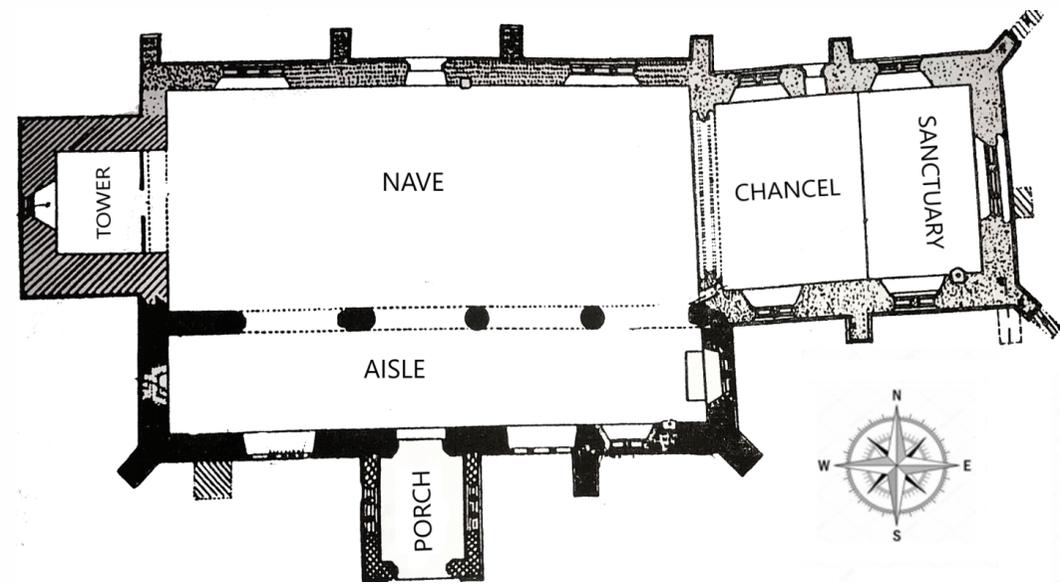


All Saints Church, commonly known as the Old Church and located at the top of Chingford Mount, served as the parish church until 1844. The building has Norman origins, although the present structure dates from the late 13th century. The tower was added in the 14th century and the porch in 1547. It was abandoned in 1844 when a new church and burial ground dedicated to St Peter and St Paul was consecrated on Chingford Green.

As the building deteriorated from lack of use and maintenance, ivy invaded the masonry. It became known as the 'Green Church' and was a focal point for Romantic Period artists attracted by its atmospheric peace and nostalgia. The roof collapsed in 1904 crushing the south arcade. The church remained a picturesque ruin until its restoration.



The rebuilding and restoration of the church was completed in 1930. It was initiated by Louisa Boothby-Heathcote of Friday Hill, the daughter of a former Rector, paid for in part by a generous donation by the family and through dedicated fundraising efforts of parishioners and friends. There were further restorations including underpinning in the 1980s and repairs for damp in the interior in 2006.

Today, the church and its grounds are beautifully maintained by a team of dedicated parishioners. Recently uncovered headstones have inspired much historical research into the lives of former residents of Chingford.

Let us guide you round the main points of interest of this beautiful historic church and its grounds.

From outside you can see the **battlemented tower** which was constructed of Kentish ragstone and flint in around 1270-80. The **chancel** was rebuilt in Perpendicular style about 200 years later. The gabled sixteenth century **south porch** made of Tudor brick leads into the church through an **Early English doorway**.

Inside the main entrance **two carved stone heads** can be found on either side of the doorway. At the west end of the south aisle is a **square-headed fifteenth century window** set within the frame of an earlier **thirteenth century aperture**. The east end aisle, known today as the Lady Chapel, is used for personal prayer and small services.



New material was added to the surviving half of the eastern-most arch. The **chancel arch** leans noticeably towards the south as a result of subsidence over the generations. To the right of the arch is a **sqint** (a small opening), now blocked, which gave a view from the south doorway to the high altar. At the east side the chancel arch piers were cut away in medieval times to allow for the fitting of the chancel screen.

On the south side of the chancel particular points of interest are the **fragments of medieval glass** in the southwest window. Close by is the **sedilia** (stone seat) and **piscine** (shallow basin used for washing the communion vessels) which was discovered when the church was restored. The **Jacobean chair**, dated 1630, was used by the bishop when he came to administer confirmation. An outline of the **memorial brasses** of Robert Rampston and his wife Margaret may be seen to the right of the communion rail. The original was stolen in 1857, but brass rubbings survived (*right*)



Here under lyeth the buried bodies of Robert Rampston gent who departed this mortal life the third day of August 1532 And Margarete his wife departed this mortal life the 26 daye of October 1590

There are **seventeenth century monuments** to the Leigh family on either side of the east window and on the north wall. The priest's doorway has **fifteenth century battens and strap hinges**. The walling to the east of the doorway has a small enclosing an **aperture** (opening) thought to be a **heart burial recess** of a Crusader.

The original pulpit and sounding board were removed to the new church in 1844. On the north side of the nave to the right there is an original **holy water stoup** (basin). In front of the west window on the tower arch there is situated a thirteenth century **foliated cross**. It was identified amongst the rubble during the restorations and was probably the finial gable of the thirteenth century church.

An example of a **Julian / Gregorian calendar date** may be identified on a **ledger stone** on the chancel floor. The **Baptismal font** was presented by the children of the parish in 1930 after the original had, like the pulpit, been removed to the new church on The Green.

The Hall and Church are full of activity during the week with choir rehearsals, Scouting & Girlguiding groups, and more -

Scouts & Guiding

14th Chingford Brownies, for girls aged 7-10 yrs
Mondays - 5.15 - 6.15pm.

Contact: Nicola Emerson, 07815 209 944

14th Chingford Guides, for girls aged 10-14 yrs.
Mondays - 7.30pm - 9pm

Contact: Claire Gerety, 07792 729 995

14th Chingford Rangers, for girls aged 14-18 yrs.
Mondays - 7.30 - 9pm

Contact: Nicola Emerson, 07815 209 944

14th Chingford Rainbows, for girls aged 5-7 yrs.
Wednesdays - 5.30 - 6.30pm

Contact: Alex Stainton, 07818 005 800

37th Chingford Beavers, for girls/boys aged 6-8 yrs.
Thursdays - 5.15pm - 6.30pm

37th Chingford Cubs, for girls/boys aged 8-10 ½ yrs.
Thursdays - 6.45 - 8.15pm

37th Chingford Scouts, for girls/boys aged 10½ - 14yrs
Held at the Parish Church Tuesdays-7.30pm - 9.00pm

For all 37th Chingford groups contact:

Amanda Harrison, 07743 862 371

Social Club

Meet new friends - all welcome!

Thursday, 1pm - 3pm in the church hall, £2 inc.

Very friendly mixed group of people meeting for entertainment and refreshments. More information is available from Karon Fordham on 020 8523 9233

Purple Praise Choir

No auditions, just lots of fun!

Every other Saturday, 10am - 12noon in the church hall
£2 per session.

A VERY WARM WELCOME

FROM

THE REV'D

DR JUSTIN LEWIS-ANTHONY,

RECTOR

AND

THE REV'D HILARY MUSKER,

ASSOCIATE PRIEST

SERVICES

SUNDAY:

9AM EUCHARIST

10AM EUCHARIST

(CHILDREN'S CLUB ON ALTERNATE SUNDAYS)

WEDNESDAY:

9AM MORNING PRAYER

10AM EUCHARIST

FRIDAY:

5.30PM EVENING PRAYER

WHEEL CHAIR ACCESS AND TOILET FACILITIES
ARE AVAILABLE.

For further information please visit our
website:

www.parihofchingford.org.uk

or contact

email: office@parihofchingford.org.uk

phone: 020 8529 0323



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For information about activities and events here at The
Old Church including hall hire, funerals weddings,
baptisms and events please contact Anne Clayden our
parish administrator at the address above between 10am
- 12 noon, weekdays

Any historical inquiries contact Diana Kennedy on
07542701949 or dmvchkennedy@hotmail.com



WELCOME TO ALL SAINTS (THE OLD CHURCH)

180 OLD CHURCH ROAD
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AN
11TH CENTURY CHURCH
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