

HOLY TRINITY, WESTON LULLINGFIELD

Until the middle of the last century Weston Lullingfield was part of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Baschurch. Its people were baptised, married, and buried in Baschurch Church and Churchyard and had to walk or ride (if fortunate enough to possess transport) the two to four miles to Sunday Service, a duty almost obligatory in past centuries.

We do not know whether there was some demand for a village church, or whether the donors were just generous, but a piece of scrub land was given by Frances Kynaston Mainwaring, widow of Charles Kynaston Mainwaring of Oteley, Ellesmere. The Mainwarings had acquired land and property in the district by a marriage in the early years of the 18th century.

The land given was roughly midway between the two parts of the village, Weston Common and Weston Lullingfield. Until very recently, a narrow field opposit the Church was known as "The Pale" i.e. the boundary. The money for the buildings, church and vicarage, was given by Miss Barrett of Prescott.

The Church built in the Early Decorated Style was designed by E. Haycock jun. (E. Haycock sen. designed the Royal Infirmary in Shrewsbury). The Church consist of a nave, chancel and vestry with a covered passage leading to the vicarage, built in the same style.

There are only two wall monuments. One to the memory of Henry Tatton of Petton Lodge who was organist from 1887 - 1930, and one to Rev. E. H. Tuke 1870 - 1915 in whose memory the chancel was embellished. The clock was erected in 1897 at a cost of £60.

In its short history the Church has had a chequered life, the first vicar was the Rev. R. C. Gibson 1854 - 1870. Six vicars followed him then in 1955 a plurality with Hordley was formed with the Rev Stevens as Vicar of Weston and Rector or Hordley. In 1977 under Rev J. Tye it became part of the "Joint Benefices of Hordley, Petton, Cockshutt and Weston Lullingfield". Now the circle is fully turned, for in 1981 it again became linked with Baschurch, as the "Joint Benefices of Baschurch, Weston Lullingfield and Hordley", Rev David L. D. Jones as Rector.

Sadly for the village the splendid and unexpectedly convenient, Victorian Vicarage no longer belongs to the Church, but the Church still remains the lively centre of the village and the loving care which is lavished upon it is witness of its importance to us.