window, below, holds the Diocesan badge of the Archdiocese of Brisbane, from which Father Quinlin came to this Parish

EDMONDSON WINDOW

St Cuthbert is depicted as a monk carrying a pastoral staff; with the Cross of St. Cuthbert set in the centre of the crook.

The Cross is still in existence and is a seventh century of Northumbrian gold alouisonne., As he was a shepherd before his conversion, and was a Bishop prior to his death, the pastoral staff is especially appropriate and significant.

St. Cuthbert joined the monastery of Melrose, after his conversion, and in the window his head is raised as a reference this conversion.

The great early English historian, The Venerable Bede, speaks of St. Cuthbert "Cuthbert was so skilful a speaker and had such a light in his angelic face".

During his life he retired to one of the Farne Islands, as a hermit, and this is represented by the monastic cell with the Celtic Cross on the hillside set on an island.

At his feet are two otters, based on the legend that at Evening Prayer, along the shore, he used to bless them.

The eagle carrying the fish in its beak illustrates another legend, when St. Cuthbert and a young lad shared a fish which the eagle had caught by the river.

The family Edmondson gave this window in memory of their parents, both of whom rendered, in their lives, great service to God and His Church.

The hopper window contains the Diocesan Badge of Durham, where Cuthbert was buried, and where his remains still are enshrined. The Cross in the pastoral staff in the window, is still in the treasury of the Cathedral.

The Bishops of Durham were once Princes Palative, hence the Coronet and Mitre.

THE TUKE WINDOW

This window is quite unique in many ways and is a thank offering from Mr and Mrs John Tuke, for many mercies they received during their lives.

The Tuke window shows St. Cuthbert as the Bishop of Lindisfarne, carrying a crozier, which has the Cross of St. Cuthbert at the head.

He is shown wearing Cope and Mitre - note the shape of the Mitre. It is of the traditional English low shape, and not the more modern high pitched Latin style.

The Halo is of elaborate design and of Ruby glass, and the background is the traditional vine leaf design.

The Slabs at his feet are based on the design in the Choir of Durham Cathedral where St. Cuthbert was buried.

The hopper window contains the Diocesan Badge of the Diocese of Derby , the Diocese from which Mrs Elsie Tuke came to Australia.

THE VICTOR WINDOW

The design shows St. Cuthbert in his cell, the abstract sweeps conveying the rock forms. A Celtic Cross is behind the figure.

The hopper window contains the Diocesan Badge of London. The sweeps from the main section follow through into the background.

THE WINDOWS IN THE APSIDAL END (THE SANCTUARY)

The two windows are the only windows in St. Cuthbert's which are of modern mode, and set in concrete, of thick slab type glass.

The one on the Gospel (left) side is centred with the Chalice and Host of the Eucharist - symbols of spiritual reality of the Body and Blood of Christ.

The Epistle (right) side has the symbol of the Holy Name of Christ. The first two letters of Christ in Greek - Kai, Rho, - X and P (K and R) were used for centuries in the early church as signs of recognition between Christians during the periods of persecution.

Note the brilliance of the surrounding glass.

These windows were also made by E.G. Gowers and A.S. Brown of Greenmount.

They were installed probably in August 1965 (according to Parish Records). One window is in memory of Grace Scott-Clarke and the other in memory of John William Kirk.

Underneath all of the windows is a brass plaque giving the name of the window and in some cases the Sunday it was dedicated.

The observant will note in the windows the Red Setter signature of the Gowers and Brown studio and the date.

Saint Cuthbert's Anglican Church, Darlington, W.A.

It appears that the people of Darlington had been travelling to Smith's Mill (now Glen Forrest) to join in worship there.

A letter from the Diocesan Secretary of The Anglican Church in Perth, dated January 15th., 1924 expresses thanks to Mrs. J.F. Stone and her daughters for the gift of Lot 24, of the Hillsden Estate, Darlington, for Church purposes.

Private houses including 'Leithdale' seem to have been used for worship as the little Community worked towards the building of a Church.

The Foundation Stone may be viewed on the Darlington Road side of the Church. It was laid on Sunday 13th., September, 1924 by the then Archbishop of Perth, Charles Riley. In the cavity of the stone was deposited a glass jar with a piece of paper in it bearing the particulars of the occasion. An account of the laying of the Foundation Stone was recorded in a local paper. A collection was taken, and totalled fourteen pounds, a substantial help towards defraying the cost of the building, which was about 900 hundred pounds. At the conclusion of the ceremony, the ladies of the district provided afternoon tea at the hall, for the visiting clergy.

On the death of Archbishop Riley, the family donated to the Parish the silver trowel used on the occasion of the laying of the Foundation Stone.

The Church was consecrated on the 1st., March, 1925 by Archbishop Riley. The Parish Rector was the Revd. Walter Scott-Clarke. The Church is constructed of stone with brick buttresses. The lower part is composed of bluestone and the upper part of granite. The stone came from the Darlington area. The Architect was George Herbert Parry and the Builder Mr. E. Bishop.

The Church is dedicated to Saint Cuthbert, BC. 634 d. On Farne, 687. A Northumbrian Englishman. He was Bishop of Lindisfarne and was buried there, but after the Viking raids began his remains were removed and found their final resting-place in Durham Cathedral. It is said that the carriage rested at Darlington, Co Durham hence the Church there is named St. Cuthbert's.

The Church grounds are entered through a Lych Gate which is shown on the original Architectural drawings. This is brick with a tiled roof.

Wooden swing gates replacing the original gates were placed in 1993 in memory of Squadron Leader Arthur Richard Payne 1913 - 1987.

A stone wall with rendered capping was erected by the late Grace Scott-Clarke in 1955.

The original church bell hung in a wooden frame erected in 1924. The actual bell was stolen and later replaced. When St. George's Church in Greenmount closed, a second bell and tower was moved to St. Cuthbert's. This is the bell currently in use (1996) the other tower and bell being unsafe.

On the site is a **MEMORIAL GARDEN** which was designed and built by Bert Holmes in 1985. In the middle of the Cross is a bird bath.

A record of the ashes held in the garden is recorded in the Remembrance Book.

INSIDE ST. CUTHBERT'S CHURCH.

As you enter the Church on the wall of the Sanctuary is a **MOSAIC REREDOS** depicting Leonardi da Vinci's Last Supper.

Underneath are the traditional symbols for the writers of the Four Gospels. The Reredos is in memory of Ruth Loxton Bennet and was installed some time between May 1955 and May 1956 (as recorded in Vestry Minutes of the time).

STAINED GLASS WINDOWS. These were installed between 1971 and 1976. They were designed and executed by E.G. Gowers and A.S. Brown of Greenmount. On the Gospel (left side) of the church the four windows depict the life of St. Cuthbert. On the Epistle (right side) side of the church scenes from the Life of Mary, Mother of Jesus are depicted.

The Windows in the Sanctuary are the only windows in St. Cuthbert's which are of modern mode, and set in concrete, of thick slab type glass. One window is in memory of John William Kirk and the other in memory of Grace Scott-Clarke. These windows also by Gowers and Brown were installed with a donation of seventy pounds some time after 12th., August, 1965 (from Vestry minutes).

See separate sheets for further detail regarding the Stained Glass Windows. It should be noted that the day of installation of the windows is recorded on the brass plaques of some of the windows e.g. "Annunciation".

On the North wall near the Sanctuary, where a pulpit once stood, there is an **AUMBREY** for the Reserved Sacrament. An enamel panel on fired copper is on the door it is a modern version of a "Sunburst." This was installed around November 1973. Above the Aumbrey is a copper rose Sanctuary Lamp in memory of Connie Tuke, this was installed in 1987 or 1988.

There is a set of cupboards installed at the entry of the Church in memory of Joyce Margaret Jones, Founder of Helena School, Darlington.

Walk through the Church and read the various plaques.

In 1991 considerable renovations were carried out.

A pine ceiling was installed and the extensive cracking repaired. The Church was painted.

On the outside the bitumen area and steps were installed. The path around the church was installed on the instructions of the Consulting Engineer to prevent water undermining the foundations of the church.

In 1994 a Sunday School Room in imitation wood with tiled roof, styled in sympathy with the Church was completed in the St. Cuthbert's Church grounds.

RECTORS SINCE THE FORMATION OF THE PARISH.

1915	Revd. R.R. Taylor	1939 - 1964	Revd. L.S. Quinlan
1915 - 1922	Revd. T.S. Grosser	1964 - 1970	Revd. J.B. Bowyer
1922 - 1926	Revd. W. Scott-Clark	1970 - 1979	Revd. A.W Donald
1926 - 1939	Revd. G.F. Humphrey	1980 - 1987	Revd. D.R Russell
	1988 - 1996	Revd. R.A. Pearce	

The Parish Records of Services, Baptisms, Weddings and in recent years of Funerals are held in the Church Registers. Most of the Minutes of the Vestry (Governing body) are also available.