

The Parish Church
of the
Holy Trinity
Amblecote



Information for Visitors

General Information

***The Church is open daily for Private Prayer
from 9.00 am. to 5.00 pm.***

***The Blessed Sacrament is reserved
Communion for the Sick and the Sacrament
of Anointing is always available***

The Parish Priest should be informed in cases of serious illness

Baptism, Weddings and Banns of Marriage

Please contact the Parish Priest -Telephone: 01384 - 394057

Sunday Services

8.00 am. Low Mass

10.00 am. Solemn Mass
(Parade Mass 2nd Sunday of the month)

12.00 noon Holy Baptism

6.30 pm. Solemn Evensong
(Last Sunday of the month includes Benediction)

For details of weekday services please see weekly notice sheet

Contacts

Parish Priest - Reverend Alan Williams

The Vicarage, 4, The Holloway, Amblecote, Stourbridge, DY8 4DL

Telephone: 01384 - 394057

E.mail: vicar@holyltrinityamblecote.org.uk

Church Website

www.holytrinityamblecote.org.uk

Welcome

***The Parish Church of the Holy Trinity is open daily
from 9.00 am. until 5.00 pm. during which time we
welcome those who just wish to look around the
building and grounds and others who value the
opportunity for private prayer.***

A Brief History



*Holy Trinity from the High Street
Sketch by Geoff Warburton©*

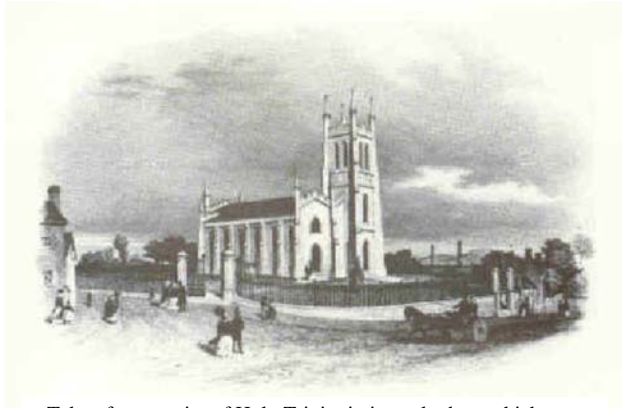
*Amblecote appears in the Dome-
sday Book as Am-bel-coit, or
Elme-le-cote the exact meaning
of which is unclear but could
possibly refer to the wooded or
rural nature of the area. It lay on
the South Western fringe of the
Black Country and formed part
of the Manor of Enville (Enfi-
eld), property of the Earls of Sta-
mford and Warrington.*

*Amblecote was only a tiny hamlet
with an equally small population. In 1662 it had approximately 300
inhabitants; in 1812 this had grown to just over a thousand; by
1862 the figure had risen to just over two thousand and by the end
of the nineteenth century the number had passed three thousand.*

*In 1838 the hamlet was just a sprinkling of cottages along the
turnpike together with some six gentlemen's mansions further away
from the road. Its Parish Church was St. Mary's, Old Swinford, the
Mother Church of Stourbridge as well as Amblecote, which was a
two mile walk from Brettell Lane.*

The Building of Holy Trinity

With the increasing population and growing importance of the area it was considered that Amblecote should have a church of its own, and in 1838 the Lord of the Manor was approached with a request that he should assist the project.



Taken from a print of Holy Trinity in its early days which now hangs in the Vestry.

On February 20th, 1839 at a meeting in the Talbot Hotel, Stourbridge, a letter from The Earl of Stamford and Warrington (dated 20th December, 1838) offered two acres of land and £300 towards the erection of a Church in the hamlet of Amblecote together with an annual endowment of £100.

At a subsequent meeting held in the Public Offices, Stourbridge, on 23rd April, 1839 a committee of twelve was set up to see the project through its building stage. This group decided that the Church should be constructed from brick and faced with Fire-Brick, supplied at cost by William King of Amblecote Hall from his Withymoor works, which gives the building its distinctive old gold colour.

The Church, we believe, was designed in an Early English style by Samuel Heming.

By the beginning of July, 1839 the actual site had been agreed and subscriptions to the building fund now totalled £2,082. 18s. 0d.

On 7th August, 1841 the first stone of the building was laid by James Foster Esq. and prayers were said by the Rector of Old Swinford, the Rev. C. H. Crauford.

The Church was opened for divine service (at a total cost of £4,280 7s. 8d. but not including the Iron Railings given by James Foster valued at £500) on Sunday, 7th August, 1842, and was Consecrated in November, 1844. Amblecote became a separate parish in 1845.

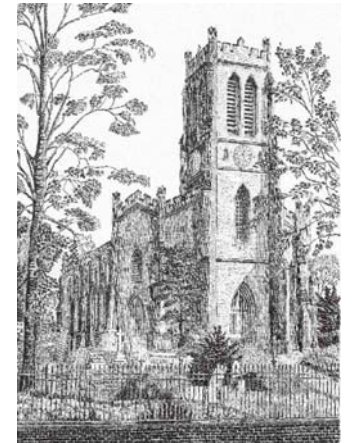
On October 28th, 1849 the Organ, built by J. Nicholson, was opened and an Organist appointed. Three years later the Clock was installed.

The Worship at Holy Trinity

*The style of worship which developed at Holy Trinity would appear to have been highly influenced by the 'Oxford Movement' and the 'Tractarians'. Through a succession of incumbents the style of teaching gradually became more 'Catholic' or *'High Church' with an increasing importance attached to ceremonial. For instance on Good Friday, 1892 an entry in the Register reads 'Stations of the Cross'.*

By 1904 daily Celebrations of the Holy Communion had been instituted and from Easter 1910 there appears to have been Sung Mass every Sunday, a tradition which, from then onwards, has been maintained.

** The title 'High Church' merely signifies that the importance of the Church, its Divine nature and origin, its apostolic order, its Catholicity as affirmed in the Creeds, was held in high repute. 'Low Church' is more concerned with the Individual, and not with the authority of the Church.*



Holy Trinity from the 'War Memorial Club' © Bill Hazlehurst