

Times of Services

Sundays

08.00 - Holy Communion (Common Worship Order 2)

09.30 - Sung Eucharist (Common Worship Order 1)

- An all-age service replaces Sung Eucharist once a month.
- Baptisms are usually incorporated into one service each month.

18:30 - Choral Evensong (Book of Common Prayer)

- Second and Fourth Sundays only
- Advent Sunday to Ash Wednesday at 16:00
- No evensong during August

Weekdays

Thursdays 10:00 Holy Communion (alternates Order 1 / 2)

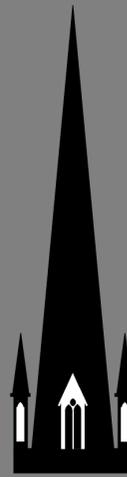
Further information

Details of the music at St Mary's can be found at www.stmarysmusic.org

The Friends of St Mary's website is www.fosmross.org.uk

We hope that you have enjoyed the beauty and calm of this lovely church, and that you will go on your way refreshed and inspired.

Please come again soon!



Welcome to St Mary's Church, Ross-on-Wye

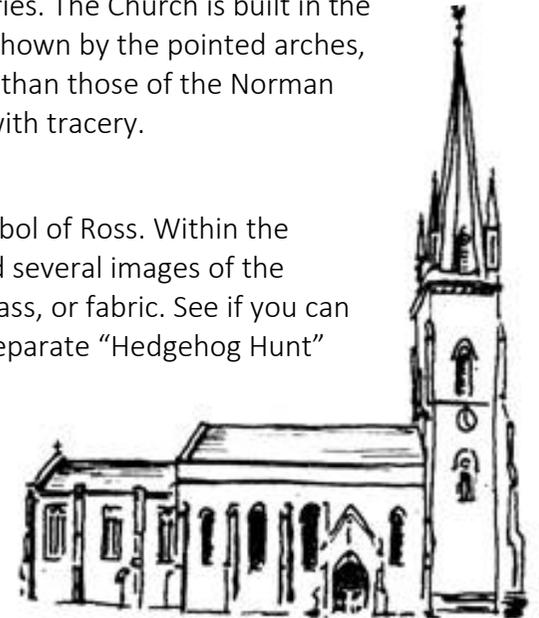
A free guide for visitors

This leaflet, together with information panels around the church (indicated by the numbers on the map inside this leaflet), will explain some of the history of the church. More information can be found in the blue visitors' guide (£2.00) and in the fuller History of the church available for reference, both will be found at the back of the church by the door.

This church has stood here for nearly 700 years since it was dedicated in 1316 for the worship of God and as a gathering place for the community.

The whole of the present Church with the exception of the side chapel (1510) and the organ chamber (1874) was built, partly of older materials, during the last quarter of the 13th and the first part of the 14th centuries. The Church is built in the Decorated Style, as is shown by the pointed arches, columns more slender than those of the Norman period, and windows with tracery.

The hedgehog is a symbol of Ross. Within the Church are to be found several images of the hedgehog, in stone, brass, or fabric. See if you can find them. There is a separate "Hedgehog Hunt" leaflet available for children at the back of the church.



A From the Nave crossing there is a good view of the **chancel arch** which has a number of interesting features. The doorway high on the left side marks the original position of the pulpit, whilst the piscina high on the right side shows that originally there was a rood screen and a rood loft linking the two sides. High above the arch can be seen two small stained glass windows; the left one portrays the Virgin Mary, while the right one shows Joseph holding the baby Jesus- a scene which is not unique, but most rare. More information on the chancel arch and Victorian restorations can be found on information panel 4

B The east wall of the **north aisle** has a remarkable reminder of the past: Information panel 1 has information on this.

C The most precious possession of the Church is the glass in the four main panels of the **east window**. This dates from 1430, but the glass was originally in a chapel of the Bishop of Hereford at Stretton Sugwas.

When this chapel burnt down the glass was brought to Ross and fitted piecemeal, being finally restored in 1873. The figures in the panels are: St Ethelbert, a Saxon king; St Anne, mother of the Virgin Mary; St Joachim, husband of St Anne; and St Thomas de Cantilupe, Bishop of Hereford in 1272.

D To the right of the chancel arch are the **Rudhall family monuments**. Several generations of the this family were lords of the manor of Rudhall, near Ross. The family had their own chapel in this corner of the Church. Information panel 3 has more information.

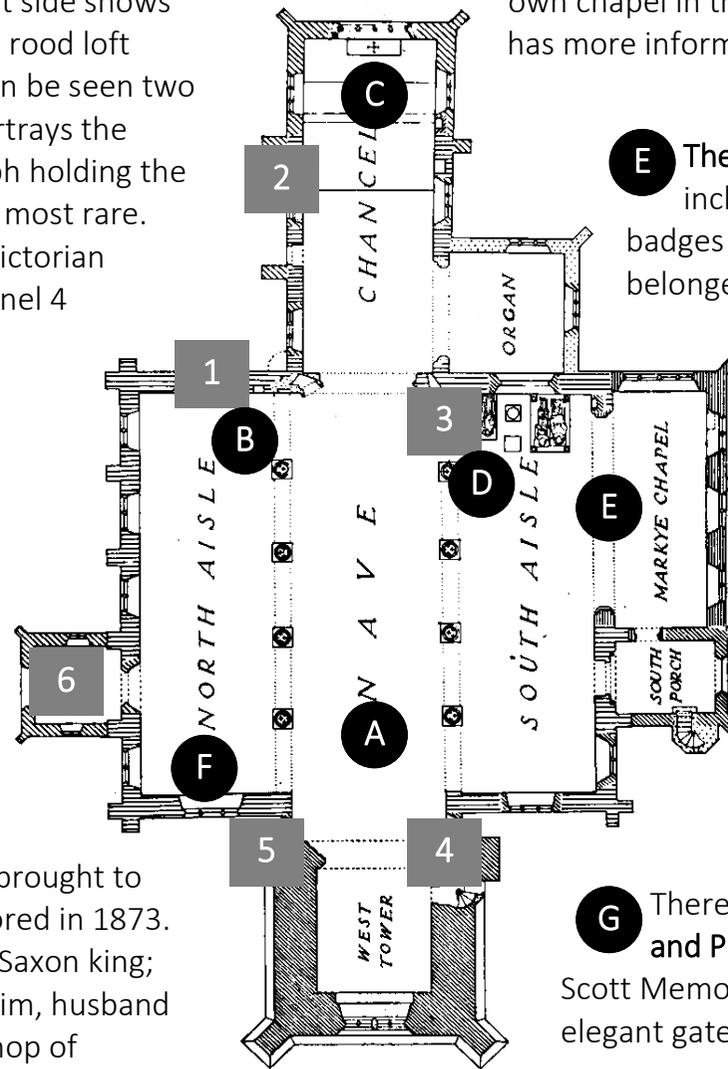
E The **Markye Chapel** contains the war memorials, including the oak screen on which are carved the badges of the various regiments to which the men belonged whose names are recorded on the memorials. This chapel is dedicated to quiet prayer.

F The **Baptistry** was the gift of the parents of 15 year old Mary Done who died suddenly while she was an evacuee from London, living in Ross in 1942.

The **Peace Wall Hanging** was made in 1996 by Marlene Cameron in memory of her husband, Sam.

G There are several areas of interest in the **Churchyard and Prospect**. Notably, The Plague Cross, The Walter Scott Memorial and the view from the Prospect with its elegant gateways.

More information on the area surrounding the church will be found on information panel 6 as you leave the church, the north porch.



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