



**1.** You now stand in the tower, erected 1870. The doorway into the church was the original entrance from outside in 1866.

**2.** In 1866 St Luke's was consecrated by Bishop of Oxford, Samuel Wilberforce, third son of William Wilberforce, the opponent of slavery. In 1866 only the chancel and half the nave were built. It is said to be the Bishop's portrait carved in stone on the first pillar. Compare with actual portrait under tower (see **18**).

**3.** Gas lighting was used originally - many remnants of the pipes can be seen on the pillars plus the base plates for the lamps.

**4.** Carved portraits on this pillar and others probably represent early benefactors of St Luke's.

**5.** Memorial window (by Savell 1893) to Charles West Cope, a famous Victorian painter. Given by his widow and based on his own drawings.

**6.** 1883 Model of St Luke's. W.E. Harper was for 40 years parish clerk. In 1883, St Luke's did not have its spire. The spire was added to the model, almost certainly by Harper, c 1894; the original glass case being modified to take it. The present case (of perspex and oak) was made by Richard Burdett, PCC Treasurer, in 1991 after the arson attack, re-fixing the original plaque. The Working Men's Club was organised from St Luke's; our community hall was the Club.

**7.** Great West Window with fresco wall painting underneath (both by Clayton & Bell 1893) given by friends of Dr Goolden FRCS, churchwarden 1866-1892 and a major benefactor. Remains of sooty streaks below the window date from the 1991 arson attack. Window restored 2004 by Chapel Studios.

**8.** Victorian font bearing Coptic and Celtic crosses. Copper font cover with brass

badges, including winged bull of St Luke. Cover given in memory of Eustace L. Spindler, d. 1916, by his sister.

**9.** Two of many fine stained glass windows, these in memory of Elizabeth Meara, sister of Canon H.G.J. Meara, (Vicar from 1890-1914); latter contributed £500 towards the cost of the spire and gave the chancel screen (see **16**).

**10.** Walk to halfway down the nave. Bar tiles on the floor mark the extent of the 1866 nave, as do marks in the plastering above the arches. From here view the fresco tile painting, *Jacob's Ladder* (1885) on the chancel arch and observe the simplicity of the chancel beyond (see **15**).

**11.** Nave altar established in 1977 as Jubilee project.

**12.** Christ in Garden of Gethsemane window (by O'Connor 1871) damaged during the 1991 arson attack when an iron cross, from one of the graves, was used to break it. The main damage was to the floral base, memorial inscription and Christ's robes: all repaired by Chapel Studios.

**13.** Pulpit. Badges include winged bull of St Luke, also found on adjacent pillar.

**14.** War Memorial Chapel (Great War) created by lengthening and remodelling the original vestry in 1923. East window in memory of Canon Meara; carved oak screen on south side given in memory of churchwardens, T.G. Wyatt and N.P. Lemon. Adjacent screen and gate to chancel given in 1930 by Canon C.E.M. Fry (Vicar from 1914-1947) and his brother, in memory of their parents. Chapel re-ordered and dedicated 16 June 2002. Alter rails re-used as part of screen to create a vestry area. New wall hanging made by ladies of church (names on back of hanging).

**15.** Chancel. East window (by O'Connor 1871) donated by parishioners. In 1952 the Chancel was re-ordered in memory of Canon Fry by new Vicar, T.W. Morcom-Harneis, who had the wall frescoes whitewashed and the stained glass side windows taken out - that on the south side had been the first memorial window (1867) given. The upper tracery of the north window remains showing the winged bull badge of St Luke. The reredos was also removed (see remaining marks on wall and floor). New organ given 1901 by Mrs Cope (see **5**). New choir stalls given 1902 by parishioners in memory of Elizabeth Meara (see **9**).

**16.** Ornate gold and wrought iron chancel screen made in 1910 by local firm of Edward Norkett (see **9**).

**17.** Brass lectern given 1891.

**18.** "Picture Gallery" of past Vicars.

**19.** Original outside wall of the church, before the vestry was built on; necessary because the original vestry had been converted into the War Memorial Chapel (**14**). Vestry built in 1932 by Canon Fry in memory of his brother.

**20.** Parish office and clergy vestry, redesigned in 2017 from the Parish Centre 1993 created from the 1932 vestry, after the arson attack of 1991 left a blackened shell. Plaque in memory of Canon Fry's brother on tower.

**21.** Tower room. Marks on wall represent location of original wind chest for organ. Present wind chest installed here when parish centre created (see **20**). Steep wooden stairs to belfry and spire.

Note: Inscription on the springing of the spire:  
 'THIS SPIRE WAS BUILT 1894 - REV H. C. J. MEARA VICAR - J. FULLER, T.G. WYATT CHURCHWARDENS - J. OLDRID SCOTT ARCHITECT - SILVER & SONS BUILDER'

BELLS: Calling Bell - *Mears & Stainbank, Founders, London* (1865-72; now called Whitechapel Bell Foundry).  
Clock Bell - *Gillett Bland & Co, Croydon - London 1878*.

### Sources

St Luke's Parish Magazine: April 1893; December 1917; September 1930.  
Maidenhead Advertiser: 12 December 1894; 16 March 1932; 27 November 1992; 11 September 1998.  
Pevsner N: 1966 *Berkshire*, Penguin p174.

### Compiled by:

Ann Darracott 1997; rev. 2006

### TIMES OF SERVICES ...

And other details can be found on our website:

[www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk](http://www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk)



Winged bull of St. Luke - one of the badges on the pulpit



### OUTSIDE THE CHURCH

Look up at the spire which is made of Bath stone. The weathervane and double crosses on stone pinnacles at each angle of the spire were made by the local firm of Barford & Norkett in 1894.

The height of the tower, spire plus weathervane is 152 ft 3 inches (72metres), apparently 7ft higher than All Saints spire!!! (see Maidenhead Advertiser Dec 12, 1894).

### GRAVEYARD

W.E.Harper (see **6**) buried half way along west wall.

Canon Fry and his brother (see **14**, **19** & **20**) buried in the northwest corner.

William Lassell FRS, astronomer, also buried near to west wall.

VICAR  
The Revd Sally Lynch

St Luke's Vicarage  
26 Norfolk Road  
Maidenhead  
SL6 7AX

☎ Office: (01628) 622733



*A  
History Trail  
of  
St. Luke's Church  
Maidenhead*