

Holy Trinity Headington Quarry



Building Development Appeal

www.hthq.uk

1 The background to the project

Holy Trinity church was built in 1849, with the young George Gilbert Scott as architect. It is a small building, but beautiful and much loved.

Like most churches it has been altered in many ways over the years, to keep pace with the congregation's changing requirements:

- Early in the last century the heating and lighting systems were totally replaced and the plaster on the roof was removed
- At various points in the century the chancel furnishings were altered and expanded
- After World War II the east window (now in the Lady Chapel) was replaced by the Christ in Majesty by Sir Ninian Comper
- In 1969 the present vestry was added

- In 1992 the current organ by Kenneth Tickell was installed, making space for the creation of the Lady Chapel. The east end tapestry and other features date from this time.

So, every generation has played its part in ensuring not only that the building is well cared for, but that it is sensitively adapted to meet changing requirements.

Today Holy Trinity has a thriving congregation, but it lacks quite a number of the modern facilities it needs for the church to grow, develop, and serve the local community for the coming decades.

We are now raising money to provide some of those facilities, in a way that is compatible with the unavoidable limitations of the site, and that constitutes a sensitive response to Scott's design.

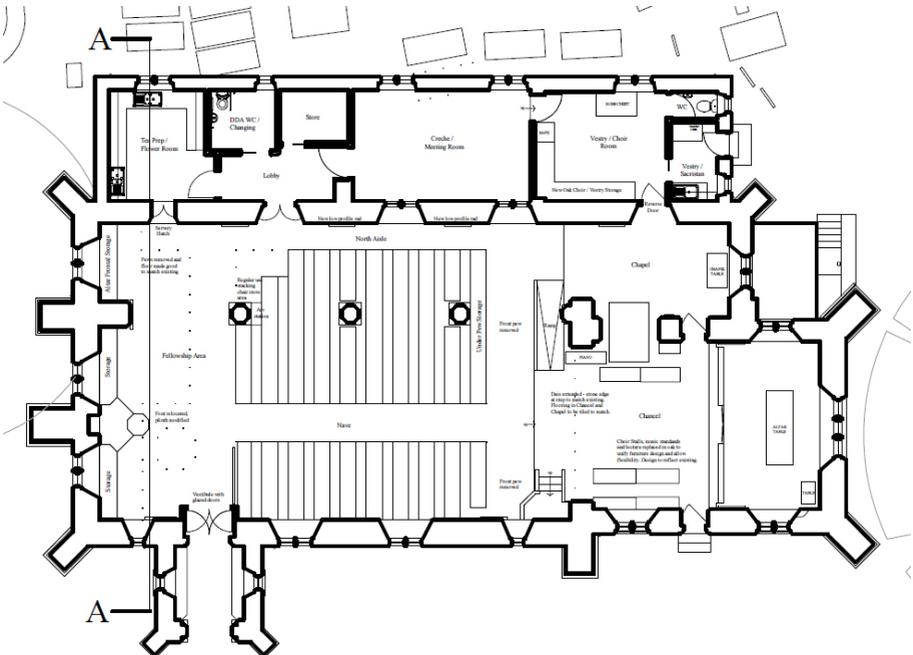
2 What will be the main features of the new design?

Over the course of almost a decade, there have been extensive discussions in the congregation and the community. The results of these consultations have fed in to a final agreed plan which has received planning permission and a diocesan Faculty.

The design can be divided into four main areas:

a) The north side extension will include

- Re-designed vestry space for choir, clergy, and servers to allow more space for preparing for the service, and

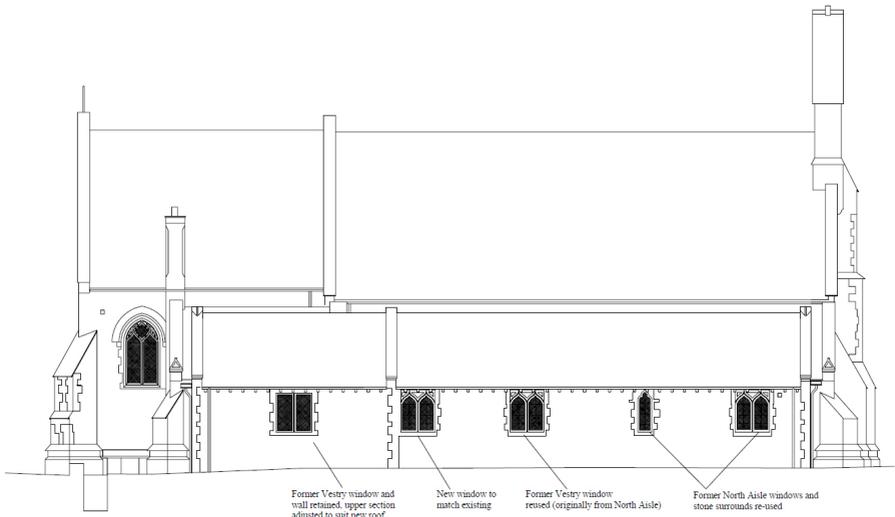


not least with a waterproof roof (pitched rather than flat)

- A wheelchair accessible toilet
- A kitchenette, with hatch to the church, to serve refreshments and for flower arranging
- A meeting room, which can be used for a crèche/activities for the youngest children
- A small storeroom

b) At the back of the church

- The back two rows of pews to the left of the entrance door will be removed to allow greater movement and accessibility for everyone
- Custom-design oak storage and display units will be placed all along the back wall to remove the current clutter, with a door in front of the electricals and a new and



more accessible cupboard for altar frontals

- The font will be moved slightly to a more central location at the back in front of the bell ropes, without its bulky base
- There will be light stackable chairs to be put out when needed

c) At the front of the church

- The front row of pews on both sides of the aisle will be removed to allow wheelchair users and others easier access
- The chancel will be slightly extended into the nave to give greater visibility to the lectern and service leaders
- There will be a ramp in front of the north pillar of the chancel to provide access to the chancel for wheelchairs, and in the north aisle the current radiators will be

replaced with slim units to provide a viable route for wheelchairs

- The choir pews and clergy stalls will be replaced with custom-made oak pews—comfortable, moveable, and stackable—to make the space more versatile: the sanctuary will be unchanged

d) Throughout the church

- There will be a completely new lighting system, movement-sensitive and zonally controlled, with up and down spot lighting; also an upgraded sound system. These are to be installed early in 2021.
- The whole of the interior will be redecorated

3 What will these features give us?

One of the main aims of this project has been to respect the Victorian ethos of Scott's building. Every aspect of the design will take this aspiration into account, so that when people come to view the building this will still be what they experience. But at the same time there will be many unobtrusive new features which will enable us to serve congregation, local community and visitors more effectively.

There are five main aspects:

a) Disabled access

Apart from the recent ramp leading up to the church door, our church is a very difficult building to navigate for people who use wheelchairs, or who have other physical disabilities. Our new design will give us

- Disabled access toilet
- Much more space at the back and front of the church for

wheelchair users to sit during a service

- Access to the chancel and vestry

b) Children's work

A fast growing part of our ministry is with families and young children. This work is vital for the future growth of church life. Our new design will give us

- More space at the back and front of the church for parents to sit with their children through the service
- Toilet and kitchen facilities easily accessible from the west end
- A small meeting room, which can be used for creche/activities for the youngest children

c) Hospitality

Our church community prides itself on the welcome and

hospitality we offer, especially after services but also at other times. Although we have coffee in the Coach House on Sunday mornings, this is not available at other times. The new facilities will give us

- A small kitchenette in the extension, from which hot or cold drinks can be served through a hatchway and where light refreshments can be prepared
- Ample space at the back of the church for people to mingle and talk to one another after a service and to access the notice boards
- Space to put tables out at the back of the church for people to sit at with their coffee. This will be especially valuable after the Wednesday 10am service and on afternoons when we welcome visitors to the church

- An easily accessible toilet

d) Worship space

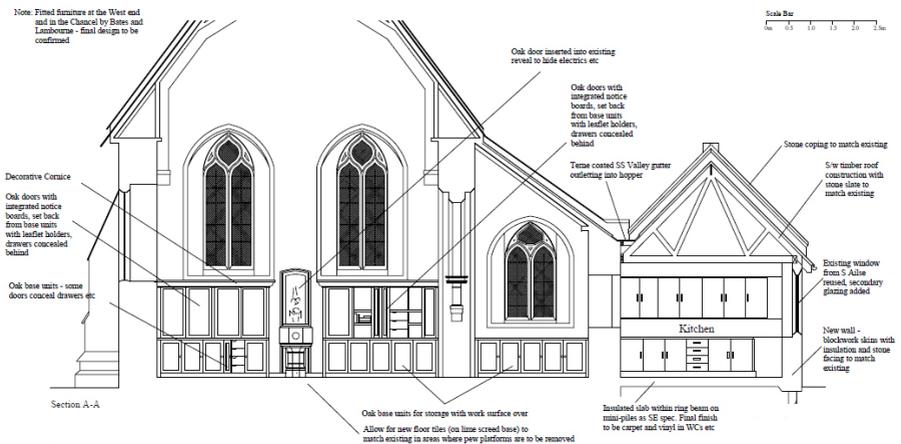
Our church building can be very inflexible at times for the variety of styles of worship we offer today. The adaptations to the internal layout will

- Make it much easier at baptisms and on Easter Eve for people to gather round the font for this part of the service
- Provide more comfortable (and moveable) choir pews with storage, and space for choir, clergy, and servers to prepare for the service without being rained on
- Give flexibility for our more creative services and for interactive all age worship, for smaller services (e.g. pram service, Taizé), and also for recitals, drama etc.
- Give greater focus and

4 How much will it cost?

The extension itself is not large, but the project includes internal refurbishment and all the work has to be of particularly high quality, to match the existing building and do it justice, using stone outside and skilled joinery inside.

The whole project will cost £600,000 in round figures.



West end and extension interior cross-section

5 Where will the money come from and how can you help?

In 2018 a specialist fundraising consultant carried out a financial feasibility assessment for the Parochial Church Council. He concluded that the project should be 'do-able'. It would, though, require generous support from members of the congregation in the first instance, as well as help from well-wishers and visitors, and from funding bodies.

Phase one (May to November 2019): During this first period the fundraising committee made individual approaches to members of the congregation. The response was generally enthusiastic, and by the end of the first phase the initial target of £200,000 had been pledged. That target was chosen as being one-third of the total cost, making it possible to begin approaching external grant-giving bodies.

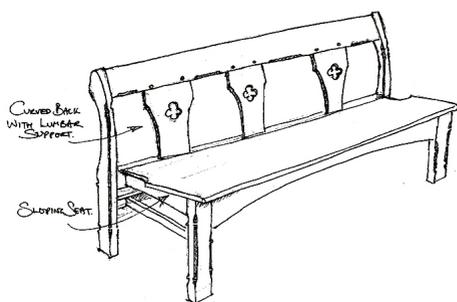
Phase two (December 2019 onwards): During this second period the process of applying for external grants has been set in motion, with further professional help. Simultaneously, there will be other fundraising initiatives:

- We are approaching former members of the congregation and people with other connections with Holy Trinity.
- There will be a variety of fundraising events: suggestions and offers of help in organising these will be very welcome.
- We will draw up a list of individual items (stacking chairs, kitchen furnishings, and so forth) so that people can offer to fund one or more.
- We are asking for help from our visitors, many of whom come to see the church where C. S. Lewis

worshipped.

If you are visiting Holy Trinity, or have come across this pamphlet online or in any other way, your support will be greatly appreciated.

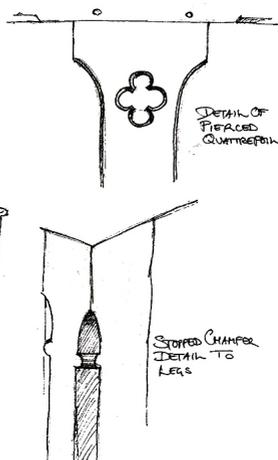
You can make an online bank transfer directly to the development account: HTHQ, sort code 20-65-20, account number 83117634, reference your surname. You can also donate via the Holy Trinity website (www.hthq.uk), click 'Church building project' and press the red button. If you have any questions please contact



Design for choir pews

fundraising@hthq.uk.

This is an exciting, once-in-a-generation, opportunity to play a part in the constantly evolving history of this beautiful church, so that it can continue to be an open door between heaven and earth for all who enter it. Please contribute as generously as you can.





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