



ST. GILES CHURCH . MERSTON . SUSSEX

DATE

The church consists of a chancel and nave with no division between them. Both appear to be of the 13th Century. The north aisle seems to have been added in the early 14th Century and the porch in the 17th Century. On the tie-beam of the porch is cut WI 1637 RI. The south doorway is presumably 13th Century.

WINDOWS

The East window, of three lancets under a single pointed rear arch, is modern.

In the North wall of the chancel is a single lancet with rear arch of the 13th Century and opposite on the South wall is a similar window. Next is a single-light window with a trefoiled head, probably 14th Century, and next, west of the straight joint of chancel and nave, is a 13th Century lancet

In the West wall is a segmental-arched window of the three trefoil-head lights surmounted by perpendicular tracery of the late 14th or early 15th Century. The north aisle has a modern lancet window in the East wall with an elliptical rear arch of the 15th or 16th Century.

ALTAR

The altar table of oak with four turned legs is probably 17th Century. The altar rails have slender balusters of the 18th Century pattern

FONT

The Font has a square basin of the 12th Century form, with worn shallow arcading on each side. It rests on a thick central column surrounded by eight slender ones, all resting directly on an octagonal base and a round sub-base.

BELL

The bell cote is modern, of stone. There was one bell, bell dated 1809, cast at the Whitechapel Foundry, London, by T Mears. This bell was stolen in 1989 but replaced with a 100 year old bell also cast at Whitechapel Foundry, London.

PLATE

The communion plate consists of a silver cup of 1798, a paten, probably of pewter, with no date, and a silver flagon given in 1800 by Richard Berrick of Runcton House in consideration of his being permitted to erect a pew in the chancel.

REGISTERS

The registers, deposited in the County Record Office, Chichester, begin in 1684 for Baptisms 1685 for Burials and 1699 for Marriages.

There are transcripts from the Bishop's Rolls for the years 1594 to 1618 and for the years 1613 to 1754

Hence the registers probably all date from 1594