

1 Cathedral Entrance and Tower

The tower was built in the 15th Century as an addition to the existing church. The statue, high up and very much eroded from exposure to the elements, is possibly that of Jasper Tudor. A lot of remedial work is needed to restore the tower to a safe condition - funds are being sought.

This entrance, at the west end of the church, is not original. Access used to be via a door on the south side, where the cathedral shop is now situated.

2 The Narthex

This is the entrance area or porch. To your left, as you enter, is a small door leading to stairs up the tower. Above this area is some storage space, above which is the bell ringing room. The cathedral boasts a ring of 14 bells, rung by our Cathedral ringers as well as by visiting teams. The view from the top of the tower covers all of Newport, and is accessible on special occasions.

In the doors ahead are glass panels etched with images of St David and St Gwynllyw (Woolos), gifted to the cathedral. Pass through into the St Mary Chapel.

8 North Aisle

At one end is the Crindau Chapel and altar with the organ behind. Stained-glass windows celebrate the Morgan family, and below is a memorial to Octavius Morgan, 19th century antiquarian and younger brother of the House of Tredegar. At the west end of the aisle and opposite the Crindau Chapel is the window depicting the presentation of children to Jesus.

7 The East End

Known as the Sanctuary, this is the setting for the High Altar and is dominated by the East Window and reredos (wall) designed by John Piper in 1960. The marbling effect of the mural has proved controversial. On the north side is a small window, not in its original location, reputedly a 'leper window' to allow people with leprosy to watch the service from outside.

6 The Choir and Chancel

Above you hangs the 'Rood', a wire-frame image of Christ Crucified. Commissioned in 2020 and fabricated in Singapore by the artist Tay Swee Siong, this is where in the past would have been a screen to separate the public from the priests. The cathedral has a thriving choir of adults and children, singing from the stalls you see here. The modern Canons' Stalls line the Chancel. In medieval fashion the craftsmen, Thompsons of Kilburn, have left their trademark with the carving of a mouse each side - can you find them?

5 South Aisle

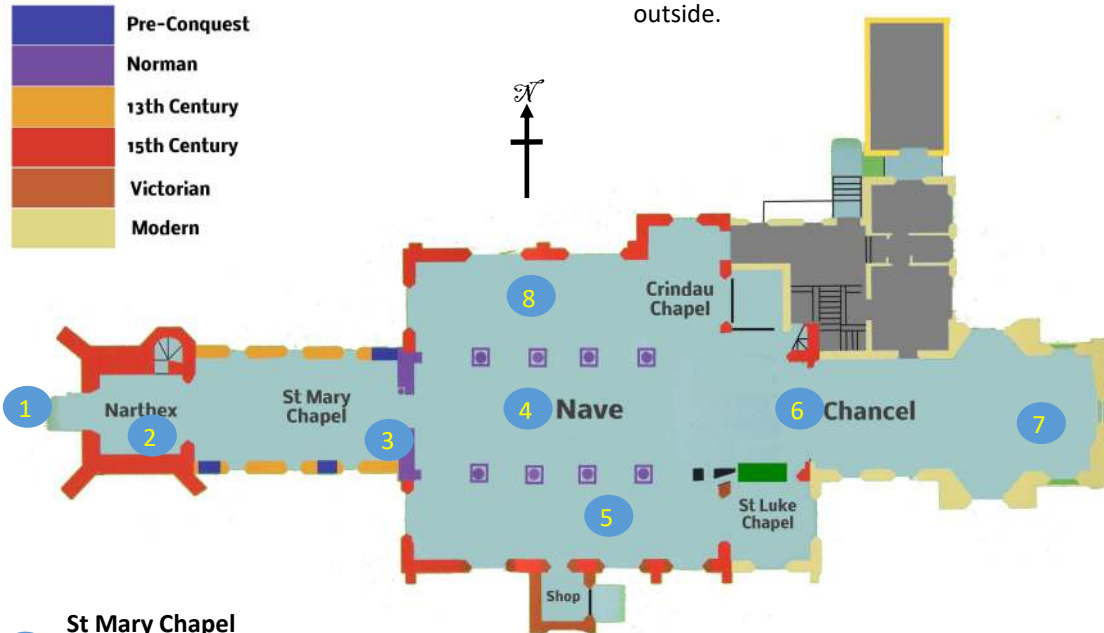
To your right as you enter the nave you see the tomb of Sir Walter Herbert, staunch Yorkist supporter. Passing the shop (opening times on the website) note the 15th C. *piscina* set into the wall. Along the South Aisle are three stained-glass windows depicting Gwynllyw and his family, SS David, Maches and Caradog; and the story of the Good Samaritan.

Set into one of the pillars is a small statuette of Gwynllyw, given in memory of the son of an Archbishop of Wales, who died in a car accident. Ahead is the St Luke Chapel, also known as the Presentation Chapel - the window above the altar depicts that story from the Bible. The chapel will be the subject of renovation and restoration.

For some this chapel is a quiet haven for prayer or contemplation. Jesus awaits you here. If you can, seek his peace and listen to him.

4 The Nave

Norman pillars would have supported the original roof. The clerestory windows would have provided light. The roof you see dates back to 1402, with a recent restoration. It is one of the oldest existing roofs in England and Wales. The inlaid nave altar was commissioned in 2020 to reflect the arches



3 St Mary Chapel

The oldest part of the church, restored to its present form in the 13th Century. Look for:

- the baptismal font - partly Norman, mostly Victorian
- windows to your right depicting SS Mary, Anne and Elizabeth
- icons of Mary (on left) and the Christ, painted *in situ* by Christinel Pâslaru
- the Norman arch leading into the Nave. The delicate carvings are from 11th century and there is much debate about their meaning. Now move on to the nave.

Please feel free to explore the cathedral. If you wish to know more, please visit the guided tour on our website using the QR code here:
All are very welcome to attend services.



Welcome to Newport Cathedral



**Church of St Woolos
King and Confessor**

Cathedral Services
are open to everyone, and all are
very welcome to join us.

Sundays

8.00 am Holy Eucharist
10.30 am Cathedral Eucharist
4.00 pm Choral Evensong

Weekdays

8.00 am Monday to Friday
Morning Prayer
followed by Holy Eucharist
(except Thursdays)
10.30 Thursday Holy Eucharist

5.00 pm Evening Prayer
except Wednesdays
6.30 pm Wednesday
Choral Evensong (Term time)

9.00 am Saturday Holy Eucharist

**Please note that there can be changes
occasionally - check on our website.**

**For enquiries about services and
events please contact the office**
01633-267464



<https://www.newportcathedral.org.uk>

Registered Charity No.1202787

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This has been a site of Christian worship for the past 1500 years. Much has happened to the building over the centuries - below is a brief timeline of significant events and changes:

c.500: Gwynllyw (Woolos), local warlord and king, converted to Christianity and founded the original church, where the St Mary Chapel now stands.

c.1080: Anglo-Normans built nave and archway. The parish was in the hands of Gloucester Abbey.

c.1200: St Mary Chapel heightened, lancet windows inserted.

15th century: The church suffered at the hands of Owen Glyndwr. Restored by Jasper Tudor, tower and side aisles built, and the South aisle was heightened.

c.1650: Monuments damaged by Puritans.

19th century: Various restorations and repairs. The South door was re-opened, the Chancel rebuilt and a vestry added.. The Norman font was rescued and restored.

1854: New St Woolos Cemetery opened 1 mile to the west of the cathedral.

1922: St Woolos Parish Church designated pro-cathedral of the newly-created Diocese of Monmouth and raised to full Cathedral status in 1949.

1960-4: Chancel replaced on grander scale to designs by Alban Caroe and John Piper.

2015: Pews removed to provide flexibility of use and sense of space and architecture.

2020: Installation of the rood, a powerful sculpture of Christ, crafted in steel wire.

We would love to think that you have enjoyed and valued your visit here. We don't charge for visiting, but we hope you feel able to support our work, and our care for the Cathedral fabric. There is a Donation Station at the main door or on the website and we can claim Gift Aid for donations from UK tax payers. Thank you.