

St Mary's Church, Ashby St Mary

The Parochial Church Council are currently investigating grants for the provision of a meeting room, toilet and kitchen sited on the outside North wall of the church, with access through a door near the font, which was bricked up, possibly early in the 19th century.

Architects are being invited to produce a draft design for the work together with fee proposals to carry through to detailed design and also the processing of funding applications.

A generous anonymous donation by a resident of Ashby St Mary has allowed the refurbishment of the 17th Century ledger slabs on the inner east wall of the church. The ledgers were embedded in the east wall of the church in the late 17th Century. The ledgers show the Lords Prayer, The Ten Commandments and The Creed. During the Victorian Period they were embellished with plaster surrounds. The plaster surrounds have now been repaired and painted and the letters on the ledgers gilded.

As a result the ledger slabs now form a frame to the east window and altar. When the ledgers were unveiled a member of the congregation remarked "They have brought the east end of the church to life".

In addition, as the result of a further anonymous donation by an Ashby St Mary resident, it has been possible provide a new Church Notice Board. The donation paid for the materials and David Godfrey kindly offered to make the Notice Board free of charge.

Terry Kitt
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