



About Holy Trinity Church

Holy Trinity was built in the 1240s during the reign of Henry III and the south chancel survives almost intact from that period. Subsequent waves of remodelling occurred during the medieval period with that of the nave, aisles and north porch taking place in the 14th century. The south porch, the addition of the vestry and the raising of the aisle roofs with armorial shields added to the buttresses was undertaken in the 15th century.

The church has had a very long association with the Scrope family of Bolton.

Bolton Castle north of the village was founded in 1379, and the status of the family is inscribed in Holy Trinity's interior where they have many monuments and their 17th century private pew.

The oak pews in the chancel speak of an age of chivalry with their heraldic beasts, real and imagined. These pews were carved in the 16th century during the reign of Henry VIII.

Enjoy your visit to this most lovely 'Queen of Wensleydale'.

A thousand years of English history awaits you

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Access

Due to their age, historic church floors can be uneven and worn and lighting can be low level. Please take care, especially in wet weather when floors can be slippery.

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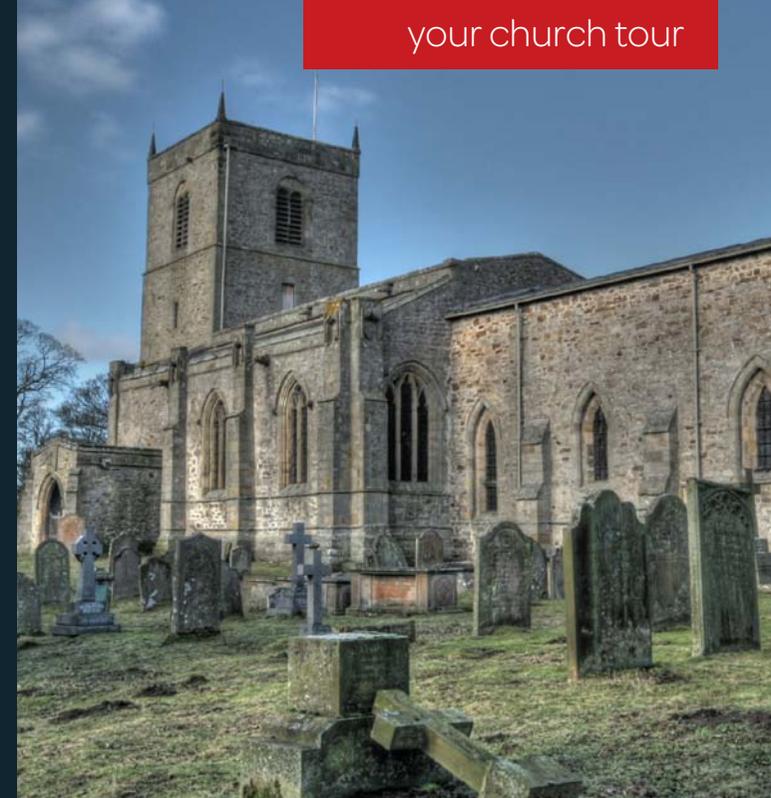
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Church of Holy Trinity

Wensley



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The historic Church of Holy Trinity

10 things to see before you leave...

- 1** The **reliquary** is a container for either the bones of a saint, objects associated with them or other holy items. This reliquary is believed to come from the White Cannon's Abbey of St Agatha at Easby which was established in the Anglo-Saxon period and dissolved by Henry VIII in the 1530s.
- 2** The surviving **paintings** on the north wall of the nave date from the 14th century, and depict in one scene three dead individuals whose corrupt bodies are being eaten by worms. The second painting depicts St Eloi shoeing a horse possessed by the Devil.
- 3** The spectacular **Bolton pew** was constructed during the reign of James I.
- 4** The purbeck marble **Scrope Monument** dating from 1514 commemorates two members of the Scrope family.
- 5** The **pews** are thought to be pre-Reformation possibly late 15th-16th century.
- 6** **Oak chancel pews**. These date from 1527 and were carved by a particularly fine school of craftsmen known as the 'Ripon Carvers' whose work appears in Ripon Cathedral. The poppy-head bench ends are decorated with real and heraldic animal figures.
- 7** **Sedilia** are stone seats located in the sanctuary area and are intended for the officiating clergy and often a feature of medieval churches. They are in the Early English style (late 12th to 13th century) with dog-tooth mouldings.
- 8** This fabulous **brass** commemorates Sir Simon de Wensley who was rector of the church and died in 1394. The full length brass effigy of the Flemish school is considered to be the finest example of its kind in an English parish church.
- 9** The hexagonal sandstone **font** bares the names of two church wardens and the rector George Scott and dates from 1678. The beautifully carved font cover was re-discovered in 1928 under a pile of rubble in the tower!
- 10** **Nave Box Pews and Pulpit**. These are eighteenth century and made of pine. The hexagonal double-decker pulpit is made of oak and dates from 1760.

