

St. LUKE ELTHAM PARK

Guide to the church building

St. Luke's church is situated on the junction of Dumbreck and Westmount Roads in Eltham Park and was designed by the great architect Temple Moore. It is built of red brick with stone dressings and was completed in 1907.

Although not one of his most famous buildings it carries his characteristic stamp of space and calm. It is a building which people enter, and immediately feel that it is a place for worship and prayer.

The building is asymmetrical in design and originally consisted of a Nave and North Aisle separated by two

pointed arches. The south wall was originally divided into three bays each of which contained a window. The Nave and North Aisle are covered by a steeply pitched tiled roof which is centred on the Nave and which comes down low on the north side. The Nave has a timber barrel vaulted ceiling

In 1934 the south wall and windows were removed to leave a three bay arcade. A flat roofed South Aisle, Lady Chapel, Porch and Vestry were added leaving the original Nave and North Aisle unaltered. This work was designed by the architect J.B.L. Tolhurst.

To follow this guide, you should start at the West Door, and proceed in a clockwise direction around the interior of the church.



1. WEST DOOR PORCH

This was designed by the church architect Ursula Bowyer and constructed in 1997.

2. MEMORIALS TO OUR BENEFACTORS

These are dedicated to the memories of the church benefactors: Sir George and Lady Vyvyan, Everard Hesketh and Elizabeth Parker.



3. WINDOW IN NORTH AISLE

The stained glass was installed in 1923 along with a Children's Corner beneath it in 1930. The window suffered damage from enemy action in 1944, but was repaired after the war.



4. WAR MEMORIAL

Erected in the early 1920s, it was originally located on the north wall of the sanctuary. It was moved to the north aisle in 1992.

5. LINK PLATFORM

This, together with the glazed Link outside, connects the church and the hall. It was designed by Ursula Bowyer. It also gives improved level access to the hall. The project was completed in 2005 and dedicated by the Bishop of Woolwich, the Right. Revd Christopher Chessun.



6. LECTERN

To the left of the nave altar is the Eagle Lectern, made of brass, it was made in 1912. It is inscribed *To the Glory of God – "Ye have done unto me"*.

7. CHANCEL SCREEN

This was designed by Henley and Douglas Pollock, after a plan by the architect Temple Moore had been rejected, and was installed in 1914.





8. ORIGINAL ORGAN

The original organ was bought from St. Barnabas Rotherhithe for just £35. This was replaced in 1917 by the organ, built by A. Noterman, now seen behind the choir stalls (designed by Temple Moore). In 1978 this was replaced by the present electronic organ, with just the

pipes and console of the old one being retained for appearance.

9. REREDOS

Located behind the high altar, it was planned in 1937 as a Coronation Memorial. In 1954 it was adorned with the four shields of (from left to right) the Dioceses of Winchester, Southwark, Rochester and Canterbury.



10. EAST WINDOW

This was originally glazed with clear glass – there was no stained glass in the church when built. The simple stained glass was added in 1958.



11. ST. LUKE'S BANNER

On a wall between the chancel and Lady Chapel, the St. Luke's banner was designed for the church's 75th anniversary. It was made by Lilian Hill in 1982.



12. CORREGGIO'S ECCE HOMO

A copy, by an unknown artist, of Correggio's Ecce Homo was donated by the Misses Carter in 1910. For many years it hung on the pillar on the north side of the nave. Then it was removed to the middle of the south wall. At present it is on

the south wall of the Lady Chapel. The original painting can be found in the National Gallery.



13. LADY CHAPEL SCREEN

This screen was paid by public donations and dedicated to the memory of the civilians of the parish who died in the Second World War. It was made by Allen of Oxford.



14. STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The Stations of the Cross are a series of fourteen depictions of events on Christ's journey to the Cross. They are numbered and located around the walls of the church, the first of these being to the right of the door on the south wall.

15. THE PULPIT

Designed by Temple Moore, this was originally located on the north side of the church. It is now against a pillar on the south side of the nave.



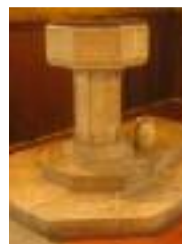
16. DILWORTH MEMORIAL

Next to the font this painting, by Francis Stephenson, shows Jesus surrounded by children. It is in memory of Douglas Dilworth who died in 1980 aged 7; he is the child to the bottom right of the picture looking towards the viewer.



17. THE FONT

The octagonal font, near the west door, replaced the old second-hand one in 1934 (at the same time as the south aisle extension). It is built of Beer stone.



18. FOUNDATION STONE

The foundation stone, near the font, was laid on a gloriously fine day, 7 July 1906, by the Bishop of Southwark's brother, MP for the University of Oxford. A year later, on 5 July 1907, the church was dedicated by the Bishop himself.

