

‘Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet, Lest we forget. Lest we forget.’



January 1920 Parish Magazine:



The Cross

‘The Cross which is of oxidised silver, decorated with gilt, is a splendid piece of craftsmanship, the work of Mr Spencer, of the Artificers’ Guild. But it is much more than this, for it has been cleverly designed by Mr Vernon Crompton FRIBA to embrace a wonderful conception by the Vicar. Rising out of an enamelled and jewelled setting into the pinnacles of the Holy City, the life on earth is linked up with the life hereafter. In the representation of waves at the foot are remembered the toilers of the deep in general, and the Marshside fishermen in particular. Above the waters are seen plants and flax symbolical of the original elements of the trades of Lancashire, which are bound by a cord of rosemary, a sign of

remembrance. Out of reverence rises honour, which is indicted by the central portion of the upright of the cross upholding a representation of the Empire. Out of the Empire established upon honour is brought forth the city of God, and this is recognised not by something extraordinary or strange, but by the four simple elements of the present life – earth, air, fire and water. These are all welded together by sacrifice, as represented by the pelican, and ultimately the whole is united in the everlasting arms of the Father.’



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The War Memorial Chapel at Emmanuel Parish Church Southport



‘All England rejoices to-day’ said Revd FW Dwelly, Vicar, Emmanuel Church on National Rejoicing Day 19th July 1919.

‘I am determined that our memorial shall be a delight to the Lord, a praise to his sons who ascended in the war and an inspiration to the children who year by year come up to it on the day of remembrance. What a day that will be every year in Emmanuel.’



‘So shall it be right down the days in the Memorial Chapel of Emmanuel.

What shall this not do for England? I say that every year it will kindle such a spark as shall make this parish one of the most patriotic in the land. So may it be, please God.’

At the Church Council Meeting on 28th Nov 1919, it was agreed to set aside the South Transept of the Church as a Memorial to the men who have fallen, a recognition of the broken heroes, and an offering of thanks for victory.

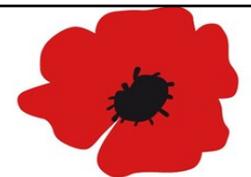
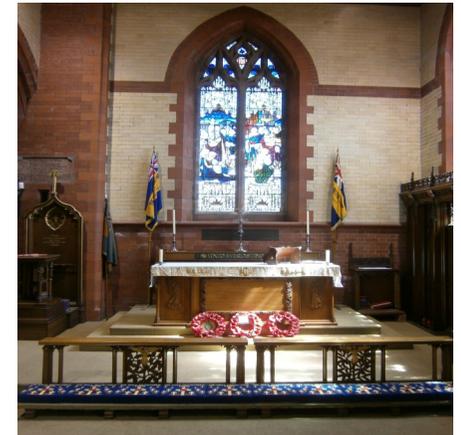
The Vicar’s letter November 1918:

Dear Friends

We rejoice with one another that the War is over, but we do not forget the sacrifice.

.... Let us hoist the flags on Sunday. With whole-hearted thankfulness for the honourable cessation of hostilities.

*I am,
Your friend and Vicar,
Frederick W Dwelly*



2014-18

The Great War Centenary

The Altar and Altar Rails



‘The front of the Altar will be carved with the story of the Passion of our Lord – and the Passion of our age. On the left is ‘The Strengthening Angel’ (St Luke xxii. 43); on the right ‘The Redeeming Angel’ (Gen xlvi. 16).’

‘The Angels are simply marvels of art – fully alive, the oak and the olive seem to be held in and suggest an

idea that if only the barriers were removed the leaves of the tree would really heal the nations – peace would abound and the light would shine throughout the world. Quite right. Art is always truthful; it is the barrier we place to the free growth of the vine of life that hinders the free spread of the leaves of healing. ‘I am the True Vine’ said our Lord, ‘and Ye, My Brethren, are the Branches’.

Installation of the decorative oak panels followed and were carved with the names of some of the Emmanuel parishioners who died during WWI. Not all names are carved on the panels but all are listed, along with the fallen of World War II, in a book inside the Cenotaph.



Reverend Dwelly wrote: ‘We are gradually appreciating the chaste beauty of Mr Crompton’s designs for our Memorial Chapel. During the past month the Altar Rails, with the Angel of Victory and the Angel of Peace, have been dedicated. The most impressive element about the Chapel is its severe beauty. Consider the wealth of detail in the Communion Rails, and yet the accumulated effect is one of strong restraint.’ *(The two Communion Rails, with the Angel of Peace and the Angel of Victory, were dedicated on the 11th Sunday after Trinity 1920).*

The Cenotaph - dedicated on the first Sunday after Trinity 1920, is supported by four gates. At the four corners is a figure of a Soldier, a Sailor, an Airman, and a Red Cross Nurse.



Sparrows – telling us that no one can suffer without The Father noticing (St Matt x. 29) – feature on the gates. The gates uplift ‘The Offering’ for ‘The unknown’, ‘The unremembered’, ‘The unnamed’, ‘The unwanted’.

The Unknown
Let us praise our heroes that delivered us, and our Heavenly Father who gave them unto us.
Such as did bear rule in their departments, men and women renowned for their power, giving counsel by their understanding.
Chaplains with all leaders of the people, eloquent in morale. Sailors and soldiers brave in their hatred of war.
There be of them that have left no name behind them, whose valorous deeds have not been reported. Let this Cenotaph declare their honour.

The Unremembered
Now there was found in the Great War a poor man, and he by his wisdom delivered his company; yet no man remembered that same poor man. Wisdom is better than weapons of war: but one sinner destroyeth much good.

The Unnamed
It came to pass during the days of battle, that certain young men who were strangers unto us gave themselves for us. Not many could say from whence they came or to whom they belonged. By these, the great unnamed, the Lord wrought mightily.

The Unwanted
The treasure of human love hath ever been accounted by the noble-hearted to be of greater value than that which thieves might take away. But the stone-hearted seek rather to enlarge their barns than to enfold the love of their children. In the times of sacrifice, such children were judged amiss; accounting not dear the gains that are temporal, they knew not the glow of being wanted until passing through fire they found Him who takes notice even of the fall of a sparrow.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

