

Churches in the Benefice

All Saints', Thorpe Bassett

St Andrew's, Rillington

St Martin's, Scampston

St Peter's, Wintringham

St John the Baptist, Yedingham

St Edmund's, Knapton

All Saints', West Heslerton

St Andrew's, East Heslerton

St Hilda's, Sherburn

If you wish to talk further about
matters of faith and commitment,
please contact

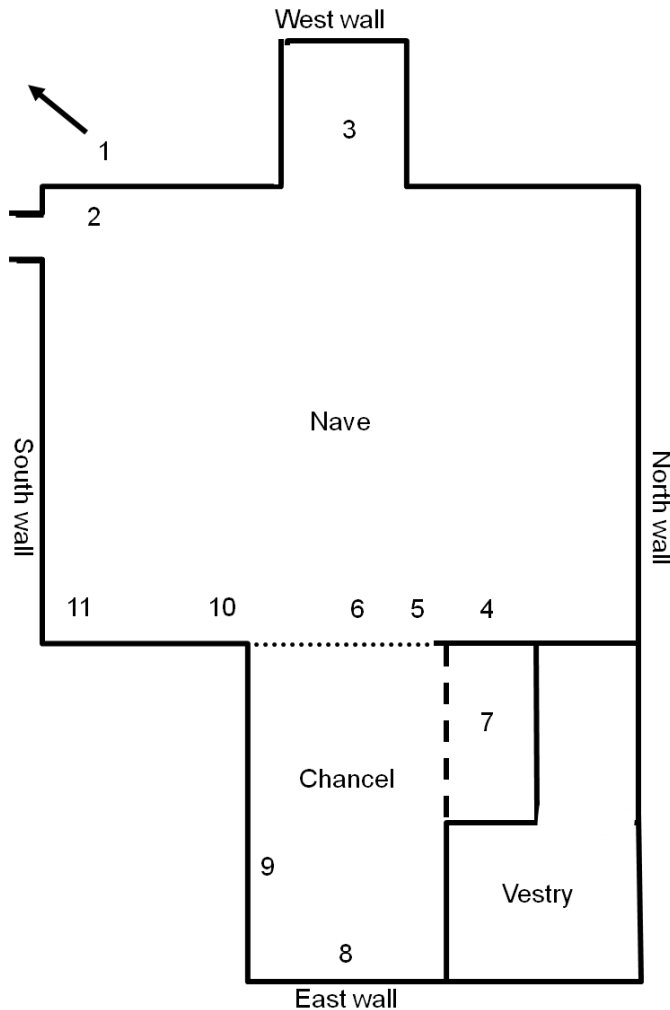
Rev. Judy Duke 01944 758305

St HILDA'S CHURCH



SHERBURN

Benefice of Buckrose Carrs



Welcome to the Church of St Hilda. Hilda is a local saint, founder of Whitby Abbey and grand-niece of the Saxon King Edwin who was responsible for the building of the first Minster in York in 627AD. Much of what you see here today is the result of the rebuilding and restoration work carried out between 1909-12 by C Hodgson Fowler for Sir Tatton Sykes of Sledmere. The work was commemorated by the



erection of a cross in the road as you leave in the direction of the A-64. **You approached the church through the (1) LYCH GATE,** a roofed gateway at the entrance to the churchyard. In previous centuries this was the place where the coffin could be rested (Lych is an old word for "corpse" or "body")

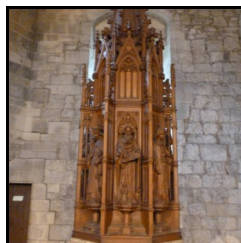
until the start of the funeral. It is unlikely that this gate has been used for this purpose as it was built at the time of the restoration. Our church is the only one in the Benefice to have a square tower, the lower part dates from the C15th and C16th, the upper



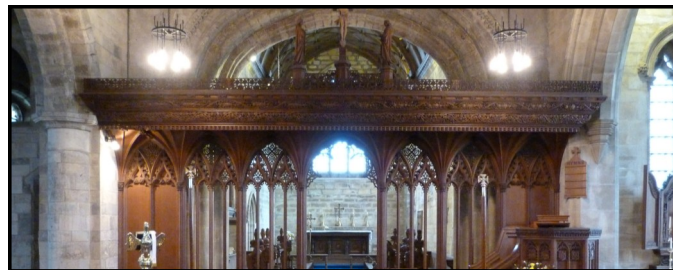
from 1912. It creates an impression of being older with its splendid battlements, stonework and gargoyles. **As you enter the church on your left** is a **(2) C11th NORMAN FONT** (the base and cover are more modern). This is the font that is still



used during baptism services. To the right of the font is an old collection box. **Walk further into the church and pause at the central aisle. Here on your left** beneath the tower there is a very elaborate **(3) 1912 FONT** with its carved wooden cover which needs the pulley system to raise it. The stone bowl borne upon the shoulders of angels, has a Latin inscription from Psalm 42 "As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God"



Around the bowl are carved figures of eight saints. On the pinnacle cover are the carvings of the four Evangelists Mathew, Mark, Luke and John alternating with four female saints, the Virgin Mary, St Hilda, St Anne and St Ethelred. **As you continue down the north aisle** note the Rector boards on your left. **To the right of the vestry** there is a smaller door giving access to the organ and to the right of that there is a **(4) PISCINA BASIN** one of three to be seen in this church. **As you turn** to the rood screen notice the fine roof of the nave, the **(5) BRASS EAGLE LECTERN** with its spreading wings to "carry the word of the Lord" and the beautifully carved vicars chairs. **As you face the altar** you get the best overall view of the body of the church and the **(6) ROOD SCREEN.** The screen is

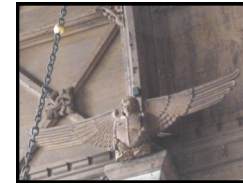


considered to be one of the best in this part of the country. Vaulted on both sides, it has, above the tracery, a four band cornice of carving and is surmounted by a Crucifixion group. On the bosses of the vaulting are Madonna and Child. There are also quaint figures of men, one playing a fiddle, one holding a goose by the neck, one with toothache and another looking down at the pulpit and yawning. On the capital of the screen pillars are birds and boars feeding. **On the left** as you enter the chancel is **(7) THE ORGAN** with its beautifully carved



case with foliage, a bar of music and figures of singers and players. The choir stalls (seats) on both sides of you are C20th in the fashion of the Ripon school. The animals and birds here include a ram, a lion,

an eagle with serpent, the "pious pelican", a bear with grapes, a dragon and a little daschund. Carved along the front of the stalls, but difficult to decipher, are the opening words of the "Te Deum". The altar rails and **(8) ALTAR FRONT** are also beautifully carved and if you look up you will see the splendid waggon roof carved with winged



angels and a brass candelabra. To the side of the altar you will find the other two piscinas, **(9) ONE BEING INSIDE A FINE OAK CUPBOARD** in the south

wall. **As you leave the chancel, note on your left** the **(10) PULPIT** (where the vicar



stands to give the sermon or talk to the people) with its carvings of shields and the four Evangelists. Here also stands an early stone pedestal water stoup (a basin for holy water). **Before turning into the south aisle look to your left** at the side altar on which stands a **(11) SCULPTURE OF THE LAST SUPPER.** As you walk down the south aisle to the exit you may notice in the most westerly window the only fragments of medieval glass that are remaining in this church



showing two lions and three white roses. **We hope you have enjoyed your little tour; take time now to pause, rest awhile in a pew, and think quietly about this lovely building and all those who've worshiped here over the centuries and work to keep our church open to everyone.**