

ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL, NEWCHURCH. 459

Hasted gives the following list of Rectors :

		<i>Henry Wayland</i> , ob <sup>t</sup> 1614.
		<i>John Sandford</i> , prebendary of Canterbury, ob <sup>t</sup> 1629, Sept. 24.
1629		<i>Thomas Jackson</i> , preb <sup>y</sup> of Canterbury, ob <sup>t</sup> 1646, November.
1647		<i>John Banks</i> .
		. . . . <i>Osmanton</i> .
1662		<i>Alex. Burnett</i> (bishop of Aberdeen, 1663).
1663		<i>Robert Boys</i> .
1666		<i>Edward Ladbroke</i> , ob <sup>t</sup> 1676.
1676		<i>Obadiah Brookesbye</i> .
1685		<i>Nicholas Battely</i> , vicar of Bekesborne, ob <sup>t</sup> 1705.
1705		<i>Elias Sydall</i> (bishop of St. David's, 1731).
1731		<i>George Jordan</i> , ob. 1754, Oct. 26, Chancellor of Chichester.
1754	Nov.	<i>Henry Heaton</i> , vicar of Boughton Blean, and prebendary of Ely, ob <sup>t</sup> 1777.
1777	Nov.	<i>Bladen Downing</i> , vicar of Waldershare ; resigned 1789.
1789		<i>Anthony Hammond</i> , rector of Knolton ; also vicar of Brenset.

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There is no trace of Norman work to be found in this church, although Newchurch is mentioned in Domesday Book, as the name of a Hundred. It would seem either that the original church, from which this place obtained its name, must have been pulled down, or that, in the process of enlarging it, all traces of early work have disappeared.

The dedication of the church, to St. Peter and St. Paul, is alluded to in the ornamentation of the font and of the west doorway. The keys and sword, symbols of those Apostles, appear upon two of the font's eight fluted sides. The font's stem is buttressed and stands upon steps. The

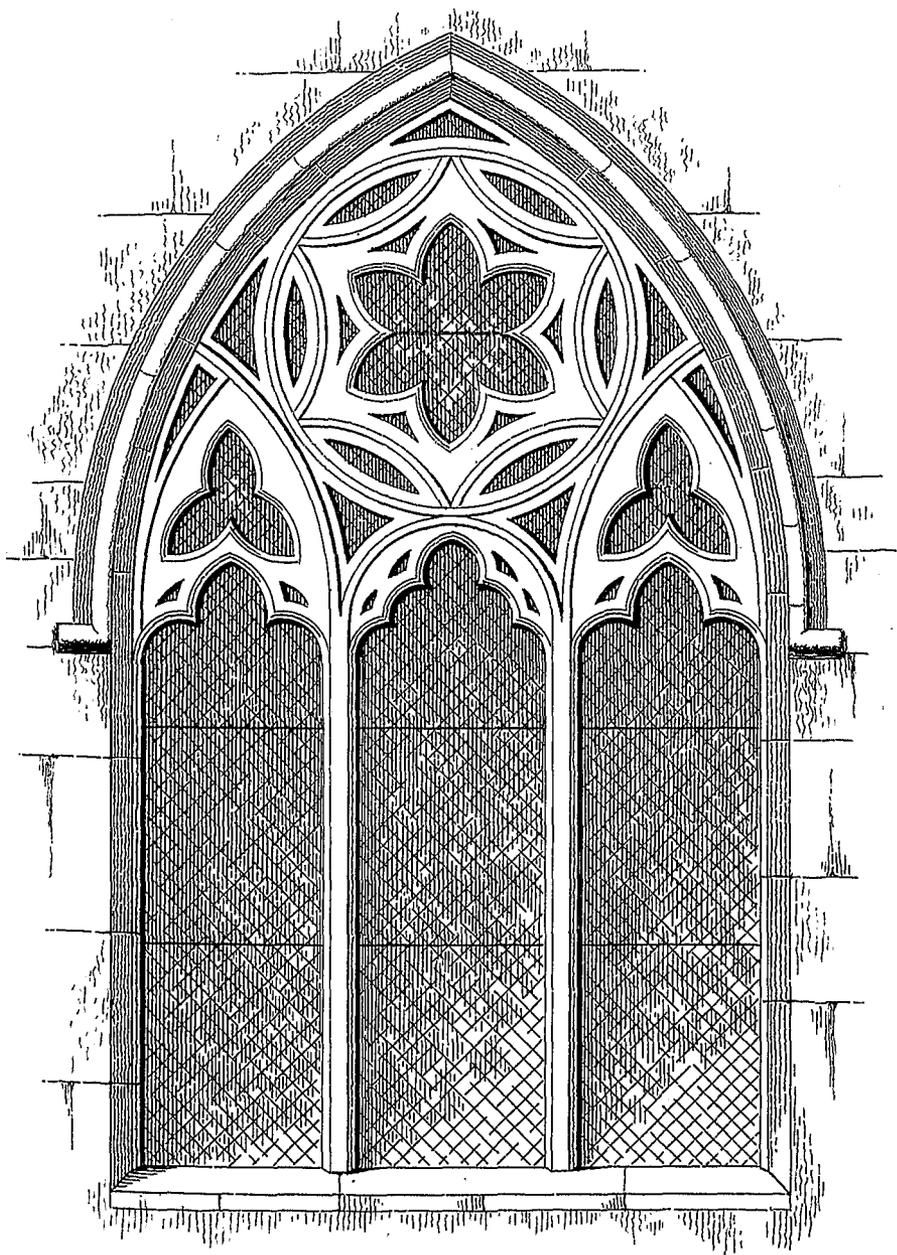
heads of St. Peter and St. Paul appear, as terminals to the square-headed label, on the west doorway of the tower. Both the font and the tower are of the Perpendicular period.

Three Lancet windows, in the chancel, are the earliest features now discernible; probably they, and the arches north and south of the chancel, were erected in the thirteenth century. The church seems to have been remodelled, and probably enlarged, in the fourteenth century. As the north aisle is wider than its fellow on the south, perhaps the difference may indicate an interval of some years between the dates of their erection.

The arcades north and south of the nave, each of four bays, have slender octagonal shafts, of the fourteenth century. Several windows of the Decorated period remain, but one of three lights, in the east wall of the south aisle, is especially worthy of notice. In the *Builder* (for Aug. 9, 1879, p. 885), it is said, "the windows of Newchurch Church, of about 1320, particularly the three-light windows, would be notable anywhere for variety, and quality of design; the large circles, generally sexfoiled, in the heads, are in good relation to the lights below, which does not often happen in windows of this class."

A piscina, in the south wall of the aisle, has an ogeed, five-foiled arch; the corresponding aumbrye is rectangular. The eastern portion of this aisle is screened off as a vestry, with some fifteenth-century screenwork, which may have formed part of the rood-screen. Within this vestry there is an old chest, formed of fragments, simply carved with arcading, and cusped circles, some of the fourteenth, and others of the fifteenth century. The wall-plates of this south aisle are well moulded, and the ends of the wall-pieces are carved. A Decorated label, or hood-mould, remains over the arch of the south doorway, although the doorway itself was renewed, apparently, in the fifteenth century.

The rood-loft doorways, rectangular in form, are still visible, east of the chancel arch, piercing the north and south arcade-walls of the chancel. No steps remain, nor are there any traces of a rood-stair. The rood-screen must have stood within the chancel; not quite so far westward as usual.



EAST WINDOW, SOUTH AISLE-NEWCHURCH.

In the north aisle, some three-light windows have the "waved" or "reticulated" tracery, which was so popular in the churches of this district during the fourteenth century. The east window contains some fragments of coloured glass, bearing suns and roses, probably of the end of the fifteenth century. The north wall-plate of the roof is moulded. An original doorway of the fourteenth century remains in the north wall, and over it is a porch which contains a holy-water stoup.

The north chancel is, probably, that which was dedicated to St. Mary the Virgin. Within it, the lay Fraternity or Guild of St. Mary held its periodical services, and maintained a light or taper burning before the altar, or image, of the Virgin. In 1483, Thomas Rowe, of this parish, making his will, directed that £10 should be given to a priest, who should during one year sing a Trental of Masses, within this chancel of St. Mary, for the good of his soul. To the light of St. Mary, Thos. Rowe bequeathed 12d.; John Cobbes (1472) 3s. 4d.; and Thomas Thomlyn (1475) 12d. To the Light of St. Mary's Fraternity, Roger James (1463) left 3s. 4d., and to that Fraternity, Thomas Jan (1480) left a bushel of wheat.

An other side chancel, probably the south, was dedicated to St. Michael, and St. Thomas of Canterbury, Martyr. Within it was an image, and possibly also an altar, in honour of St. Michael the Archangel. It is mentioned as the chapel of Saints Michael the Archangel and Thomas the Martyr, in the will of John Cobbes, of Organers Manor, otherwise called Cobbes Place, dated 1472. He directed that he should be buried within that chapel, and that in it during seven years a priest should sing masses for his soul. Eleven years later, in 1483, Thomas Rowe, of this parish, by his will left £6 13s. 4d., to pay a priest who should, during one year, sing a Trental of Masses, for his soul, in the chancel of St. Thomas, within this church. The same testator left £10 towards the repair of the nave, and £20 to be expended in the purchase of a suit of vestments for use in Newchurch Church. Twenty-four years earlier, in 1459, Stephen Porter of Iychurch left £5 to buy a new vestment for this church. Probably in the old carved chest, still existing, some of these

vestments were preserved, until in December, 1552, it was certified that the church then possessed the following dis-used vestments:—three copes, of crimson velvet, green damask and white silk respectively; three chasubles, of crimson velvet, white silk, and blue silk respectively; and a deacon's tunicle of crimson velvet.

There was here in 1552 only one chalice, which weighed seven ounces; yet in 1472 John Cobbes had bequeathed a new chalice to this church; and in 1475 Richard Pulton, of Lydd, had bequeathed to it another. A new service book or "Portifory" was left to the church by the will of Roger James, dated 1463; and John Cobbes (1472) bequeathed a black cloth, with a white cross upon it, to serve as an obit cloth, or funeral pall. To the Herse Light he left 3s. 4d.; and to it, also, were two sums of 12d. left, by the wills of Thomas Thomlyn (1475) and Thomas Rowe (1483).

The most remarkable bequest occurs in John Cobbes' will\* (1472):—

"I will that my seyd feoffees make a stat' to 24 of the worshipfullest and trustiest and most wysest of the parish of Newchirche and of the contry adjoynaunt of all the seyd londs & tenements to thentent y<sup>t</sup> they shall morteys a Chauntrie of 4 priests to singe in the chirch of Newchurch, and none other place, takyng every priest 12 marcs by y<sup>e</sup> yere." One treasurer or bursar was to be appointed, by whom account should be rendered each Michaelmas in Newchurch Church to the 24 Feoffees, and to all the parish. If however this bequest could not legally be carried out, then one priest was to sing mass for John Cobbes' soul, continually, during 30 years in Newchurch Church, at a stipend of 11 marcs per annum; "he kepyng the quire the halyday and other tymes nedeful."

\* The will of John Cobbes mentions his wife Dionisia, heiress of the Bonington family, who had been the widow of Roger Bregland. His sons William and Edward Cobbes are likewise named. Alice Cobbes, who married first Sir John Norton of Norwood in Milton, and secondly John Brooke of Newington, Sittingbourne, son of Lord Cobham, was probably a great-granddaughter of John Cobbes. Her father was named Edward, and Berry states that he was a son of William Cobbes the son of John. Lady Norton (or Mrs. Brooke) died in 1580, and was buried in Newington Church, where a monumental brass commemorates her. Berry in his *Kentish Genealogies* (p. 149) gives only three sons of John and Dionisia Cobbes: John, who died without issue; William, aged 80 in 1472, died 22 Hen. VIII; and Thomas, ancestor of the Cobbes of Aldington, Otterpley and Bilsington. Berry makes John Cobbes, who died 1472, to have been the son of Edmund (5 Hen. V), the son of Edward (10 Ric. II), the son of Richard (11 Ed. III), the son of John (17 Ed. II).

Such testamentary dispositions as this explain the large size of churches, in parishes of small populations. They were not built, or enlarged, merely for the accommodation of the living at ordinary worship, or in their guild services. They were designed quite as much, or more, in order that the souls of the dead might reap such advantages as were supposed to accrue, from the perpetual, or oft repeated celebration of masses, on their behalf. The Chantry priests, and mass priests, required several separate altars, each with its fitting environments, in order that the accumulated bequests and directions, of successive generations of parishioners, might be simultaneously complied with.\* These practical requirements of space, added to the desire of many devout persons to render the churches, and the service of God, as magnificent as their means would permit, caused mediæval churches to be made of such large dimensions as excite the wonder of our own generation.

At Archbishop Warham's visitation, held in 1511, the parishioners represented that the Chancel needed repair, and that the Vicar was non-resident with the Archbishop's license. The small population, returned as eight adults only in 1636, no doubt excused this non-residence, but as there was a sinecure Rector, as well as a Vicar, it might have been expected that one of them would have been resident. Archbishop Warham directed that the lessee of the rectorial property (tithes and land) must repair the chancel, the two parsonage barns, and the insufficient fence around the parsonage.

In December, 1552, there were four bells in the steeple. One of the bells, now in the tower, is inscribed, "John Wilnar, 1637."

The Communion plate has been examined by Mr. Wilfred Cripps, who says that the cup was made, in London, during A.D. 1568-9, and is ornamented with the usual Elizabethan engraved belt. The maker's mark is a bird's claw erased, on a shaped escutcheon.

\* When chantries were dissolved, by Henry VIII, there were in Newchurch three annual obit rents: (i) Stephen Symon's, of 6s. 8d. for ever; (ii) John Gallewey's, of 20s. for twenty-one years yet to come; and (iii) Wm. Avenard's, of 13s. 4d. for six years yet to come.

The paten, Mr. Cripps says, would be described as a small shaped waiter, or salver, on three small feet. Made in London, 1766-7, it bears a maker's mark which is common on domestic plate, <sup>T.H.</sup><sub>I.C.</sub>

## RECTORS AND VICARS OF NEWCHURCH.

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- Mag. *Ric. de Copeland* (1285, Oct. 26) (Peckham's Reg., 30<sup>b</sup>).
- 1287-8 Feb. Mag. *Rob. de Sidestone*, subdeacon, *vice* C., dead (Ibid. 37<sup>a</sup>).
- 1289 Sept. *Ds. John de Hasele*, prebendary of Dale (Ibid. 40<sup>a</sup>)  
*Robert de Norton* (1357) (Islip's Reg., 276<sup>b</sup>).
- 1359 Dec. *Giles de Wyngreworth*, rec. Wardeboys, Linc.; *vice* N. res<sup>d</sup>. (Ibid.)
- 1361 Dec. *Thos de Melborn*, rec. Langeton, Linc.; *vice* W. promoted (Ibid. 300).
- 1370 Nov. *William de Melborn*, rec. Stamford, Linc.; *vice* M. exch<sup>d</sup>. (Whittlesey's Reg. 82, 83).
- 1373 May *Wm. Braybroke*, exchanged with M. (Ibid. 94).
- 1379 May *John de Broughing*, rec. of Braybroke by exchange with Braybroke (Sudbury's Reg., 129<sup>b</sup>).
- 1386 May *Ric. atte Broke*, rec. G<sup>t</sup> Mongeham, by exchange with B. (Courtenay's Reg., 262<sup>a</sup>).  
*John atte Lee* in 1387 Nov. 13 (Ibid. 268).
- 1390 Dec. *William Aston* (Courtenay's Reg., 278<sup>a</sup>).  
*Thos. Atherton*, ob<sup>t</sup>. 1400 (Arundel's Reg., i., 266).
- 1399-1400 Mar. *Andrew Coryton* (Ibid. 266).
- 1402-3 Mar. 2 *William Ryvaus* (master of Cobham College in 1403), *vice* Coryton res<sup>d</sup>. (Ibid. 286<sup>b</sup>).
- 1407 Dec. 26 *Ric. Rypon*, *vice* Ryvaus res<sup>d</sup>. (Ib. i. 318, ii. 58).  
*Mag. Ric. Cordon*, exchanged in 1445.
- 1445-6 Feb. *Robt. Hereford* (Bourghier's Reg., 60<sup>b</sup>); he continued to be rector in June, 1455.  
*John Parmenter*.
- 1472-3 Feb. *Simon Hoigges*, *vice* P., resigned (Ibid. 107<sup>b</sup>).
- 1482 June *John Riche*, *vice* H., resigned (Ibid. 130<sup>b</sup>).  
*Thomas Parham*, or *Pecham*, resigned in 1507.
- 1507 Dec. *Edward Hyggyns*, Doc. Dec., (Warham's Reg., 331<sup>b</sup>).

- 1515 Oct. *Thos. Baschurch*, rec. Newington, London, by exchange with H. (Ibid. 359<sup>a</sup>).
- 1522-3 Jan. *Ingelram Bedhill*, vice B. resigned (Ibid. 376<sup>b</sup>).  
*Ric. Grente*, LL.D. in July, 1533.
- 1542 Aug. *Martin Tindall*, vice G. dec<sup>d</sup>. (Cranmer's Reg. 389<sup>b</sup>).
- 1559-60 Feb. *Humfry Jordeyn*, vice Tindall deceased (Parker's Reg. 341-2).

## VICARS OF NEWCHURCH.

A Vicarage was ordained in 1297 (Winchelsey's Reg., 214<sup>b</sup>)  
..... *Legthor*.

- 1357 July *Edmund Cranmer*, vice L. res<sup>d</sup>. (Islip's Reg. 276<sup>b</sup>).
- 1360-1 Mch. *Robert ad Crucem*, vice C. res<sup>d</sup>. (Ibid).
- 1371-2 Jan<sup>y</sup>. *Roger Colyn*, rec. Onhouse, Norwich, by exchange with C. (Whittlesey's Reg., 89).
- 1373 June *William atte Cherche*, rec. Blackmanston, by exch. with C. (Ibid. 94).
- 1376 July *Richard Clerke*, vice Will<sup>m</sup>. Aleyn, dec<sup>d</sup>. (Sudbury's Reg., 114<sup>a</sup>).
- 1387 Nov. *Thos. Islip*, rec. S. Haningfield, by exch. with Clerke (Courtenay's Reg., 268).  
*William Taylor*.
- 1403 Nov. *John Whityng*, vic. Rolvenden, by exch. with T. (Arundell's Reg., i., 291<sup>a</sup>).
- 1405 Nov. *Walter Frost*, vic. Wendover, Linc., by exch. with W. (Ibid. 305<sup>b</sup>).
- 1406 Oct. *Hen. Hennor*, vic. Bocton Monchesey, by exch. with F. (Ibid. 310).
- 1410 June *William Pollard*, dean of Bangor, by exch. with H. (Ibid. ii., 58<sup>a</sup>).
- 1410 July *Walter Cade* of B. and W. diocese, vice Pollard res<sup>d</sup>. (Ibid. ii., 58<sup>b</sup>).
- 1410-1 Feb. *Hugh Deye*, vice Cade res<sup>d</sup>. (Ibid. ii., 61<sup>a</sup>).
- 1412 July *Simon Moos*, rec. Thymelthorpe, Norwich, by exch. with D. (Ibid. ii., 64<sup>ab</sup>).
- 1412-3 Feb. *Wm. Bebyngton*, rec. Wenyngton, by exch. with M. (Ibid. ii., 65<sup>b</sup>).  
*Richard Barker*, exchanged in 1443.
- 1443 Aug. *Walter Spaldyng* vic. of Romney (Stafford's Reg., 87<sup>b</sup>).

1455	June	<i>William Leche</i> , rec. Harbledown, by exch. with S. (Bourgchier's Reg., 60 <sup>b</sup> ).
1456	Oct.	<i>Thos. Fendik</i> , vice Leche dec <sup>d</sup> . (Ib. 65 <sup>a</sup> ).
1474	May	<i>Thos. Maltby</i> , vice Fendik dec <sup>d</sup> . (Ib. 110 <sup>a</sup> ). <i>Richard March</i> , vice Maltby dec <sup>d</sup> . (Ib. 112 <sup>a</sup> ).
1476	Oct.	<i>Adam Rydley</i> , vice Marsh res <sup>d</sup> . (Ib. 114 <sup>b</sup> ).
1477	Aug.	<i>Ric. Bergrove</i> (? rec. Snergate, 1456) vice Rydley res <sup>d</sup> . (Ib. 115 <sup>b</sup> ). <i>William Bonar</i> , died in 1505.
1505	July	<i>William Water</i> (Warham's Reg., 324 <sup>b</sup> ).
1508-9	Jan <sup>y</sup> .	<i>William Peete</i> , vice Water dec <sup>d</sup> . (Ib. 334)
1515	Aug.	<i>Ric. Crofte</i> , chaplain of Buckingham's Chantry (Ib. 358).
1528	Nov.	<i>Adam More</i> , vice Crofte res <sup>d</sup> . (Ib. 397).
1533	July	<i>Thos. Smyth</i> , vice More (Cranmer's Reg. 340 <sup>a</sup> ).

Hasted, viii., 344, gives the following names of those who have held the amalgamated Rectory and Vicarage together:—

1662	May	<i>Paul Knell</i> .
1672		<i>Edward Sleighton</i> , ob <sup>t</sup> . 1686.
1686	Sept.	<i>John Pomfret</i> , ob <sup>t</sup> . 1712, June 8; buried at Bidenden.
1712		<i>Josiah Woodward</i> , D.D., ob <sup>t</sup> . Aug. 6th, 1712.
1712	Sept.	<i>Samuel Weller</i> , LL.B. ob <sup>t</sup> . 1731 (rector of Sundridge and incumbent of Maidstone).
1731	Oct.	<i>William Wilson</i> , ob <sup>t</sup> . 1738.
1738	July 15	<i>Arthur Kite</i> , ob <sup>t</sup> . 1765.
1765	Sept 18	<i>Robert Tournay</i> , ob <sup>t</sup> . June 1785 (rector of Bonington also).
1785		<i>Charles Stoddart</i> .

### ST. NICHOLAS, NEW ROMNEY.

This noble church, which is mainly of the Norman and Decorated styles, has a nave of five bays, and a chancel of three, each with aisles, and all conterminous. In and from the 13th century, St. Nicholas was the mother church of the town; and the parish churches of St. Martin and St. Laurence were its dependent chapelries.