

Derby Cathedral Church of All Saints

Time Line

943 - First church probably dedicated to All Saints

1086 - Domesday Book records that the king owned the church, and it was a college for seven priests.

14th century - new building constructed

1723 - church demolished due to its condition

1725 - New church built to James Gibbs's design.

1927 - All Saints became a cathedral.

Web page

<https://derbycathedral.org/>

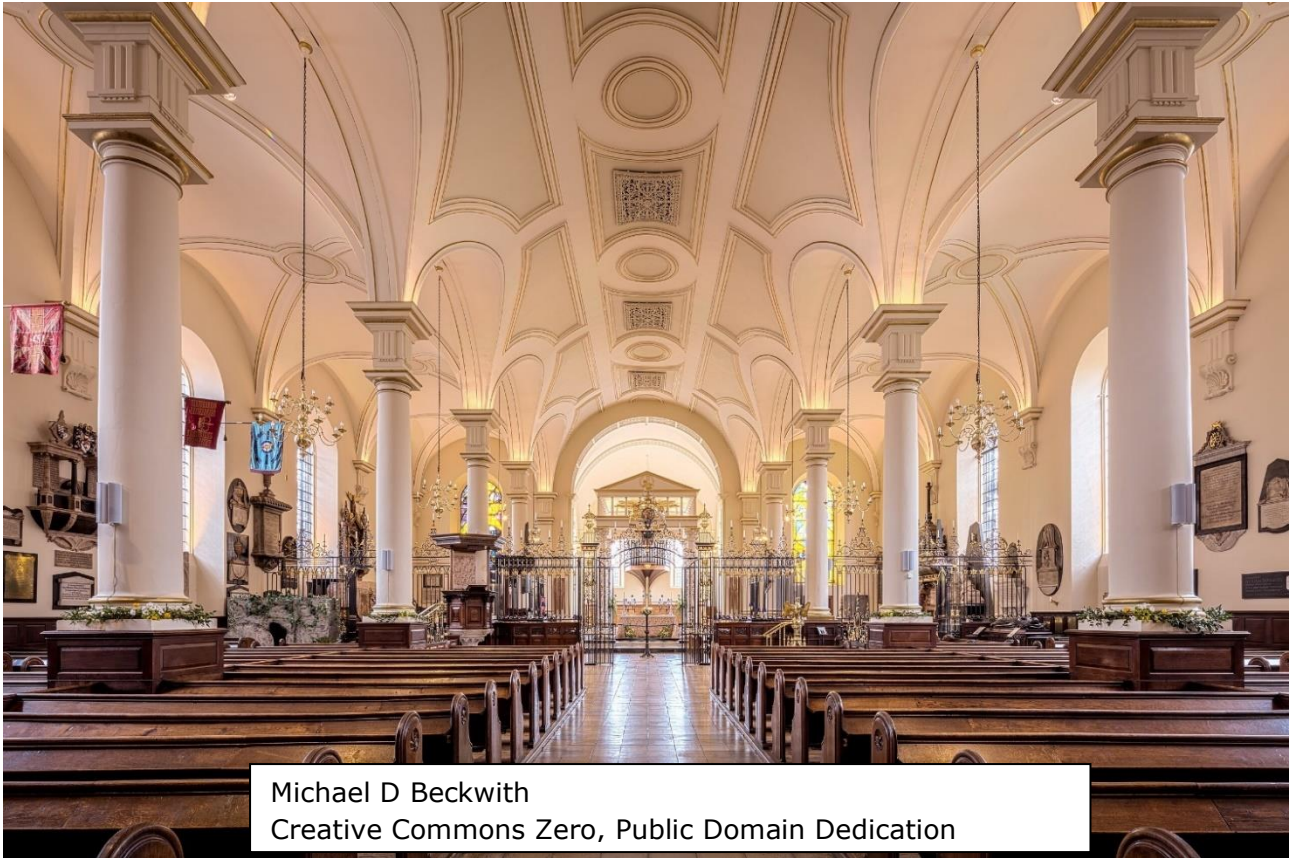


Charlesdrakew - Public domain

Simon Jenkins starts his chapter on Derby Cathedral with a lament over the redevelopment around the cathedral in the 1960's writing 'The partially preserved enclave now marketed as 'Derby Cathedral Quarter' is as much a memorial to what Derby lost as to what remains.'

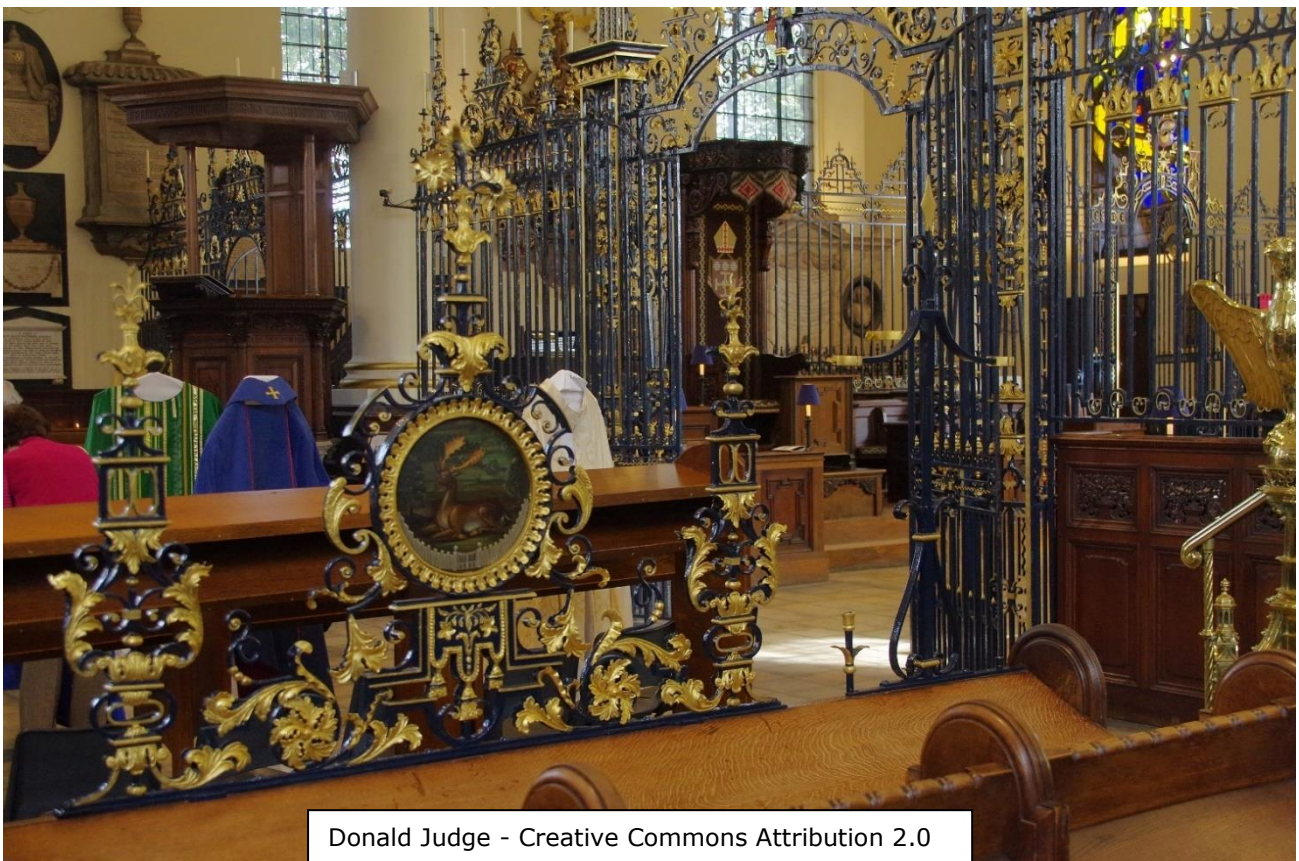
The tower is the only part of the medieval church that survived the 18th century rebuild. The history behind the rebuild was interesting inasmuch that the vicar, Dr Michael Hutchinson, apparently made the unilateral decision to demolish the church which took place over night. There were financial difficulties leaving outstanding debts. There were various disputes with the declining health of Hutchinson, and he resigned in 1728.

James Gibbs was the architect of St Martin in the Fields, London and of three buildings which became part of Kings College, Cambridge. He was to write of All Saints Church, in his Book of Architecture, 'It is the more beautiful for having no galleries, which, as well as pews, clog up and spoil the insides of churches ...' Although pews were to be installed.



Michael D Beckwith
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One of the features of the interior was wrought iron chancel screen by Robert Backwell.



Donald Judge - Creative Commons Attribution 2.0



A twentieth century feature within the cathedral is the stained glass, designed in 1965 by the artist Ceri Richards. The windows symbolize All Saints and All Souls. The abstract design may not be the easiest to understand, but with the light flickering through there is a sense of darkness and light.

Left
Northeast All
Souls window

Right
Southeast All
Saints window

Keith Edkins
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Other features of the cathedral are the bells, clock and carillon. The cathedral has, reportedly, the oldest ring of ten bells in the world. The largest of the bells weighs 2127 lbs./965 kg and is over 500 years old

A new clock was installed in 1927 by Derby clock maker John Smith and Son. The Carillon has been described like a musical box. It plays three times a day, with a different tune for each day. The same bells are used for the clock, change ringing and the carillon.

Click the link to hear the tune All Saints, played each Wednesday.

 **YouTube** <https://youtu.be/9FgzODKFTRE>

For a tour of the cathedral using drone and iPhone created by Buzzin Drones

 **YouTube** https://youtu.be/h6ya0AmLOxE?si=4QD3thXs_9B-P_8



A familiar start to our time of reflective prayer

**Find your favourite space for this time of
prayerful reflection**

light a candle and look at the All Saints window.

**Slow down, breathe calmly, be comfortable
and relax.**

Set aside time

Sense the presence of God in this stillness.

Prayer does not always require words

As you gaze at the window with the brightness of the colours, recall the saints. Let us remember those we have known who are 'acknowledged as holy or virtuous' (Oxford Dictionary) and 'we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses' (Hebrews 12:1)

Give thanks for their lives and witness

A prayer for cathedrals

*Loving God, draw us on the journey
to the places of holiness, the places of peace,
the places of encounter, the places of beauty,
the places where faith has been lived, your love made known,
your hope held out in the past, for the present, into your future.*

Amen.

(This prayer is provided by the Association of English Cathedrals)

Let us pray for all those who work and worship in the cathedral

Vision Prayer

Gracious God,

*in your mercy and for your glory, renew us, reshape us, revive us –
with generous faith, courageous hope and life-giving love –
that, in transformed lives through growing church and building community,
we may see your Kingdom come and be good news for all.*

Amen. (Derby Cathedral)

Click below for The Choir of Derby Cathedral sings Stainer's God so loved the world from his oratorio The Crucifixion. Conductor Peter Gould.

 **YouTube** <https://youtu.be/j9jIrAZVNgc?si=-JGUyNcZoTU21F24>

Let us pray in confidence using the words our Saviour gave us:

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name;
Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil. Amen*

Fr Derek Akker

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(Derek is a retired Anglican Parish Priest and a member of the congregations of All Saints & St James. Prior to his ordination he was accredited as a Methodist Preacher in 1968 and served within the Methodist Church until returning to the Anglican Church in the mid 1980's)

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Parish of Kirklees Valley, Bury, (All Saints, Elton & St James, Woolfold) - In the Diocese of Manchester

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