

Parochial Church Council Fabric Committee

Representatives of the Diocesan Advisory Committee for the Care of Churches (DAC) visited in December 2002 to consider our proposals for a mural. They encouraged us in that, even suggesting a rather bolder approach. They also encouraged us to think more widely about the Chapel and not simply to consider the mural in isolation.

The sanctuary could be opened up and made rather more spacious and the Chapel might be made cleaner and more comfortable. The following lists some of the things we might consider as part of the project to revitalise the Chapel.

1. Remove the priedella (the plinth on which the Altar now stands).
2. Replace the Altar with a smaller and lighter one, or at the very least remove the piece of curtain from the back of the current Altar.
3. Replace the Communion rail with something which is much lighter and which is open; a rail rather than a 'wall'.
4. Provide new, more comfortable, padded seating.
5. Provide new Communion rail kneelers.
6. Provide appropriate lighting to light the mural and adequately light the rest of the Chapel.
7. Provide an induction loop for hearing aid users.
8. Consider whether the heating might be improved. In particular, consider the under floor option.
9. Consider whether any cleaning and redecoration is required elsewhere in the Chapel.
10. Remove some of the odd bits of clutter.

.....and finally a kite...

The Children's Chapel has no dedication. What about taking this opportunity to provide it with one? The obvious dedication would be to St. Edward the Confessor. The foundation stone, which is set into the wall of the Chapel, was laid on his feast day and there is a statue of him inside the Chapel. It would then be the Chapel of St. Edward the Confessor or St. Edward's Chapel. Harold Gibbons, the architect of the church, suggested it should be called St Nicholas' Chapel on his plans – St Nicholas being the patron Saint of children.

If you have any views on these suggestions or any other recommendations please let either myself or the Churchwardens know.

Rev Michael Camp

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