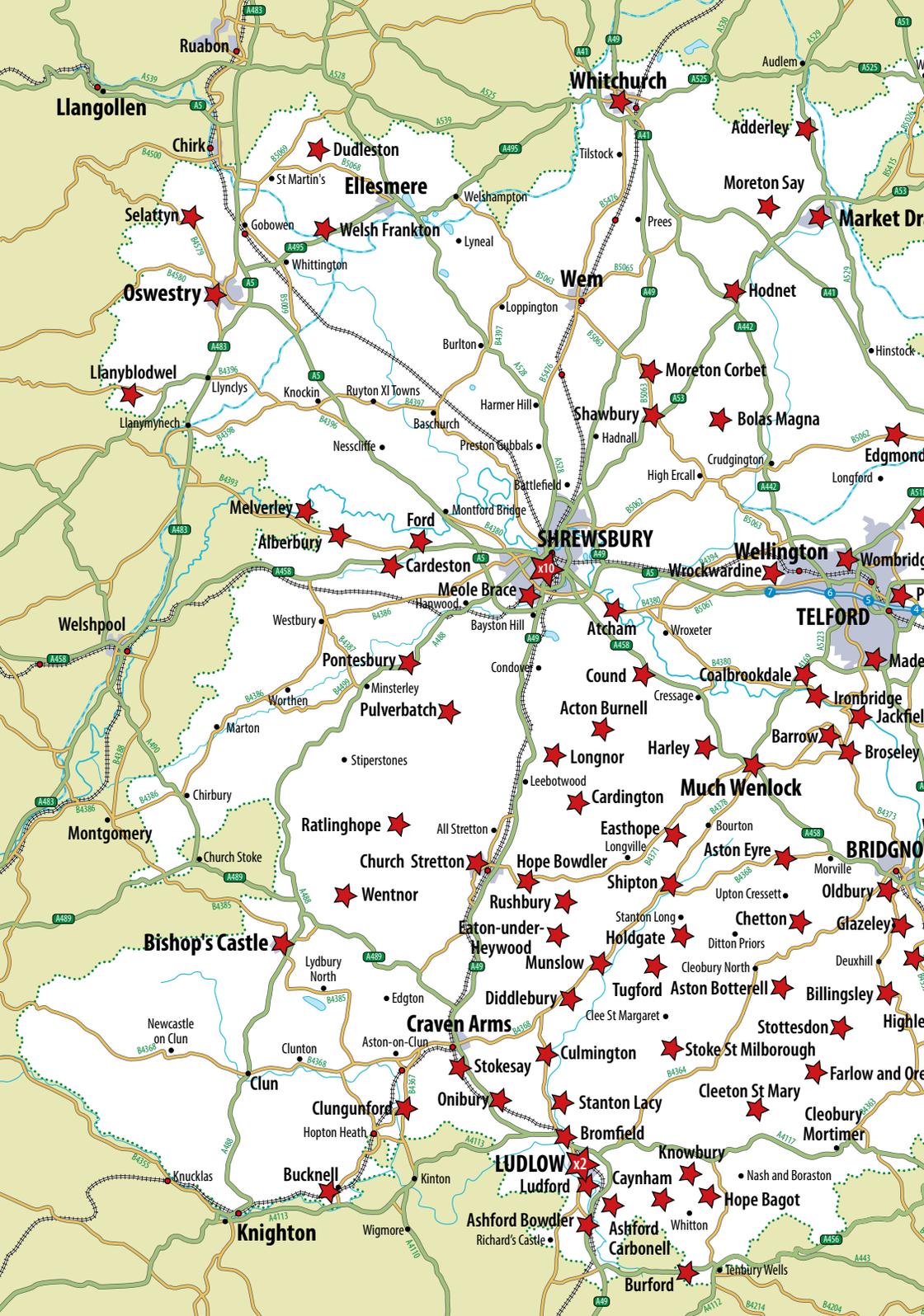


FREE

A Guide to Shropshire's Churches

Shropshire Churches Tourism Group

www.discovershropshirechurches.co.uk



Llangollen

Ruabon

Whitchurch

Audlem

Chirk

Dudleston

Ellesmere

Adderley

Selattyn

Welsh Frankton

Moreton Say

Oswestry

Wem

Hodnet

Market Dr

Llanyblodwel

Melverley

Moreton Corbet

Bolas Magna

Llanymynech

Alberbury

Cardeston

SHREWSBURY

Wellington

Wrockwardine

Wombridge

Welshpool

Pontesbury

Atcham

TELFD

Montgomery

Ratlinghope

Much Wenlock

BRIDGN

Bishop's Castle

Church Stretton

Hope Bowler

Aston Eyre

Oldbury

Wentnor

Rushbury

Shipton

Chetton

Glazeley

Eaton-under-Heywood

Munslow

Tugford

Aston Botterell

Billingsley

Diddlebury

Culmington

Stoke St Milborough

Farlow and Ore

Clun

Clungunford

Stanton Lacy

Cleeton St Mary

Cleobury Mortimer

Bucknell

Onibury

Bromfield

Knowbury

Stottosdon

Knighton

LUDLOW

Ludford

Hope Bagot

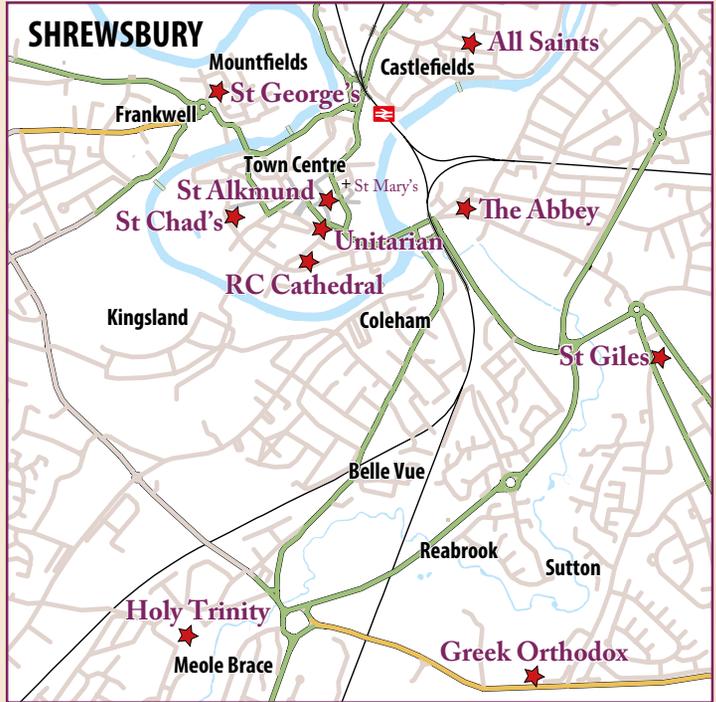
Ashford Bowdler

Ashford Carbonell

Whitton

Burford

Tenbury Wells



Architecture and History:

People's Lives, Family History and Stories

If you want to experience the glory of England, then you should visit its parish churches. In Shropshire there's one in nearly every village and often more than one in our towns. There you will find a wealth of history, architecture, horticulture and spirituality. Members of the Shropshire Churches Tourism Group want to share all of this with you and details are in this brochure.

Architecture and Artefacts

There are finest medievel roofs, saddleback and octagonal towers with many special fonts including an Anglo Saxon tub font to be seen; remarkable painted ceilings; splayed windows, a rare Vesica window, a Burne-Jones pre-Raphaelite window, a large Jesse window, fine Kempe windows and Arts & Crafts windows. There are stained glass windows telling stories from Burne-Jones and William Morris, David Evans stained glass (a local glass artist) and Francis Eginton painted glass. You can see what a knight wore who fought with Henry V at Agincourt, the skill in carving of a carpenter; or the work of a stone mason from nearly 900 years ago.

Music is made by many different organs – a Walker chamber organ, a barrel organ, a Gray & Davidson, a Wedlake of London, a Binns organ and a Harrison & Harrison three manual pipe organ.

There may be some items that you don't know what they are, such as reredos (both painted and carved) with bodley reredos at the high altar; a painted triptych and sheela na gigs. Medieval misericords and tiles, Jackfield Maws tiles, Norman carvings, wall paintings, clocks, a table tomb with brasses, an Edward Pugin designed church with stained glass by world renowned Margaret Rope.

A pagan fertility symbol, grotesque carvings on the towers and interesting gargoyles.

People's Lives, Family History and Stories

There is so much family history and people's stories to discover, such as the church built on the promise of love. You may learn about the people who once lived and worshipped where you are standing.

You may see monuments to men & women who died in war, or in old age having lived lives of quiet kindness or to children who were greatly loved and lamented. There are war graves, a large tomb dedicated to John Botterell and his wife (1581), carving on oak structures between 1887-99 created by local boys taught by the vicar.

There are the stories of local children sent away on the Mayflower in 1621, the hosting of English Parliaments and of the organ moved from Diddlebury to Aston Botterell for £10 in 1925; about the bigamous marriage of the son of the Marquis of Exeter taking place and stories about the chapel to the Leper Hospital in Brother Cadfael stories. There are the Lee family links with

American Confederacy and Bishop Heber and his Hill family connections. Find the story of the hurricane tombstone, about a ferocious blizzard that wiped out an entire family and Lady Godiva being associated with one medieval cross.

Also, you can see monuments to Captain Webb of Olympics fame, the Cornwall family, Mary Webb, the tomb of John Talbot, 1st Earl of Shrewsbury, a plaque to 17th century biblical scholar Matthew Henry, memorials to Wilfred Owen, Lord Clive (Clive of India), Job Charlton, 17th century Judge and Prince Arthur's grave

Churchyards

At the right time of year, you can find a heritage collection of daffodils and lovely snowdrop walks, the ever-present ancient churchyard yews, preaching crosses and lych-gates. There is also the sin-eaters grave and a cast iron miner's grave.

Finally...

If you are interested in architecture or history, the churches of the towns and villages of Shropshire will amply repay your visit.

Perhaps best of all, if you stand or sit quietly for a few minutes, you may sense the peace, the stillness, the absence of noise of these ancient places. You may see, or read, or suddenly sense something that speaks to your heart and you will leave richer in spirit.

We hope that you will find this brochure useful, and we wish you great joy in your exploration of Shropshire's hidden glories.

Holy Trinity Church, Meole Brace stained glass images © Revd Jane Willis



Adderley, St Peter; Alberbury, St Michael and all Angels;

Acton Burnell St Mary

SY5 7PE   **Open daylight hours**

One of the finest examples of a 13th century Church, including medieval tiles, a table tomb with brasses plus the Lee family marble monument. With the churchyard containing its heritage collection of Daffodils it is a special place with a wealth of history, architecture, horticulture and spirituality.

Adderley St Peter

TF9 3RS  **Details of keyholder on church noticeboard**

St. Peter's Church of Norman origin in the North Shropshire countryside, extensively rebuilt 1801 without a porch. A unique church which was divided in 1957 due to spiralling running costs, the nave is used by congregation, the sanctuary owned by the CCT. This latter half had two rival feuding families in its history. The font inside the main door has a Roman origin, possibly a column turned upside down! The churchyard has won awards in its conservation efforts.

Alberbury

St Michael and All Angels

SY5 9AH   **ramp available**
Open Saturdays 10am – 4pm Easter to end Oct; details of keyholders available

Saxon Collegiate Church founded between the 7th and 10th century. Reconsecrated

1290, once Welsh border disputes ceased. Nave 'finest example of a late medieval roof in all Shropshire' (Nikolaus Pevsner). Impressive Saddleback Tower, c.1200. Loton Chapel added 1320, contains Burne-Jones pre-Raphaelite window.

Ashford Bowdler St Andrew

P  **Open 10am – 4pm (minimum)**

Dating from the 12th and 15th century, with later restorations, 2 round arched blocked doorways, 15th century arched door, oak shingled bell core and broach spire. Chancel rebuilt in 1907 after collapsing into the River Teme. Interesting box pews and wall monuments.

www.ashfordbowdler.co.uk

Ashford Carbonell St Mary Magdalene



SY8 4DA  (limited)  
Open 10am – 4.30pm

A church has stood on the elevated site for over 900 years since Norman times. The ancient churchyard yews are even older, indicating that the site may have been used for worship in Saxon times. Chancel has an arrangement of splayed windows which include a rare 'Vesica' window.

www.ashfordcarbonell.co.uk

Aston Botterell

St Michael and All Angels

WV16 6QX  **Open daylight hours**

A beautiful Grade II* listed building dating from 12th century. The south aisle contains a large canopied tomb dedicated to John Botterell and his wife (1588). The organ made in 1853 was moved from Diddlebury to Aston Botterell for £10 in 1925.

www.browncleechurches.org.uk

Aston Eyre

WV16 6XD  **Open daylight hours**

Aston Eyre Church has no known dedication and is a Chapel-of-Ease of St. Gregory's Morville. The church was built in 1132 and the stone carving over the south door is regarded as the best example of Norman carving in Shropshire.

Atcham St Eata

SY5 6QG    at Mytton & Mermaid hotel adjacent to church **Open 9am – 6pm summer, 9am – 4pm winter**

St Eata's is located in a peaceful, picturesque setting alongside the River Severn at Atcham. There has been a church on this site since the 8th century and the present building is 11th Century. Organ built by Nicholsons of Worcester in 1897 but containing parts from two much earlier organs. Churchyard contains five War Graves and some interesting headstones.

www.steatasatcham.co.uk

Aston Eyre; Atcham, St Eata; Barrow, St Giles; Bishops Castle, St John the Baptist; Bromfield, St Mary the Virgin; Broseley, All Saints;

Barrow St Giles

TF12 5BW **Open daylight hours.**

St. Giles's, Barrow (Grade I listed) is one of Shropshire's oldest churches. Over 1200 years of history is packed into its fabric and atmosphere. The chancel and chancel arch are the oldest parts of this peaceful stone haven – the early visitors would, largely, recognise it today.

www.broseleyparishes.org.uk

Billingsley St Mary

WV16 6PH   ramp available
Open daylight hours **Twitter @StMarysB**

Built in 1140 and Grade II* listed, Billingsley Church has many ancient features, including an Easter Sepulchre, a Norman doorway and ancient yew trees. The church is extremely beautiful and peaceful, and is open every day of the year for tourist visits and quiet reflection.

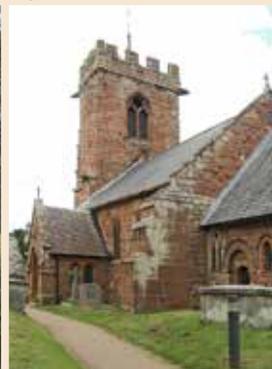
www.stmarys-billingsley.org.uk

Bishops Castle

St John the Baptist

SY9 5FD  on road or next to adjacent Church Barn.   (including disabled) in Church Barn. **Open daylight hours.**

Spacious church rebuilt 1860s; 13th century tower remains. Fine stained glass including two Pre-Raphaelite windows; 12th century font; monuments. Six bells and keen team of bellringers. Church hosts concerts, community events and exhibitions; December craft fair; Midsummer Rejoicing weekend. Churchyard contains 1801 grave of 'a native of Africa', and graves connected with Napoleonic prisoners-of-war.





Billingsley, St Mary; Bromfield, St Mary the Virgin; Cardeston, St Michael; Bucknell, St Mary

Bolas Magna, Great Bolas *St John the Baptist*

SF6 6PQ in road *Details of keyholders on church noticeboard*

Our church is the second to be built on the existing site, with stonework originating from the late 13th century. The current church was built in the 18th century – where the bigamous marriage of the son of the Marquis of Exeter took place!

Bromfield St Mary the Virgin

SY8 2JP ramp available
Open daylight hours

Of ancient origins, St. Mary's became a Priory church in 1155. The most notable feature is the painted chancel ceiling executed in 1672 after the Restoration. The triptych reredos, Kempe windows, and Jacobean carved pulpit dating from the 1890 church restoration are worth noting. The Priory Gatehouse is another feature.
www.broseleyparishes.org.uk

Broseley All Saints

TF12 5DA • *Open daylight hours*

Designed by H Eglinton, built by William Exley in 1845 – replaced two previous churches. It is the largest church in the area. Bodley reredos at the high altar. West window designed by Charles Kempe, presently hidden by the pipe organ.

www.broseleyparishes.org.uk



Bucknell St Mary

SY7 0AA on road
Open daylight hours

Our church, stone built and picturesquely situated in the centre of the village, dates from around 1140 and has an unusual Anglo-Saxon tub font as well as a mediaeval Easter sepulchre. Its fully modernised heating system guarantees a warm welcome in all seasons.

www.middlemarchesbenefice.org

Burford St Mary

WR15 8HG in churchyard
Open daylight hours out of hours keys at The Rectory

A 14th century Grade I listed church with unique features including monuments to the Cornwall Family set within a beautiful churchyard. Homemade preserves and prayer candles for sale. A warm welcome awaits you at our weekly services.

www.tenburyteam.org.uk

Cardeston St Michael

SY5 9NJ ramp available
Details of keyholders available

Set in its attractive hamlet location and easily recognised by its distinctive octagonal tower. Also has a barrel organ, and a notable early 20th century fresco depicting Jesus and John the Baptist. Norman windows and wooden upper gallery.

Cardington *St James*

SY6 7JZ    ramp available
Open daylight hours

The eastern side of the nave is 12th century; chancel and tower are Early English. The porch is dated 1639 and great door 1648. Unusual carved Jacobean pulpit; Victorian font; splayed Norman windows. Monument to Chief Justice Leighton (1607), the earliest of its kind in Shropshire.

www.cardington.org.uk

Caynham *St Mary*

SY8 3BW P DA WC **Open 10am – 4pm**
Easter Sun to 31 Oct; Fri – Sun 1 Nov to Good Fri

Grade II* listed 12th century church, with Victorian restoration work incorporating Norman remains. Preaching cross and war memorial lychgate. Curtis family memorials, Kempe window. Footpath from parking to Caynham Camp (listed iron age fort), short drive from Ludlow.

www.caynham.eclipse.co.uk

Chelmarsh *St Peter*

WV16 6PZ   
details of keyholders available

Grade I listed church has Norman origins with interesting carvings on the oak structures in the chancel and sanctuary; dating from 1887 – 1899 they were created by local boys taught by the vicar.

Chetton *St Giles*

WV16 6UF    at Down Inn PH
nearby **Open daylight hours**

The south doorway and Chancel (13th century), the arch resting on 15th century figure-head corbels. A Medieval Cross

within the churchyard is associated with Lady Godiva who is believed to have had a Saxon manor at Chetton. Tower (1829) houses 6 bells.

www.browncleechurches.org.uk

Church Stretton *St Laurence*

SY6 6DQ  in town car parks  
Open 9am – 5pm

13th century church, with carving of St Laurence holding gridiron, on which he is said to have suffered martyrdom in 258 AD, sheila-na gig, pagan fertility symbol probably dating from Saxon time. Suspended from ceiling, a memorial by John Skelton in form of gridiron, with twisted pieces of copper representing flames, to St Laurence's martyrdom and the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Banners in nave illustrate the seven great "I am" statements of Jesus. Interior reordered in 2010: previously exposed rubble stonework of the walls lime plastered, floor tiled and central dais created; modern chancel furniture introduced and upholstered chairs replaced most of the Victorian pews.

www.churchstretton.org.uk

Claverley *All Saints*

WV5 7DS   **Open daylight hours**

Grade I listed. Features in Jenkins' 1000 Best Churches. Late 11th and early 12th century with Saxon remains. Stunning early 13th century wall paintings. Jacobean pulpit and hammer-beam roof in Chancel. Arts and Crafts choir stalls, lectern and communion rail. Extensive stained glass including work by A J Davies, Hardman and Preedy. Saxon and Norman fonts.

www.claverley-tuckhill.co.uk

*Claverley, All Saints; Chetton, St Giles;
Church Stretton, St Laurence*





Clungunford, St Cuthbert; Cound, St Peter; Culmington, All Saints

Cleeton St Mary St Mary

DY14 0QU Open daylight hours

Before 1876 Cleeton was part of Bitterley parish with no church of its own, although documentary evidence points to worship before the Norman Conquest, possibly by an itinerant priest. A 17th century deed mentions 'St Margaret's Chapel'. 1860-1880 the Revd George Pardoe endowed and built the school, four almshouses, Church and Rectory. The church was in the first instance a Chapel of Ease attached to the parish church of Bitterley.

stottesdonbenefice.co.uk

Clungunford St Cuthbert

SY7 0PN    Open daylight hours

An early 14th century church with Victorian additions in a tranquil setting near the river Clun. It contains a Binns organ of exceptional quality, a fine oak carving of St Cuthbert above the porch and an early preaching cross.

www.cuthbertclungunford.org.uk

Coalbrookdale Holy Trinity

TF8 7NS  limited

Details of keyholders available

The 'Jewel of the Dale'. Endowed in 1851 by Abraham Darby IV. Superbly decorated chancel ceiling. Fine stained glass windows, including rare 16th century Flemish depiction of The Last Supper. Historic stone carvings; individually carved wooden pew ends with iron gates; Harrison & Harrison 3 Manuel pipe organ. Monument to Captain Webb.

Cound St Peter

SY5 6EW Open daylight hours

Dating from 13th century, in peaceful countryside near a lovely snowdrop walk. Wonderful 13th century oak door, six bell tower built 1500, intriguing remains of a doom painting. Stained glass ranges from medieval, to 19th century Kempe, to modern Millennium. Splendid wall memorials from 17th century onwards.

Culmington All Saints

**SY8 2DB DA with assistance
Open daylight hours**

The church is entered at the base of the early 14th century tower with unfinished spire and unique 20th century aluminium finial. Herringbone masonry in nave walls indicates late Saxon/ early Norman date. Medieval rood screen and stairs survive. Fine piscina and tomb recess in chancel.

www.culmington.org/Church.htm

Coalbrookdale, Holy Trinity





Dudleston, St Mary;

Diddlebury St Peter

SY7 9DH & ramps available

Open 9am to dusk

Present church dates from 1010. Extensive Anglo-Saxon remains, especially north wall with unusual combination of herringbone masonry on interior and squared masonry outside. Massive west tower contains a large blocked opening, which may be the remains of an open porch. Grotesque carvings on the tower.

www.diddleburychurch.com

Dudleston St Mary

SY12 9EF P & ♿ Open daylight hours

An ancient church dating from Norman times with an older Saxon preaching cross. The building commands spectacular views of Shropshire, Cheshire and Wales. Look out especially for the clock, stained glass, the oak chest, ancient 1000 year old yew tree, and wild flowers.

cdwf.org.uk/dudleston

Easthope St Peter

TF13 6DN & (1 step into the church).

Ground is flat, drive is gravelled & path to the church is on a slight slope & a little uneven. **Open 9am-5pm every weekend from May until Sep.**

This ancient building, with 12th-century origins, is remarkable for its encaustic tiles, beautifully proportioned chancel window, carved oak screen, and fine carving on the oak pews, dated 1623. Projecting from the pulpit is a wrought-iron hourglass-holder used to restrict "the extraordinary length of services" in 1333. St Peter's has a rare carillon bell-ringing mechanism, more in common with European tradition than that of English churches.

Eaton under Heywood St Edith



SY6 7DH P & ♿ ramp available

Open daylight hours

A remote, peaceful and beautiful Grade I listed church of Norman origins, hidden in woodland at the foot of Wenlock Edge in the tiny hamlet of Eaton under Heywood. Architectural features include Green Men, a sloping aisle, Norman font with elaborate 18th century carved cover.

www.eatonunderheywood.org.uk

Easthope, St Peter; Eaton under Heywood, St Edith; Edmond, Newport, St Peter; Ford, St Michael



Edgmond, Newport *St Peter*

TF10 8JW  on street  

This fine church of local sandstone dates from 1080, has a Saxon font, interesting gargoyles, a monumental brass showing man in shroud, stone reredos by Bodley & Garner's design, stained glass by William Morris, Harman and Kempe. 2000 memorial window and peal of 8 bells.

www.stpeterschurchedgmond.org/

Farlow and Oreton *St Giles*

DY14 0RQ  on road

Details of keyholders available

The church which moved! In 1847 the present church was built, as the old one a few hundred yards down the bank was unfit for repair. Built on the green, a Celtic burial was revealed when digging the foundations. Constructed of local stone much from the old church with a tiled roof and two external bells. Inside its joy is its lack of embellishments. Outside some unusual gravestones and one of the best views in South Shropshire.

stottesdonbenefice.co.uk

Ford *St Michael*

SY5 9LZ    *Open daylight hours
Wed, Sat, Sun*

This Church is situated in a tranquil conservation area just west of Shrewsbury. The building dates from the early 12th century and boasts many interesting features. The restoration in 1875 added some fine glass, in particular the East window depicting the crucifixion. Splendid hammer beam roof, possibly 15th century. 'Humphrey Kynaston Way' Bridleway Route 5 passes the Church.



Glazeley, St Bartholomew

Glazeley *St Bartholomew*

  ramp *Open daylight hours
between Apr and Oct*

A beautiful Grade II church, designed by Sir Arthur Blomfield and rebuilt in 1875. Believed to be the site of a church since the 11th century, referred to in the Domesday book. It retains many features from its predecessors including a 12th century font.

Harley *St Mary*

SY5 6LP  on road,  *Open March to
November in daylight hours*

The dominant feature of Shropshire's only "Thankful Village" which looks across to Wenlock Edge with views down Apedale. The church is of Norman origin, largely rebuilt in the 1850's; a significant programme of refurbishment has just been completed including the renovation of two noteworthy hatchments of the Harnage family.



*Harley
St Mary*

Higley *St. Mary*

WV16 6NA 

This is a historic church dating from the 12th century with indications of alterations and decoration from most periods since. It has a fine Tudor wooden ceiling with bosses. It is set amidst a large churchyard.



Hodnet, St Luke; Holdgate, Holy Trinity; Hope Bagot, St John the Baptist

Hodnet St Luke

TF9 3NL  in village  

Details of keyholders available

Well known for its octagonal tower and its Bishop Heber and Hill family connections, built in 1083, Grade I listed St Luke's retains much evidence of its Norman origins. The church figures in Domesday. The stained glass in the principal East window is worthy of note as is the lepers' step on the South wall.

www.hodnetparish.org

Holdgate Holy Trinity

TF13 6LW  limited

Newly restored Grade I Norman church in stunning rural location, veritabily, in Housman's 'land of lost content'. It is situated on the Shropshire Way footpath and is a great stopping place – refreshments are available every day as our welcome for church visitors and weary walkers.

www.holdgatechurch.weebly.com

Hope Bagot

St John the Baptist



SY8 3AF Open daylight hours summer

9.30am – 3.30pm winter

Attractive little Norman church situated

in secluded Hope Bagot. The smallest independent parish in Shropshire. Finest features: Norman chancel arch; pulpit; Carolean. Huge yew tree believed to be over 1600 years old, spreads over the holy well.

www.tenburyteam.co.uk

Hope Bowdler St Andrew

SY6 7EN Open daylight hours

Nestling in the heart of the Shropshire Hills, St Andrew's Hope Bowdler presents a church, and a churchyard, where a weary hill walker may enjoy rest for the body, a moment of quiet contemplation for the soul, and spiritual renewal for the continuing journey.

Ironbridge St Luke

TF8 7PW  

Open 10am – 4pm Easter to Sep

A 19th century church overlooking the Ironbridge, with many unique features, particularly in regard to the position of the tower, iron window frames and Jackfield Maws tiles. Steeped in the history of the Gorge, it has much to offer the visitor.

Hope Bowdler, St Andrew; Knowbury, St Paul; Lilleshall, St Michael and All Angels





*Jackfield, St Mary the Virgin;
Llanyblodwel, St Michael;
BELOW: Longnor, St Mary*

Jackfield St Mary the Virgin

TF8 7ND ♣️ **Open 9am – 5pm**

St Mary the Virgin, Jackfield, erected in 1863 was designed by Sir Arthur Blomfield and constructed of varied local brick. The floors contain excellent examples of local tiles and the sanctuary windows are claimed to be of the school of the Pre-Raphaelites.

www.broseleyparishes.org.uk/churches/st-mary-the-virgin

Knowbury St Paul

SY8 3JU ♣️ & ♣️ **Open daylight hours**

Situated on the Shropshire way, with a seat to enjoy the view. Dating mainly from 1885 in decorated gothic style. German triptych and stained glass in the east window. A stone pulpit, renaissance style font, organ by Wedlake of London and clock by J B Joyce and Co.

Lilleshall

St Michael and All Angels

TF10 9HE ♣️ & ♣️ **Open daylight hours**
keyholder details on door

There has been a Christian presence on the site since 670; present building dates from 13th century. The font is believed to be from the 1100s. Victorian stained glass windows, Charles I coat of arms, and an interesting sundial. A Fair Trade church with services to suit all.

www.stmichaelslilleshall.org.uk

Llanyblodwel St Michael

S10 8NQ ♣️ & ♣️ **with assistance** ♣️ ♣️
Open daylight hours

One of the earliest holy sites in Britain, believed to be 1700 years old. Current church built by the Normans on the Welsh side of Offa's Dyke around 1160 AD but shape and character owe much to the work of Rev'd John Parker in the 1840s. Noted for domical tower which encompasses the belfry. The many visitors to the Church are attracted by the interior - wooden screen, square panelled ceiling and above all the ornate passages of scripture on the walls. Visitors find it a place of peace and tranquillity.

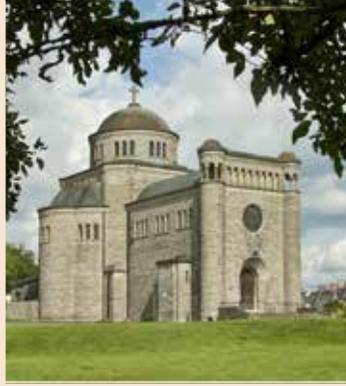
www.borderparishes.org.uk

Longnor St Mary

Open every day

St Mary's was built in c.1275 and is considered to be a perfect example of Early English architecture. The church has been lovingly conserved and the stone fabric bears only superficial alteration since the builders left it. Wooden features added later include early 18th century box pews.





Ludford *St Giles*

SY8 1PJ limited

Open 10am – 4pm

Small peaceful medieval church on picturesque ancient site. Late Norman nave, 14th century chancel, 16th century family chapel with memorials to Foxe and Charltons. Job Charlton, distinguished 17th century judge, rebuilt almshouses on left of path up to church.

Ludlow *St Laurence*

SY8 1AN in town car parks

Open 10am – 5pm

Number one visitor attraction in Ludlow (*Trip Adviser* 2015); so much to see - please do come along and enjoy this sacred space. Not to be missed: 14th -15th century stained glass; 15th century Misericords; Prince Arthur's grave; 16th century ten commandments board; St Laurence banner by Sir Ninian Comper; view from tower; the famous bells ringing at 8am, 12 noon, 4pm and 8pm. www.stlaurences.org.uk

Ludlow *St Peter*

SY8 1QZ disabled toilets by arrangement **Open 8am – 12 noon**

Striking RC church by G.Rinvoluceri, 1935, in simplified Byzantine Romanesque with shallow dome rising 100ft over the crossing. Remarkable for early use of reinforced concrete faced with Farlow limestone. Treasures include the early 16th century Catherine of Aragon chasuble, on loan and display at Ludlow Museum.

www.cornmill.freeshell.org/stpetersludlow

Market Drayton *St Mary*

TF9 1AD car park 150 yards away
there is good level access and the church is dementia friendly

**Open weekdays 11am – 1pm,
Wed (Market Day) 10am – 2pm**

Wonderful position with commanding views over the Tern valley. St. Mary's is a living church, and people of many centuries have looked to it as the heart of the community. Each century has left its mark on the building, just as those who worship here today are leaving their own distinctive mark as they draw grace and guidance to live a Christian life in the early 21st century. Building has Norman doorway c1150 and Early English gothic tower c1325, Kempe stained glass, and eight bells, the oldest cast in 1700.

www.stmarysmarketdrayton.org.uk

ABOVE: *Ludlow, St Laurence; Ludlow, St Peter; Market Drayton, St Mary*
BELOW: *Melverley, St Peter; Moreton Corbet, St Bartholomew*



Melverley St Peter

SY10 8PJ **Open all day every day**

In a peaceful setting on the banks of the river Vyrnwy, our church is a rare example of early British churches constructed of timber, wattle and daub. Rebuilt in 1406, it replaced a wooden church burnt down by Owain Glyndwr. Features: A Saxon font, Jacobean pulpit, lectern with chained bible 1700's, a gallery and Charles Kempe window. Each year the church welcomes many visitors from all over the world.

www.melverleychurch.co.uk

Moreton Corbet

St Bartholomew

SY4 4DW **P** & **Open daylight hours**

In a lovely situation next to the ruins of a Norman and Elizabethan castle, 12th century church with decorated window tracery, and fine monuments to the Corbet family. Mid-Georgian work to top of tower by Thomas Farnolls Pritchard, and good 18th century wall monuments in south aisle. Chancel decorated by Sir Ninian Comper, 1905.

Moreton Say

St Margaret of Antioch

TF9 3RS **P** **♣♣** by arrangement 01630 638054 **Open daylight hours BST**

The church dates back to the 12th century. The chancel has a beautiful stained glass window of exquisite workmanship

and contains a number of interesting monuments in particular to Lord Clive (Clive of India) who was baptised here and now lies buried within the walls of the Church. A raised gallery is also of interest.

Much Wenlock Holy Trinity

TF13 6HR **P** in town car parks & **Open daylight hours**

A fine 12th century church built by the Cluniac Monks of Wenlock Priory. Holy Trinity contains interesting Norman, Jacobean, Victorian and Contemporary features and offers a warm welcome to the many visitors who often sit in thought, light a candle and leave a prayer on our Prayer Board.

www.muchwenlockchurch.co.uk

Munslow St Michael

SY7 9ET **P** on street **Open daylight hours**

Attractive grade I listed church in peaceful setting in Munslow conservation area. Church has its origins in 12th century. The south porch is a magnificent timber framed structure dating from the 14th century. Fine stained glass from 15th/ 16th century described by the curator of the stained glass museum in Ely as 'the treasure of Munslow church'; worth a visit for the glass alone.

*Moreton Say, St Margaret of Antioch;
Much Wenlock, Holy Trinity; Munslow, St Michael;*



Oldbury St Nicholas' Church

WV16 5EH **P** off road for 40 cars

Details of keyholders available

Open daylight hours

A beautiful little church, largely the product of Victorian restoration. A well kept churchyard, still used for burials. WWI Memorial Window (dedicated to St Martin and St Alban) and Plaque listing the names of those from the village.

www.bridgnorthteamministry.org.uk

Onibury

St Michael and all Angels

SY7 9AW **P** & **Open daylight hours**

12th century Norman church on site of earlier church (Domesday Book 1086 records a priest at Onibury). Battlemented tower, fine chancel arch, significant fragment of medieval wall paintings, lancet windows. Perpendicular pulpit with Jacobean additions, oldest in Shropshire, 17th century cast iron grave slabs in chancel. West gallery. Sympathetic restoration 1902 by Detmar Blow with delightful Arts and Crafts fittings.

Oswestry

St Oswald King & Martyr

SY11 2SY **P** within the town &

Open 9am – 5pm

Imposing and welcoming town centre church – the Cathedral of the Borders – dates from 11th century. Dedicated to King Oswald, killed in battle nearby 642 AD. Unique 17th century painted triptych, interesting stained glass, a ring of 8 bells. Fine choir supports worship. Visitors always welcome. www.stoswaldoswestry.org.uk



Pontesbury St George

SY5 0PS **P** on street & ramps available

Open daylight hours

Large village centre church, late 13th C chancel, remainder built 1829. Impressive tower. Wide five bay nave, Norman font, Jacobean panelling and striking reredos. Much praised revamped west end room for community use.

www.stgeorgespontesbury.co.uk

Pulverbatch St Edith

SY5 8BY **Open daylight hours**

Originally from before 1193 this church, in a peaceful prayerful setting, has a fine classical style 1773 tower, housing 6 bells and working 1775 clock. The interior, altered by the Victorians, retains 18th century box pews. Circular churchyard, a defensive site, with some listed gravestones, excellent urn monument, Canadian war grave and Sukey Harley's grave. True Gospel Ministries – Sukey Harley

www.pulverbatch.org.uk/stediths.shtml

ABOVE: *Pontesbury, St George*

BELOW: *Oldbury, St Nicholas' Church; Pulverbatch St Edith; Oswestry, St Oswalds King & Martyr*





*Quatford, St Mary Magdalene Church;
Ratlinghope, St Margaret; Rushbury, St Peter;*

Quatford St Mary Magdalene Church

WV15 6QJ for services **Keyholders:**
Tel: (01746) 766126, 766146, 767187

Built in 1086 on the promise of love. Constructed of sandstone and tufa, nearly 40 steps lead up to the church from the parking area. A lift provides access during service times. During summer sheep graze the churchyard - open for burials.

www.bridgnorthteamministry.org.uk

Ratlinghope St Margaret



SY5 0SR **Open daylight hours**

Small, attractive, welcoming church in peaceful valley between Long Mynd and Ratlinghope Hill in South Shropshire Hills AONB. Established 1209 as a priory church by Wigmore Abbey. Rather special Arts and Crafts windows. Sin-Eater's grave in churchyard. Footpath to nearby Bridges Pub (Full range of Three Tuns ales). Shropshire Hills 'shuttle-bus' stops outside our church.

Rushbury St Peter



SY6 7EB **limited**
Open daylight hours

12th century building with Anglo-Saxon masonry, the Church is situated in a tranquil conservation area within an AONB, nestling at the foot of Wenlock Edge. Inside, the white walls reflect the light, and a warm welcome is extended to visitors to church and services. A quotation from a newspaper article of 1856 states "the stained glass windows at the east end are

splendid specimens of the art ... we never saw such richness of colour and beauty of design combined". They came from the establishment of Messrs Horwood Brothers. The west window has been filled with amber coloured glass, and throws a warm glow over that part.

Selattyn St Mary

SY10 7DH **Open Apr-Oct**
Daytime (Closed Nov-Mar)

St Mary's was first recorded in 1291 but worship may have taken place here for over 1000 years. The font dates from the 13th century, the barrel roof over the chancel from the 14th and nave timbers from the 15th. Transepts were added in 1821-28 and the north aisle and red sandstone arches in 1891-92. There are two Kempe windows. The church was restored in 1996.



www.selattynchurch.org.uk

Shawbury St Mary the Virgin

SY4 4NH **by village hall opposite**
Open 8am - 4pm

This Norman Church dates back to 1182 and still has some original features. A carved reredos behind the altar (1881) along with other carvings are of special interest. In the last 10 years a stained glass window, bellringing platform, kitchen and toilet have been added.



Shipton, St James; Castlefields, Shrewsbury, All Saints with St Michael,

Shipton St James

TF13 6JZ **Open daylight hours**

We are a friendly congregation and welcome visitors to our church, which is always open, or to join us at our services. Come and see the snowdrops in February or find out about our local children who were sent away on the Mayflower in 1621.

Shrewsbury Abbey

SY2 6BS **by prior arrangement**
Open daylight hours

Founded as a Benedictine Monastery by Roger de Montgomery in 1083 on a Saxon church site and dedicated to Saints Peter and Paul, the Abbey is near Shrewsbury Centre. Attracting medieval pilgrims to the shrine of St Winefride and hosting English Parliaments in 1283 and 1398 the Abbey was surrendered to the Crown in 1540 at the Dissolution of the Monasteries. Amidst much destruction, the nave remained as the Parish Church, later surviving Cromwellian bombardment. The 19th century east-end extension by J.L.Pearson completed the structure as seen today. A memorial to Wilfred Owen stands in the grounds. Free Admission.

www.shrewsburyabbey.com

Shrewsbury All Saints with St Michael, Castlefields

SY1 2JH **on street** **Details of keyholders on noticeboard**

Founded by Reverend Thomas Mainwaring Bulkeley Bulkeley-Owen, consecrated

1879. Built for the Oxford Movement (The Anglo Catholic Faith supported Shrewsbury industrial workers), has the architecture, and the tradition continues today. Notable John Nicholson Organ, many beautiful stained glass windows (Whitefriars, Charles Kempe, and one from workshop of

William Morris), fine Banner and huge Rood Cross dedicated to the unknown fallen of WWI.

Shrewsbury Cathedral

SY1 1TE **in town car parks** **Open**
Mon – Fri 1pm – 4pm, Sat 10am – 4pm
Easter to end Oct; Sat 10am – 4pm Nov to Easter

Shrewsbury Cathedral is dedicated to Our Lady Help of Christians and Saint Peter of Alcantara. It is the Mother Church of the Diocese of Shrewsbury and the seat of the Roman Catholic Bishop of Shrewsbury. The Cathedral was designed by Edward Pugin, opened in 1856 and contains seven stained glass windows by the world renowned Margaret Rope.

www.shrewsburycathedral.org

Shrewsbury Greek Orthodox Church of the Holy Fathers of Nicaea

SY2 6QY **Open 10.30am – 12.30pm Thur 6pm – 7pm Sat 10.00am – 12 noon Sun.**

The Orthodox Church of the Holy Fathers of Nicaea is a mediaeval (largely 13th century) church featuring a very rare wall painting of the murder of Thomas Becket. Recent archaeological excavations have revealed both a far larger medieval church and post-holes demonstrating an earlier Anglo-Saxon church.

www.shrewsburyorthodox.com



Shrewsbury

Holy Trinity, Meole Brace

SY3 9HF  

Open 9am – 3pm Mon to Fri

An imposing Victorian church with exceptional William Morris stained glass and an award-winning churchyard in a conservation area. The Trinity Centre extension opened 2008 has won awards for its striking and sympathetic architecture. There are also strong associations with author Mary Webb.

www.trinitychurches.org

Shrewsbury St Alkmund

SY1 1UH  by prior arrangement 

by prior arrangement **Open 9am – 5pm**

St Alkmund's has stood at the heart of Shrewsbury for over 1100 years, having been founded in 912 by Aethelfleda, daughter of King Alfred. Tower and spire date from 1475. Nave and chancel built in Gothic Revival style in 1795 containing three magnificent Coalbrookdale iron-framed

windows and a painted glass east window by Francis Eginton (1795), after a painting by Guido Reni (1642) now in Munich. Building and windows restored over the past 10 years with generous assistance from English Heritage. History of the past 200 years on display inside.

www.stalkmundschurch.co.uk

Shrewsbury St Chad

SY1 1JX   **Open 8am – 5.30pm**

A vibrant and welcoming place of worship where visitors enjoy the beautiful Georgian architecture, rich musical programme, including FREE Friday lunch-time concerts, or simply time for peaceful reflection. Children and families are especially welcome to services and other creative workshops.

www.stchadschurchshrewsbury.com

ABOVE: *Shrewsbury Cathedral; Meole Brace, Shrewsbury, Holy Trinity;*
BELOW: *Shrewsbury; Greek Orthodox Church; Shrewsbury, St Alkmund's; Shrewsbury, St Chad's;*





Shrewsbury: Unitarian Church; Frankwell, St George of Cappadocia; St Giles with Sutton

Shrewsbury St George of Cappadocia, Frankwell

SY3 8QA **P** in nearby public car park & **♿**
♿ **Open 10am – 4pm Wed 2pm – 4pm**
Fri March to Dec 10am-noon Wed 2pm –
4pm Fri; 5pm Jan to Feb. Evening prayer
every day

Built in 1832 by local Architect E. Haycock. Cruciform late Georgian church with richly glowing stained glass by David Evans, local glass artist. Close to Darwin's birthplace.

www.cappadocia.org.uk

Shrewsbury St Giles with Sutton

SY2 6JP **P** on road & **♿** **♿** **Open Tue**
2pm – 4pm Apr to Sep or to make
arrangement contact 01743 355667

Built in 11th century as the chapel to the adjacent Leper Hospital featured in the Ellis Peter's Cadfael stories. Extended in Victorian times it houses a rare unaltered Grade 11 Gray and Davidson organ and beautiful stained glass windows four of which are by Kempe. On the S8 bus route from Shrewsbury Town Centre and very near to two good inns.

www.stgilesshrewsbury.co.uk



Shrewsbury Unitarian Church

SY1 1LR **P** close by, & **♿** **♿** **Open Tue**
all year 1pm – 3pm & Thur 2pm – 4pm
between March and October.

Shrewsbury's first dissenting church opened in 1691. The church has been remodelled and rebuilt several times; the interior is typical of a dissenting meeting house. Charles Darwin attended the church with his mother and in 1798 Samuel Taylor Coleridge preached a 'trial' sermon in the church. Tel. 07487 531913

www.ukunitarians.org.uk/shrewsbury

Stanton Lacy St Peter

SY8 2AE **P** & **Open daylight hours**

Beautifully proportioned cruciform church. Original Saxon doorway in north wall. External pilasters on west wall. Victorian reredos with painted panels in 1929 by Harpin. Original 1854 organ case. External canopied tombs. Victorian stained glass includes local characters. Large collection of churchyard trees. On walking and cycling routes in the Corvedale.



Stokesay *St John the Baptist*

SY7 9AH  in English Heritage car park
  **Open daylight hours Apr to Sep in line with Stokesay Castle Oct to Mar**

Built about 1150 as a chapel to Stokesay Castle and features in Simon Jenkins' England's Thousand Best Churches. Much of the church was destroyed in the Civil War and later re-built in 1654 and the wood furnishings, notably the box pews and gallery survive, as do the biblical texts on the walls.

Stoke St Milborough *St Milburga and Heath Chapel*



SY8 2EJ   
Open during daylight hours

Dating back to the 12th century but undoubtedly with Saxon origins, St. Milburga's was one of nine churches connected to Wenlock Abbey. With its bright and spacious sanctuary, handsome ceiling and rare water leaf decoration, it stands on a beautiful site in the Clee Hills. Closely associated is the Heath, unique, unrestored Norman chapel with wall paintings and zig-zag decoration (SY7 9DS).

Stottesdon *St Mary*

DY14 8UE  on road  ramp available
Open 9am – 4pm

A centre of worship and prayer for almost 1000 years and still in regular use, St Mary's is 'Grade I Listed' – the Saxon Tympanum, Norman Font and Medieval tiles are remarkable – and complement the churchyard's solitude and superb views west to the Clee Hills.

www.stottesdonbenefice.co.uk

Telford *St Michael, Madeley*

TF7 5BN  in local supermarket  
key at vicarage or call Parish Office 01952 585718

Built in 1796 by Thomas Telford, the third church on this site, and following refurbishment in 2009, St Michael's beautifully combines the traditional and the modern to provide a versatile venue for worship, concerts and community ventures. Famously, John Fletcher was a vicar here and the pulpit from which he and his close friend John Wesley preached is still in use. The graveyard is of historic interest e.g. the cast iron 'Miners' Grave' for the Nine Men of Madeley and Fletcher's grave.

www.tf7.org.uk/home

Telford *St Peter, Priorslee*

TF2 9HQ    **Open 11am – 6pm and by arrangement. Details of keyholders available**

Simple church, built 1836, formerly chapel-of-ease to St. Andrew, Shifnal. Linked with the former Lilleshall Company, the dominant industrial force in the area until the 1960's, and whose managers were invariably Churchwardens. Recent west end refurbishment has provided small gathering/ meeting area, kitchen and cloakroom. Pleasant and well maintained churchyard overlooking modern Telford.

*Stanton Lacy, St Peter;
Stoke St Milborough, St Milburga and
Heath Chapel; Stokesay, St John the Baptist;
Madeley, Telford, St Michael;
Priorslee, Telford, St Peter*





Wombridge, Telford, St Mary and St Leonard; Tugford, St Catherine

Telford St Mary and St Leonard, Wombridge

TF2 6HT    in adjacent parish
Centre **Open daylight hours and by
arrangement**

Built in 1869 by George Bidlake. Dating from the 4th century, on site of Augustinian Priory. Scheduled ancient monument adjacent. Sympathetically re-ordered. Fine reredos, pulpit and Vicar's stall. Priory Lady Chapel ruins now uncovered. Recovered masonry and floor tiles on display in Church.

Tong St Bartholomew

TF11 8PW    at nearby village hall
Open daylight hours

15th century cruciform perpendicular Gothic church with octagonal tower. Medieval misericords, 19th century panelling from Oberammergau and Kempe east window. Golden chapel with intricate fan vaulting and many fine 15th century tombs.

www.tong-church.org.uk

Tugford St Catherine

SY7 9HS  on road with access across the old village green, a privately owned field **Open during daylight hours**

St Catherine is grade II* listed and lies in the Corvedale at the foot of Clee Hill. It is single-cell, mainly Norman, while the

tower is Early English. Inside the south doorway are two sheela na gigs and there are unusual tomb-recesses. The bells, restored in 2006, date back to 1635.

www.shrop.net/live/cme5044.htm

Welsh Frankton St Andrew

SY11 4NX   **Open 1st and 3rd weekends throughout the year, or by arrangement with Edward Bevan on 01691 622838**

Victorian sandstone church with spire. Bright open interior, with fine marble altarpiece, and encaustic tiles set into screen wall. Panoramic views include the Breidden Hills, the Wrekin, the Stiperstones, Long Mynd and Wenlock Edge.

cdwf.org.uk/welshfrankton

Wentnor

St Michael and All Angels

SY9 5EE   **Open daylight hours**

Dating from Norman times, but substantially restored in 1886, Wentnor Church occupies its hilltop setting in the manner of a Tuscan village, offering extensive views over its hinterland. Inside, the nave displays colourful hand embroidered kneelers, whilst the 'hurricane tombstone' commemorates a ferocious blizzard which wiped out an entire family.



Welsh Frankton, St Andrew; Wentnor, St Michael and All Angels

Whitchurch *St Alkmund*

SV13 1LB    **Open 10am – 5pm**

Grade I Queen Anne church (1713) of majestic proportions and full of light due to its enormous windows and slender pillars. Contains the tomb of John Talbot, first Earl of Shrewsbury and a plaque to the noted 17th century Biblical scholar Matthew Henry.

www.stalkmunds.com

Worfield *St Peter*

WV15 5LF  **ramp available** 

The imposing 12th century church of St Peter's is at the heart of the picturesque village of Worfield. It tells a story through the centuries with medieval Picture Doors, rare 17th century monuments, a lepers' hatch and wonderful refurbished stained glass. Nearby stands the 16th century former rectory and the old grammar school.

Wrockwardine *St Peter*

TF6 5DG  **on street**,  **suitable for disabled**

The church is open during regular services (at least 30 min. prior to starting time) Churchwardens details on notice board St. Peter benefits from HLF and SHCT grants and as a result will be closed for urgent repairs / restoration between early February – mid May 2017 The church is presumed to be of Saxon origin with an impressive entry in the Domesday Book of 1086, with interesting features relating to architecture, furnishing, stained glass and bells, showing evidence of many changes and alterations over the 1000 year history. Well worth a visit.

www.wrockwardinedeanery.co.uk for details of services and other events.

www.stpetersrestoration.org.uk for details about our restoration project.

Wrockwardine, St Peter; Whitchurch, St Alkmund





Shropshire Churches Tourism Group (SCTG) is a network of interesting churches and chapels in the County and its borders that have dominated the landscape and life of communities for more than a thousand years. SCTG is an ecumenical body of volunteers interested in the development and promotion of church tourism to enhance visitors appreciation and understanding of how churches have always been an integral part of the lives of the people of Shropshire throughout history.

If you would like to know more about SCTG please visit our website:
www.discovershropshirechurches.co.uk

Many churches have more information and pictures on their page. Please use the contact form to have any queries answered leaving your contact details so one of the committee can reply to you.

FRONT COVER PHOTO: *Noah's Ark*
window detail, *Shrewsbury Cathedral*

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