

Re-ordering in small parish churches (Some recent projects - 2010-2026)



Here are some recent liturgical projects for parish (and other smaller) churches, as opposed to the major abbeys and cathedrals.

Invariably, we have had to adapt our approach to reflect the smaller scale and character of the individual building and its parochial needs, as well as the architectural setting.

LUKE HUGHES FSA FRSA

April 2026



Reordering (2013)

St Andrew's, Feniton



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Eucharist layout

St Andrew's, Feniton

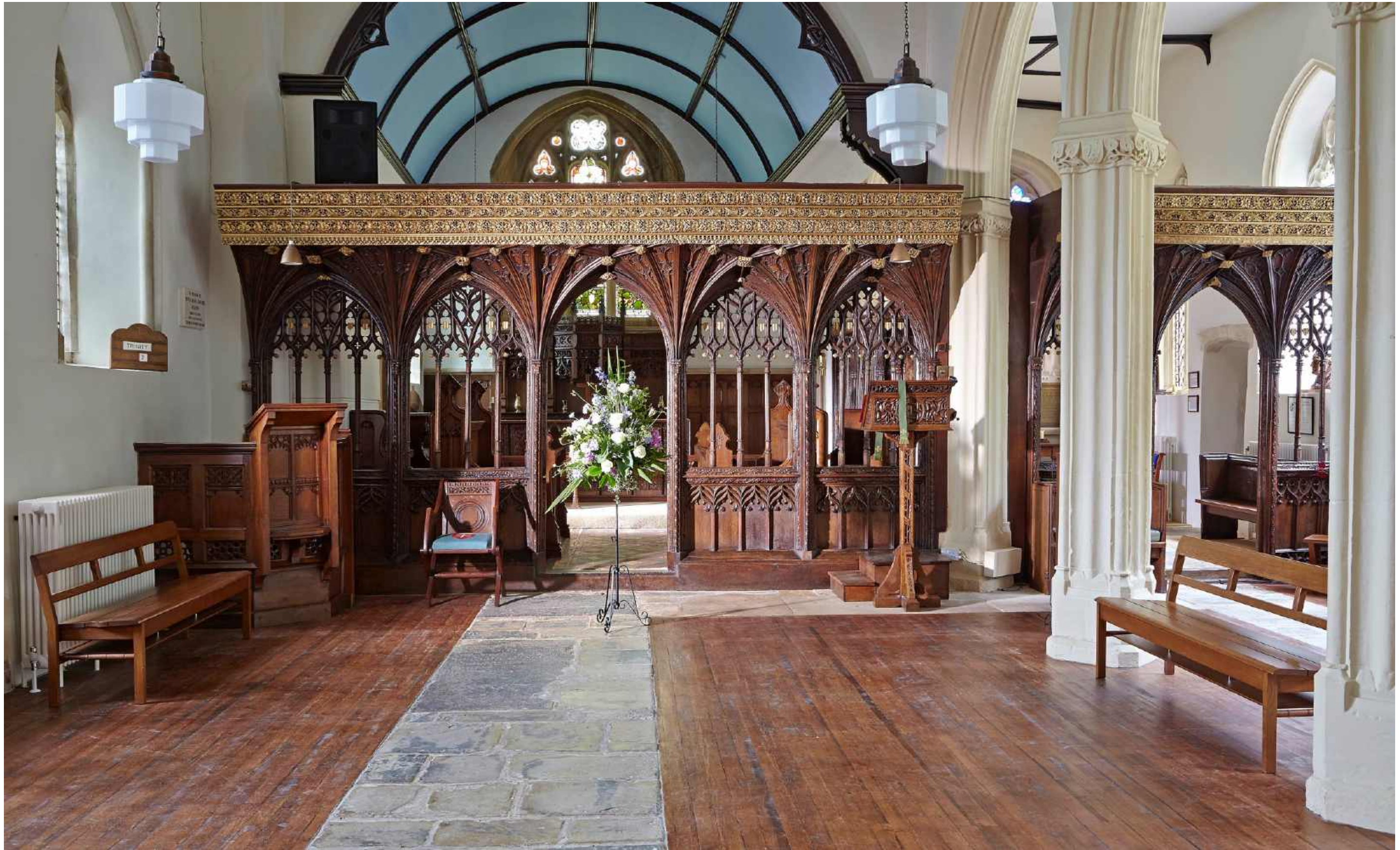


Eucharist layout

St Andrew's, Feniton



Collegiate layout
St Andrew's, Feniton



Cleared for community use

St Andrew's, Feniton





Looking West
St Andrew's, Feniton



Community use for lectures and parish events
St Andrew's, Feniton



Re-ordering (2014) St Peter ad Vincula (Tower of London)



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The refurbishment of the **Chapel Royal of St Peter ad Vincula** at the Tower of London was attended by HM the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Michael of Kent, the Bishop of London, the Constable of the Tower (with the Luke Hughes team in attendance).

Situated within the Tower's Inner Ward, the Chapel dates from 1515 and is a Royal Peculiar. Rebuilt for Henry VIII by Sir Richard Cholmondeley, it has been a site of religious worship since before the Norman Conquest. Burial place to three Queens of England and two Saints of the Catholic faith, the Chapel is named for St Peter, whose story influences the design of the space and its furnishings.. The site, which sees 100,000 visitors a month, has undergone a period of restoration during 2014, including new lighting and a renovation of its historic organ, parts of which date back to 1699.

The reseating of the chapel included new bespoke chairs, liturgical furniture, choir stalls and altar.

Introduction

St Peter ad Vincula, Tower of London



New seating and liturgical furniture

St Peter ad Vincula, Tower of London



Nave furnishings

St Peter ad Vincula, Tower of London



Select details, liturgical furniture

St Peter ad Vincula, Tower of London





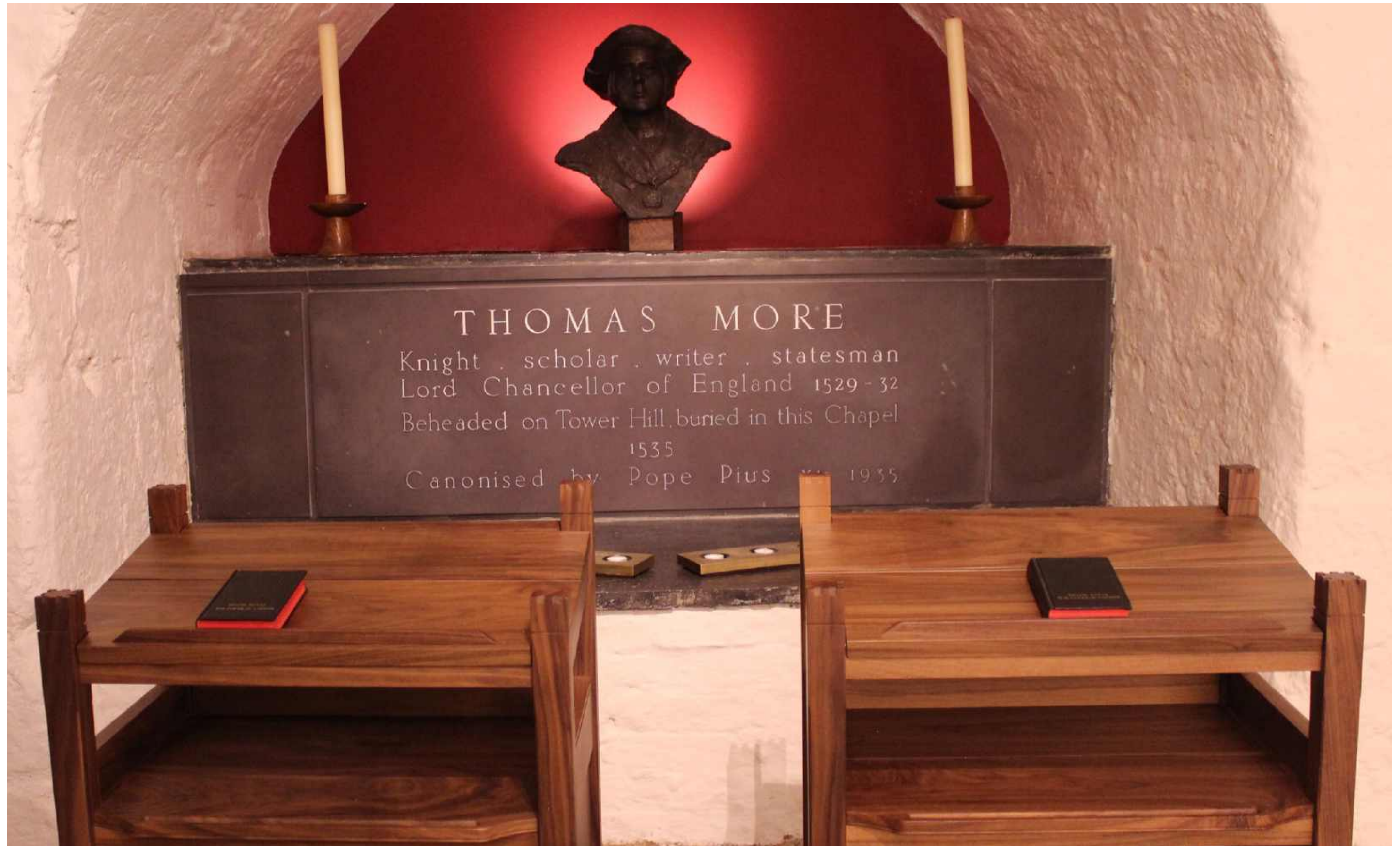
St Peter ad Vincula - rededication on 16 October 2014

Tower of London



Signing the Visitor's Book, by the tomb of St Thomas More

St Peter ad Vincula, Tower of London



Prayer desks, at the tomb of St Thomas More
St Peter ad Vincula, Tower of London



Seating and liturgical furniture

Chapel of St John, Tower of London



Seating and liturgical furniture

Chapel of St John, Tower of London



President's chair

Chapel of St John, Tower of London

20

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Re-seating (2012) St Mary's, Shroton

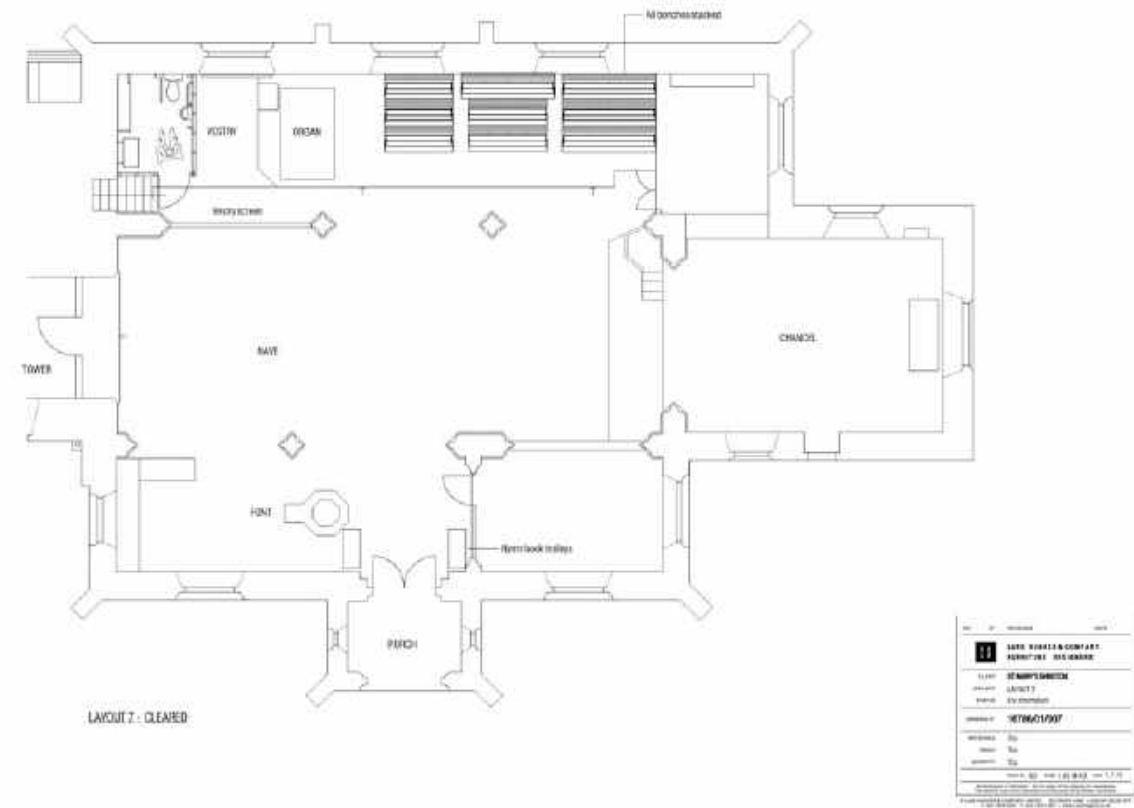
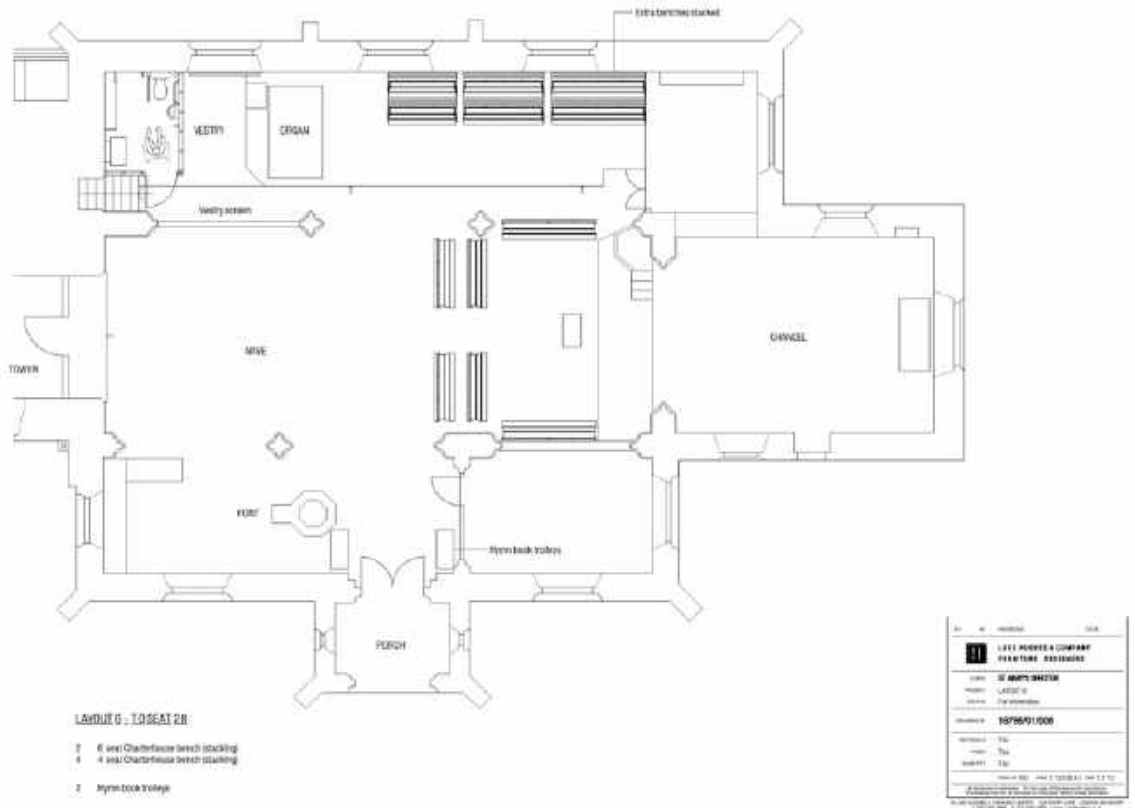
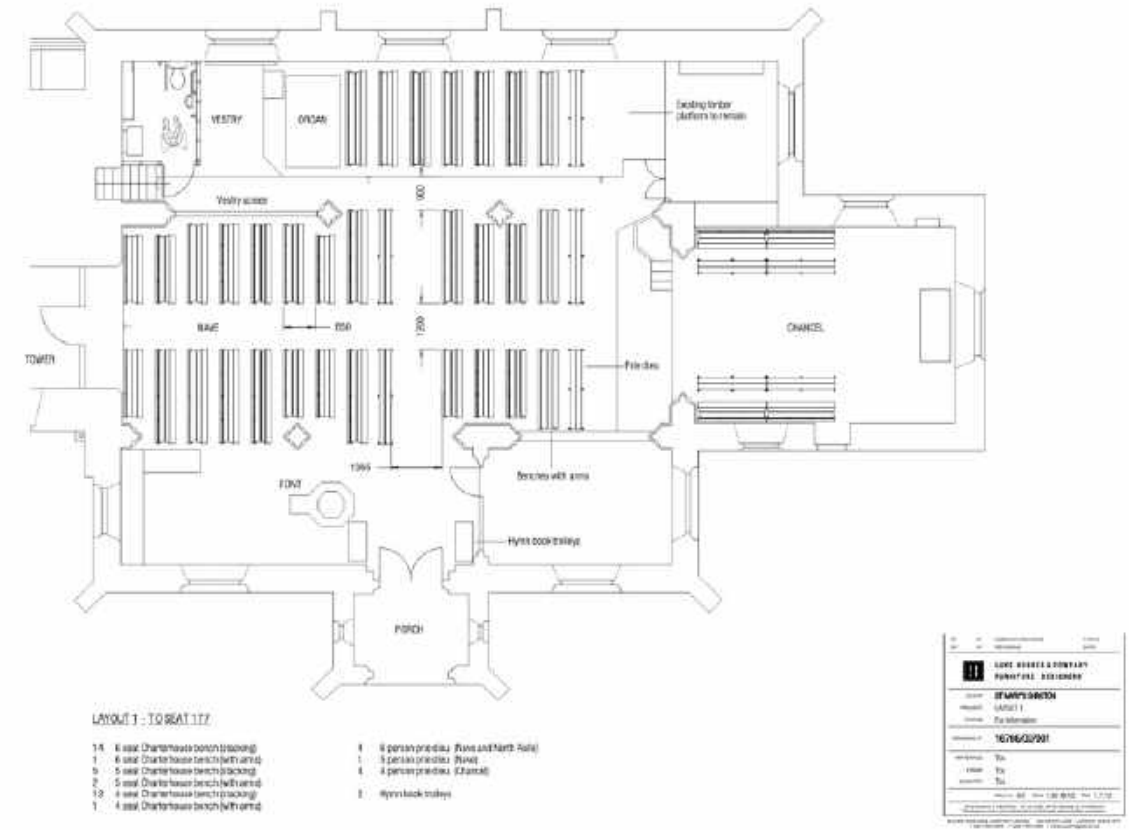
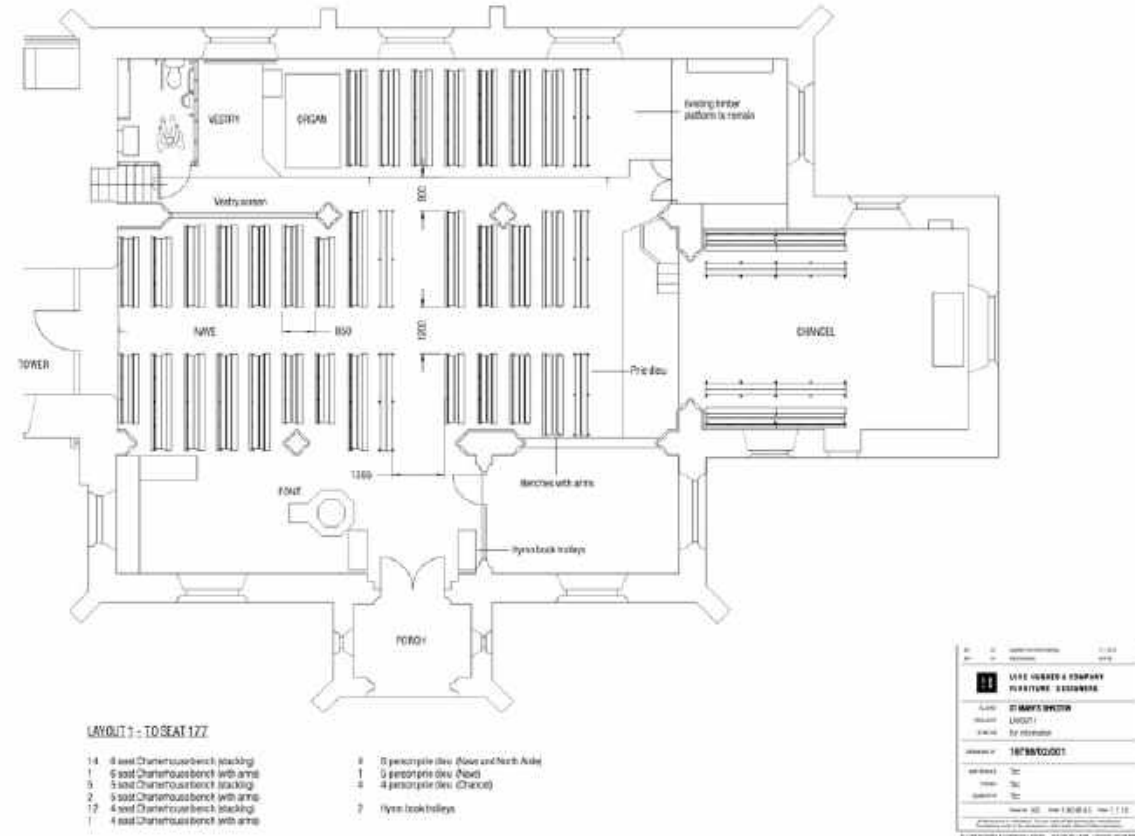


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Before
St Mary's Shroton
22





Layout options

St Mary's Shroton





Complete (2015)

St Mary's Shroton



Re-seating (2009)

St Andrew's, Alderton

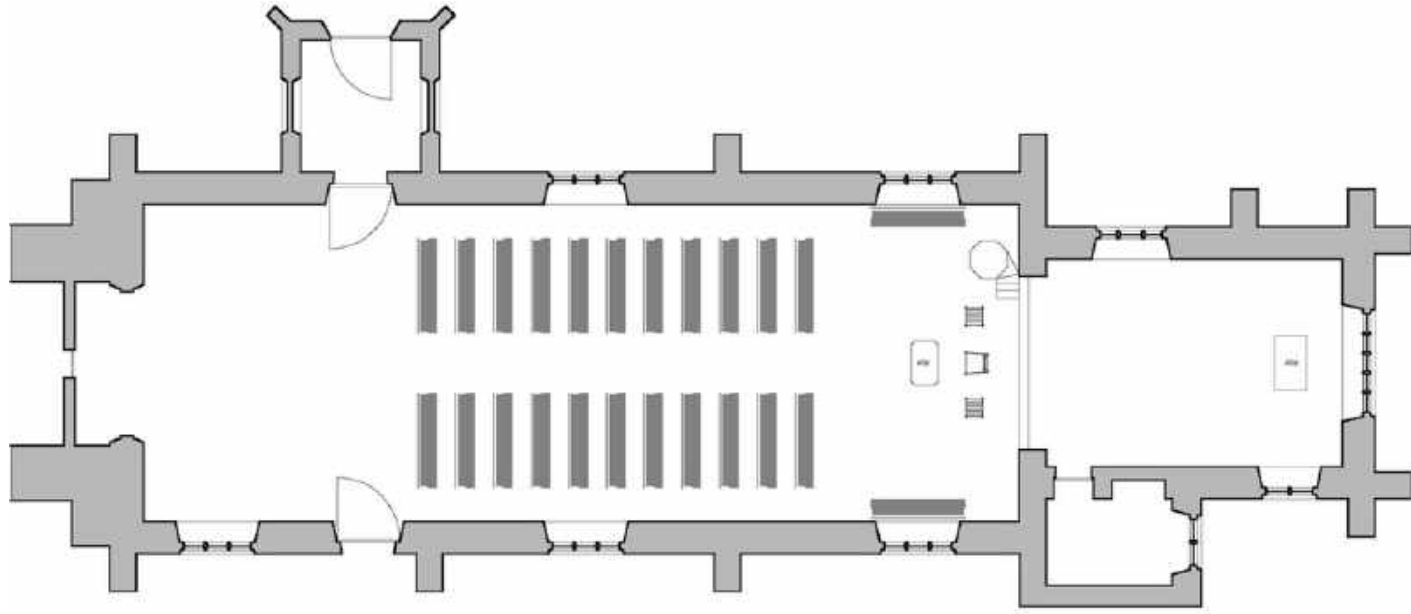


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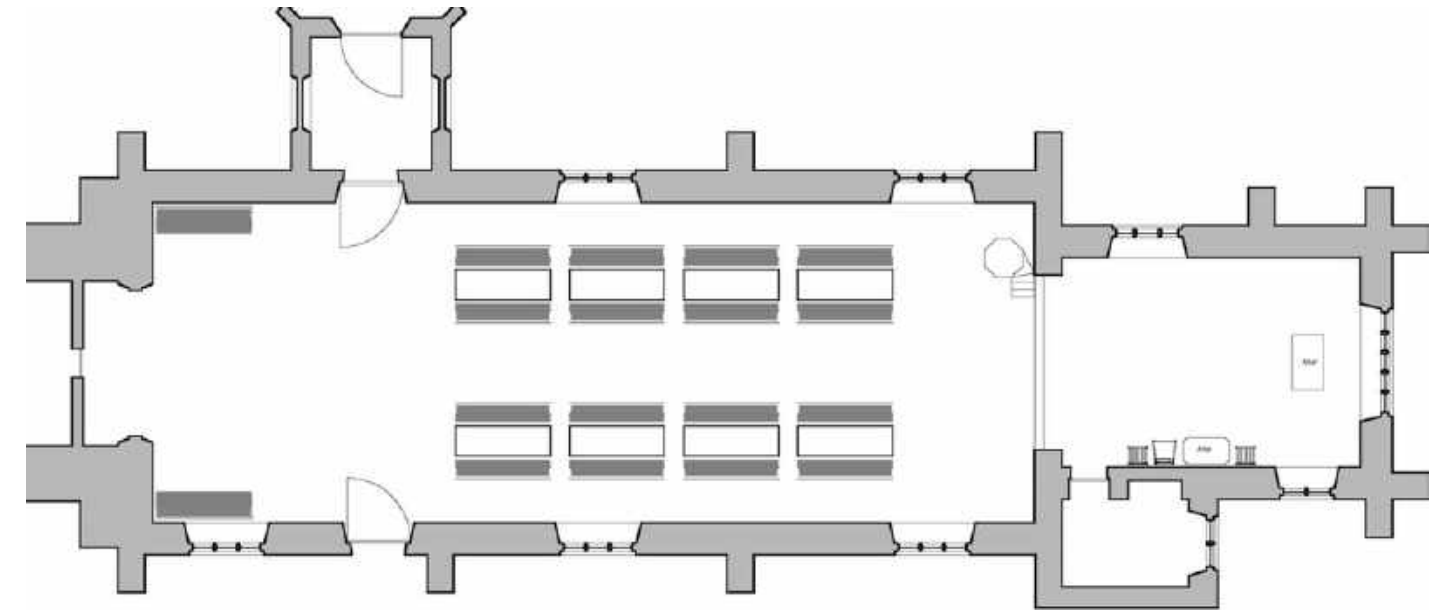


Before and after
St Andrew's, Alderton

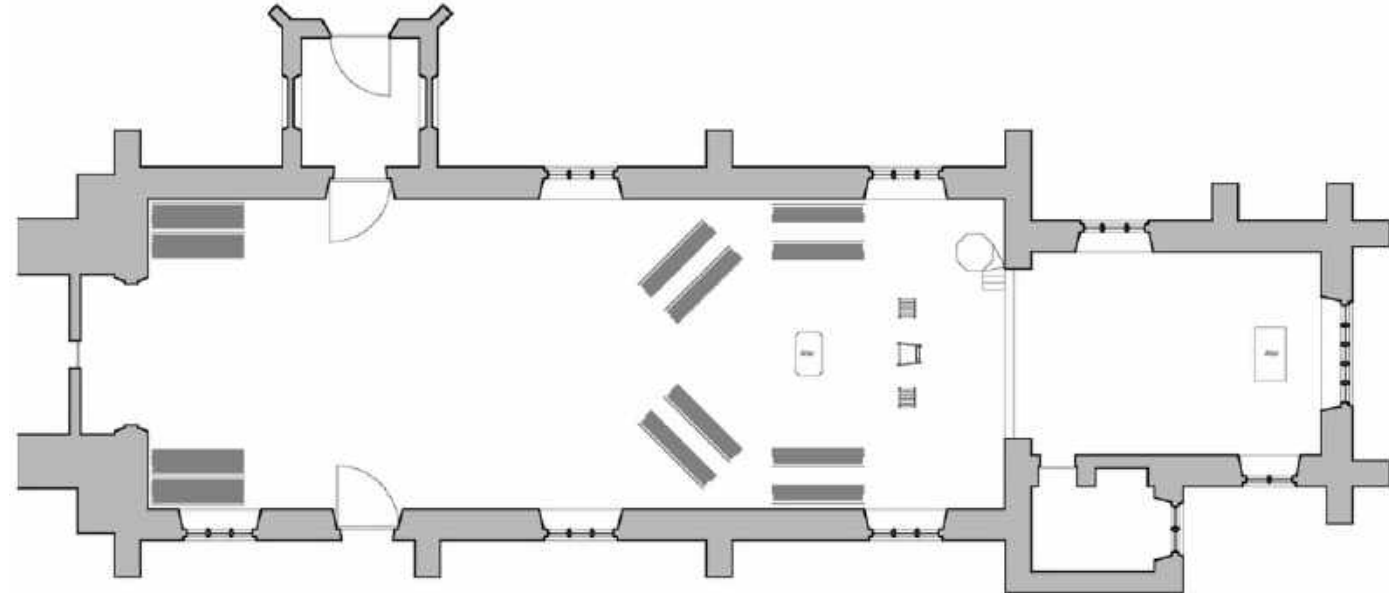
Conventional Eucharist



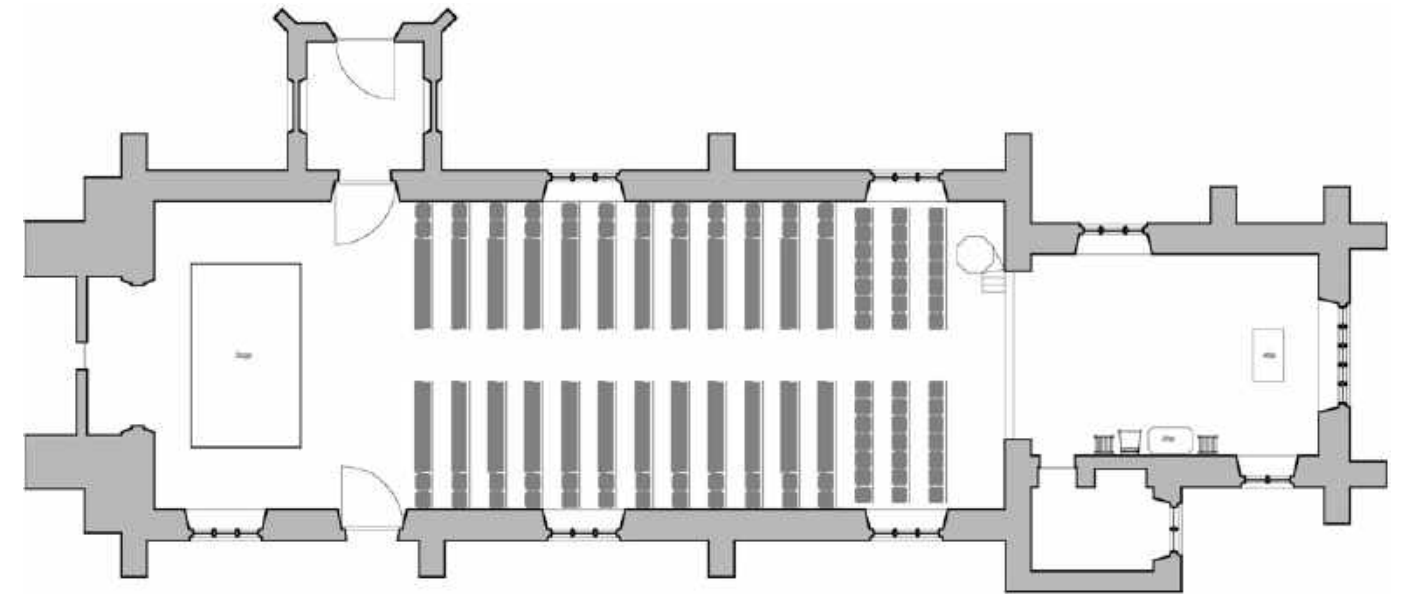
Dinner in the nave



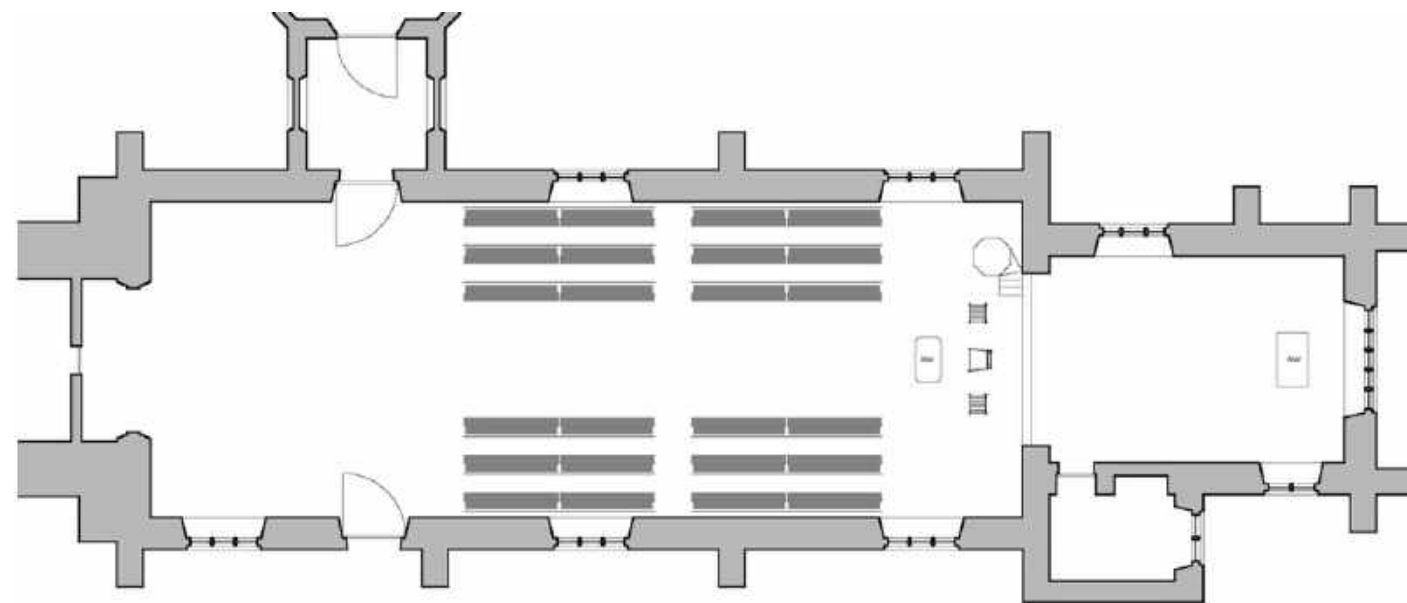
Private prayer and younger people



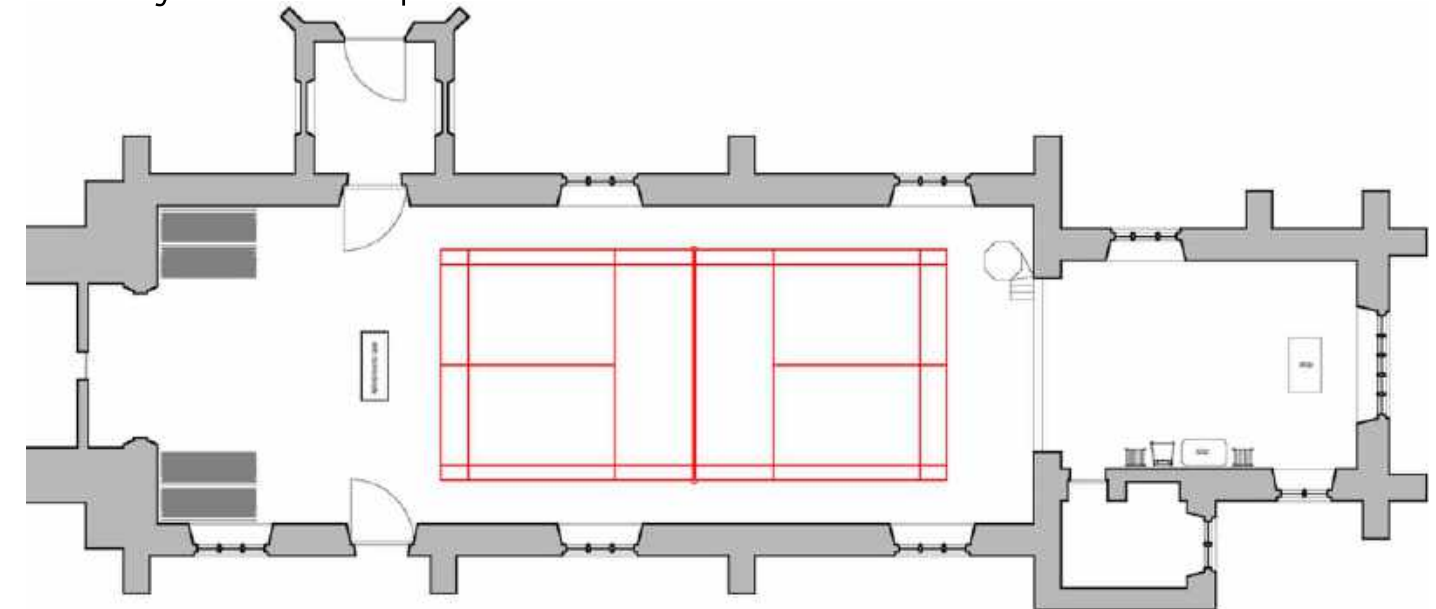
Theatre and opera at the West end



Collegiate



Local youth and sports club



Re-ordering (2010)

St Michael and All Angels, Kingsnorth





St Michael & All Angels, Kingsnorth
with
Ss Peter & Paul, Shadoxhurst
Mr Norman Humphries
Churchwarden
103 Speldhurst Close
Ashford, Kent TN23 5TN
Tel: 01233 647271
E-mail: normanandruth@supanet.com



22 November 2010

Mr Luke Barton
Luke Hughes and Company
182 Drury Lane
Covent garden
London
WC2B 5PP

Dear Luke

It's been sometime now since we had our new pews, and I would like to let you know how delighted we are with them, they have made such a difference to our services, and we have three combinations of seating arrangements to date, which I have had to take photos of to remember how they go.

Apart from the church services we have held several concerts, and when we have the colour party for the children they really come into there own as the pews being stack-able and so easy to carry we can gain so much more room, even the choir can change their seating arrangements.

The other difference is we now host a number of other church meetings, at present we are hosting a ALM group which started in October and going through to January, it seems since we finished the refurbishment everyone wants to come here for their meetings, we have also had several other churches visit us to see what we have done and the comments are always the same "where did you get the pews from, and aren't they comfortable and well made" (*I did give them your address*) unfortunately most of them are unable to get rid of the pews they have as they are not in as bad a condition as ours were.

So thanks to you and your craftsmen our church is so much more versatile.

Yours sincerely

N. Humphries

Mr Norman Humphries Churchwarden Kingsnorth
on behalf of Revd. Canon Sheila McLachlan
Mrs Caryl Jones Churchwarden Kingsnorth,
Mrs Helen West Churchwarden Shadoxhurst
The PCC and congregation of St. Michael & All Angels
with St. Peter, St. Paul Shadoxhurst.



Before

St Michael & All Angels, Kingsnorth





Before and after
St Michael & All Angels, Kingsnorth



Chancel re-ordering (2010)

St Mary's, Iffley



© Luke Hughes Designs Ltd 2026



Chancel area
St Mary's Iffley



Seating strategy (2012)

St Mary's, Ideford





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Before and work in progress

St Mary's Ideford



After completion

St Mary's Ideford

37



Complete new furnishings (2014)

St Mary's March





Before and after completion
St Mary's March



Looking East
St Mary's March





Heading

Sub Heading

41



New seating and liturgical arrangements (2021)

St Paul's Covent Garden





Before
St Paul's, Covent Garden

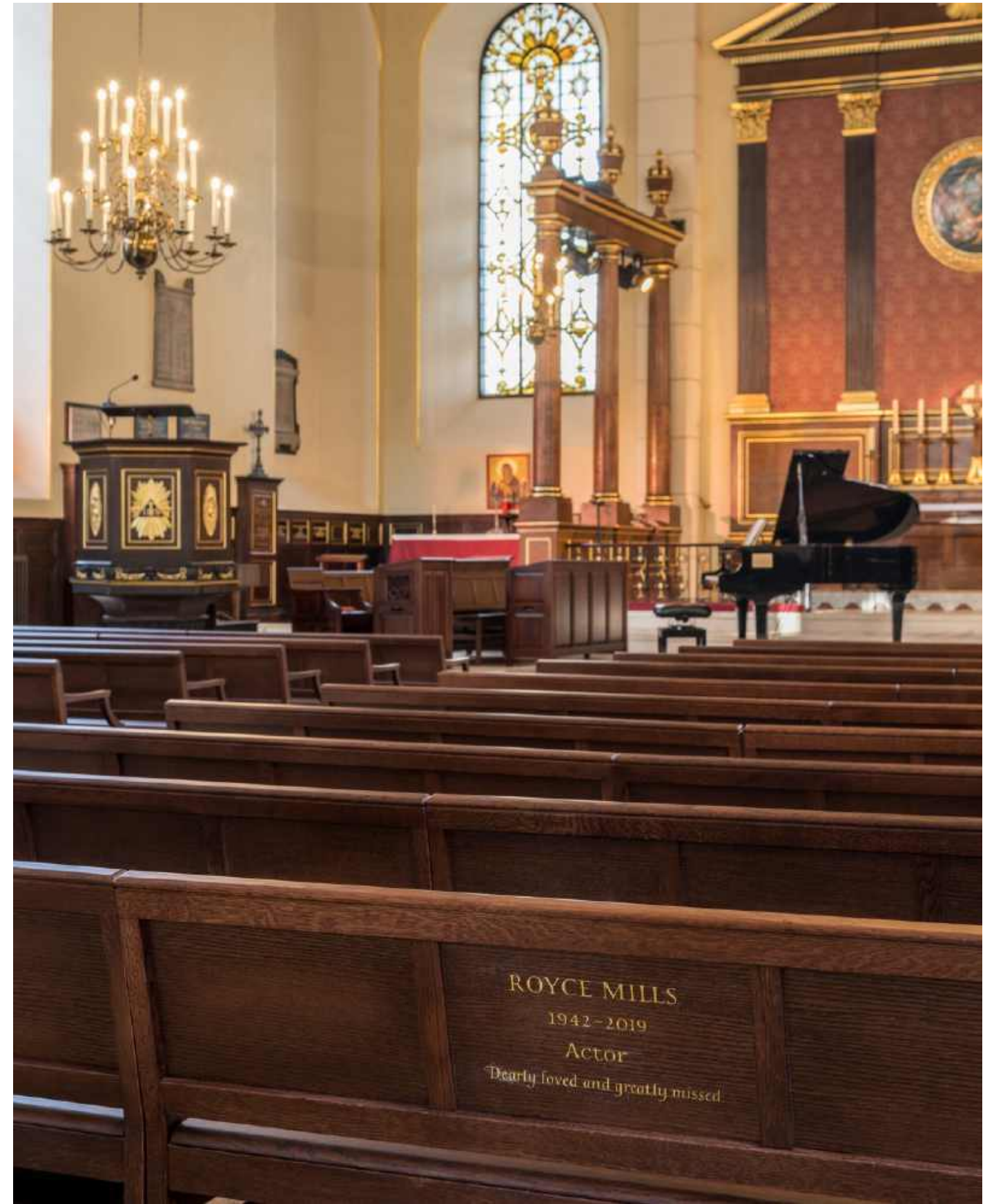
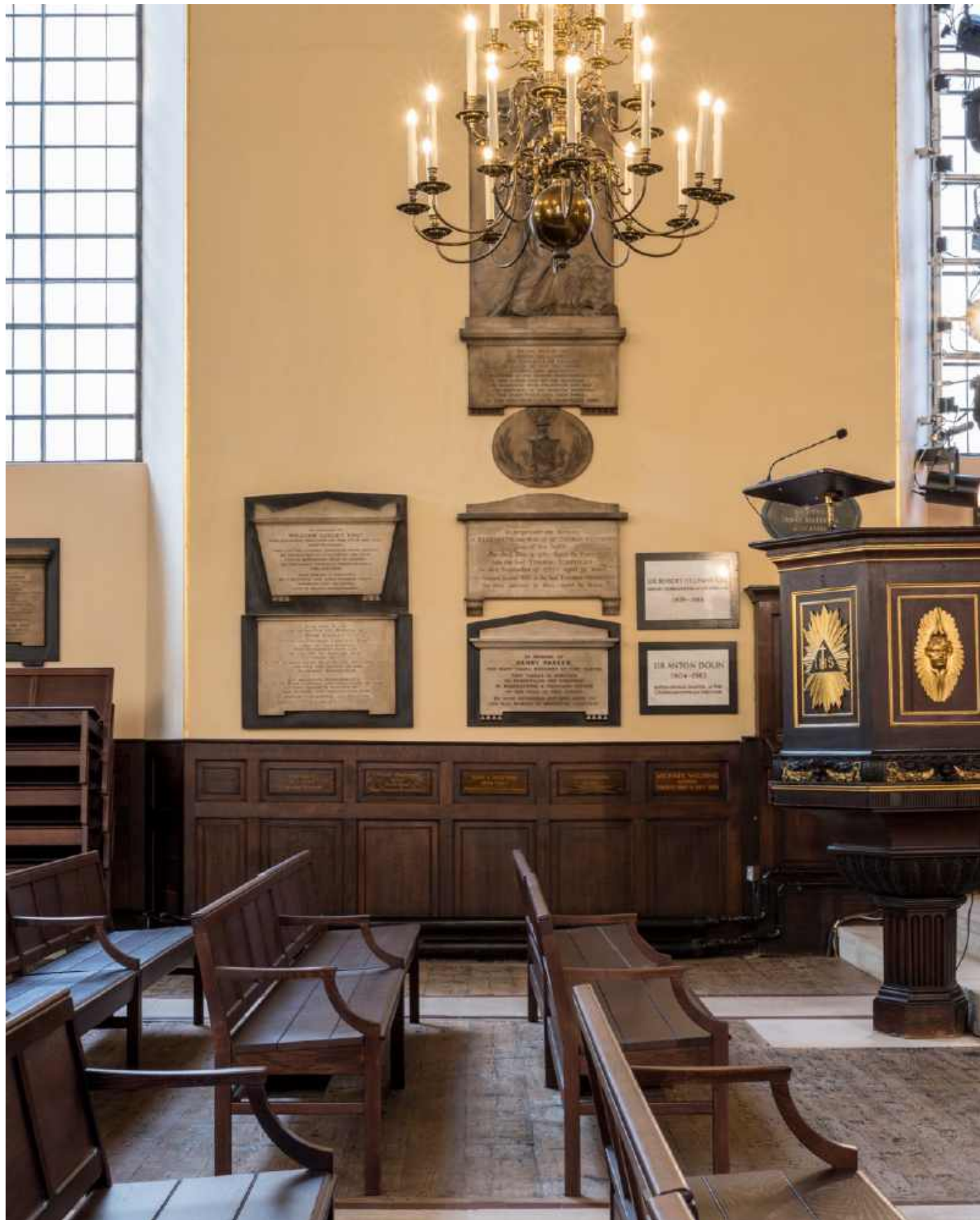




After - view from balcony

St Paul's, Covent Garden





Select details
St Paul's, Covent Garden





Completed works

St Paul's, Covent Garden



View from organ loft

St Paul's, Covent Garden



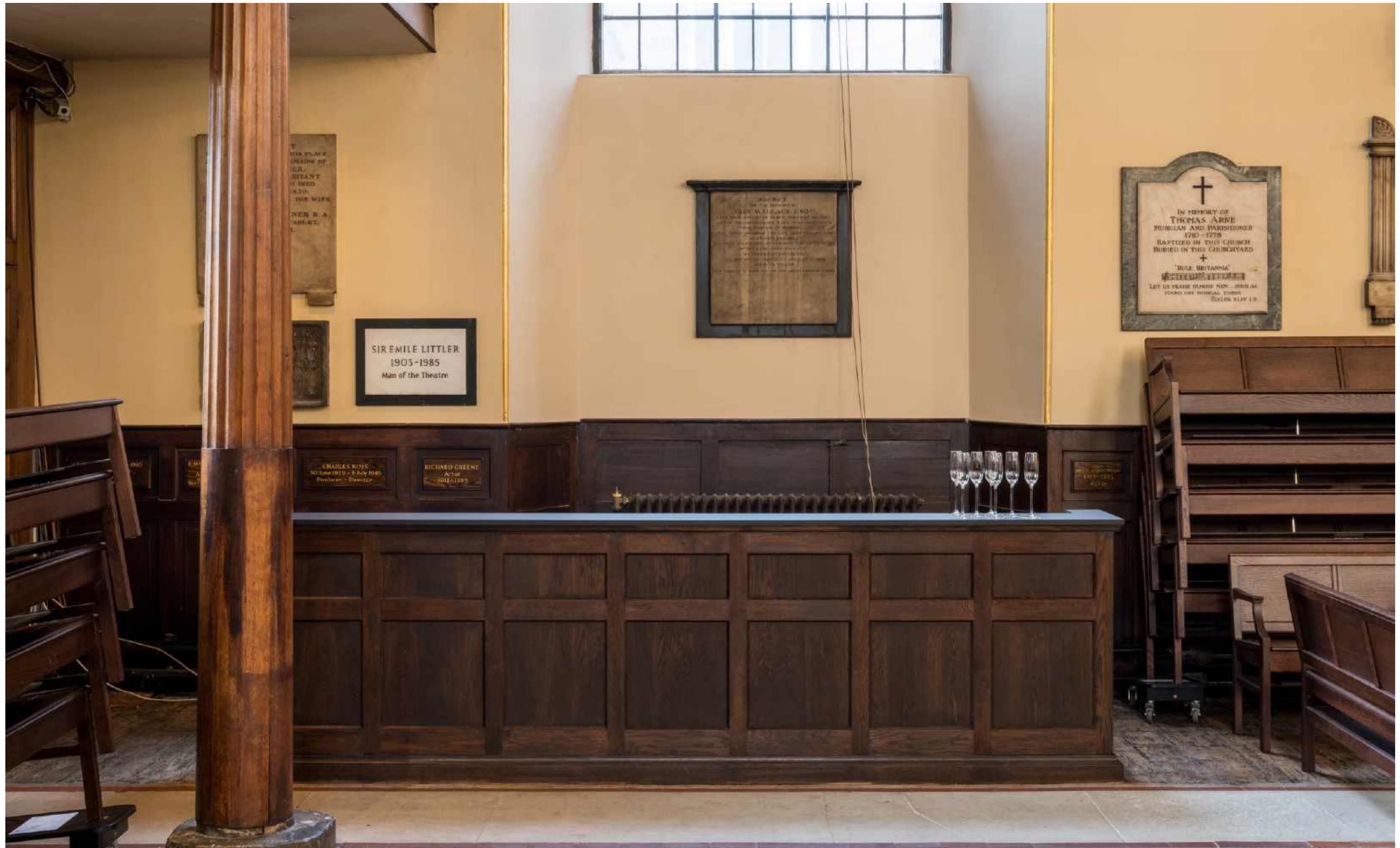
Cleared for musical reception

St Paul's, Covent Garden



Stacking pews arranged along wainscot

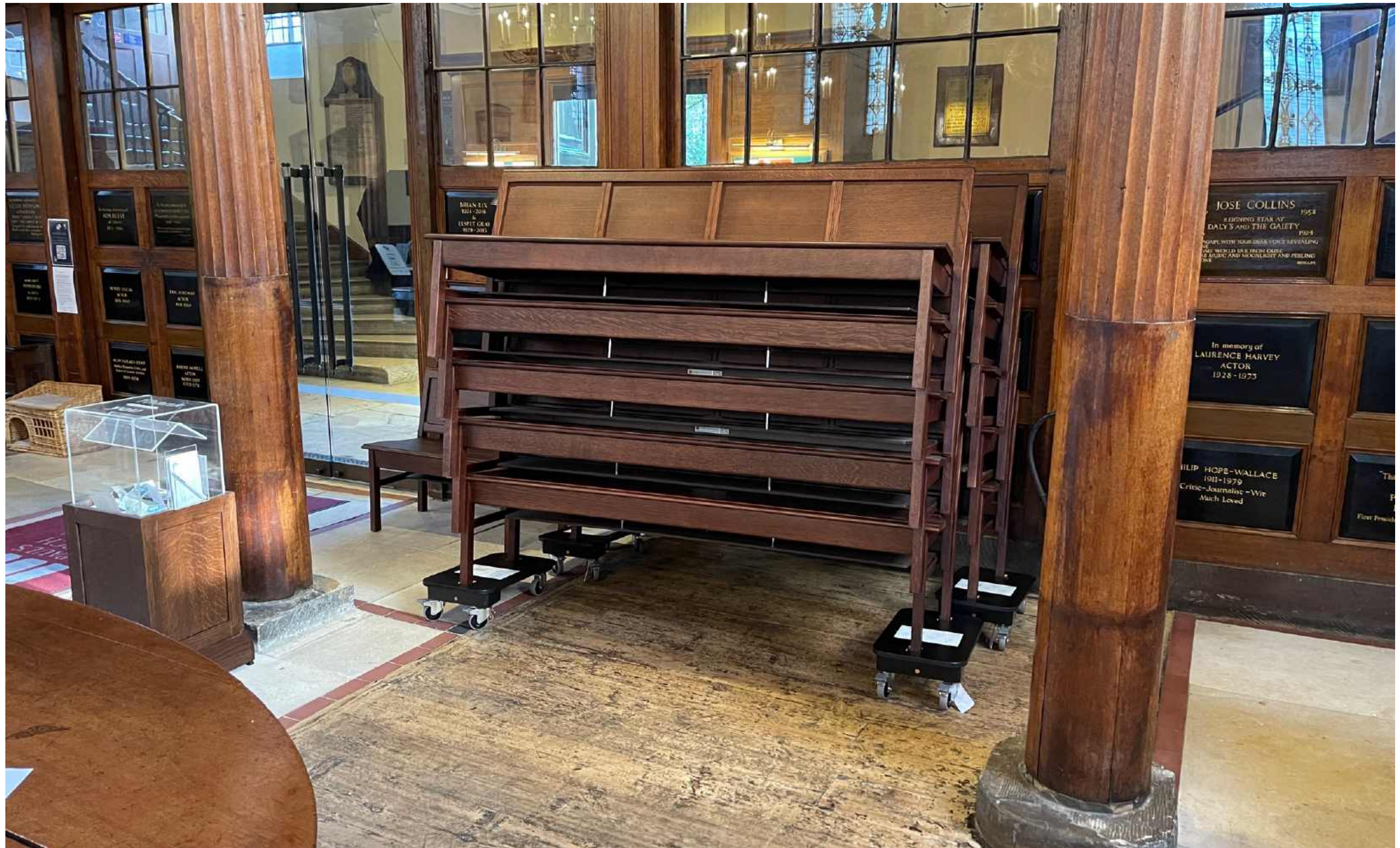
St Paul's, Covent Garden



New bar and servery area

St Paul's, Covent Garden





Stacking pews on transport dollies

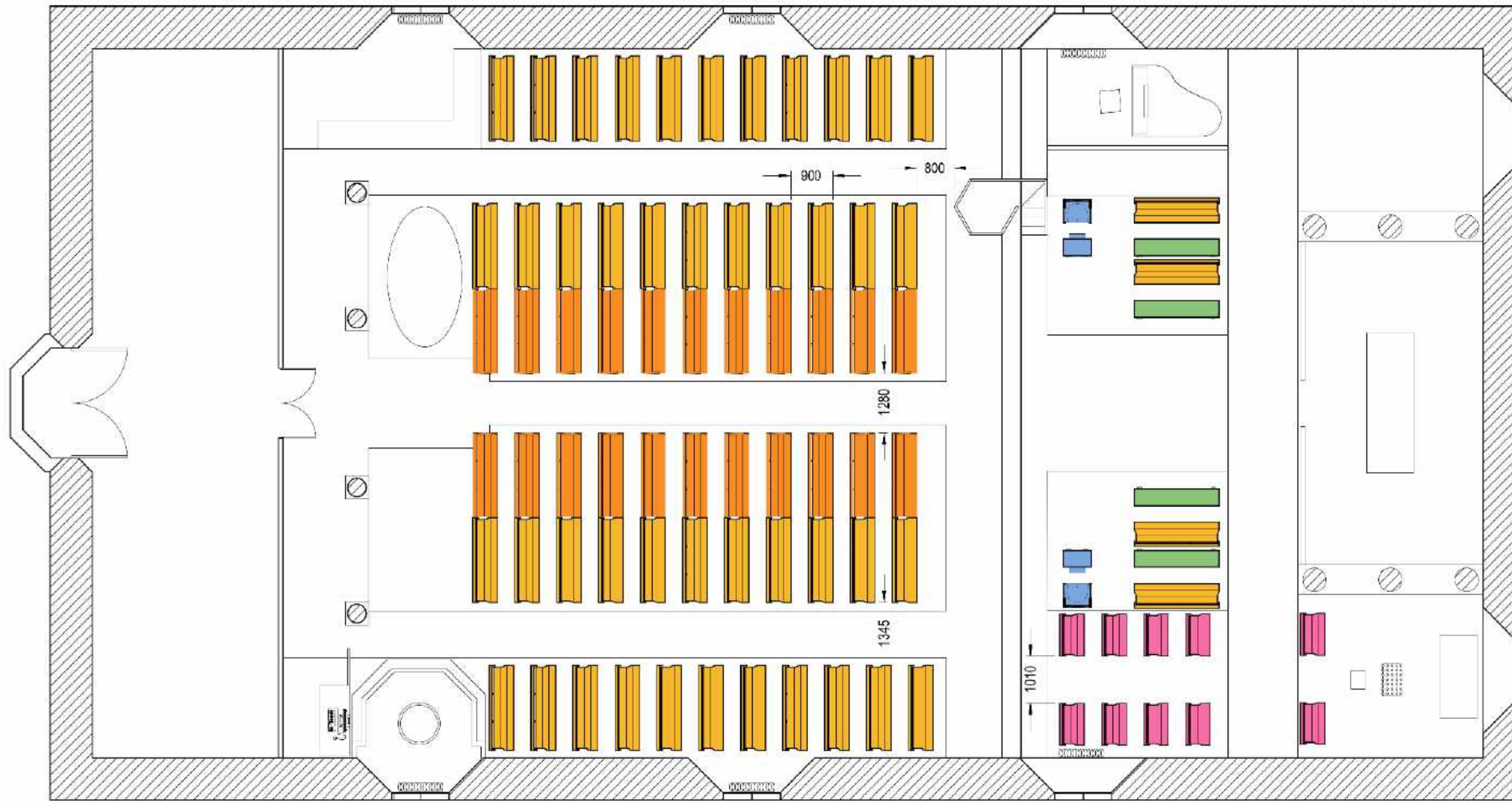
St Paul's, Covent Garden





Cleared for social events
St Paul's, Covent Garden





Default layout
St Paul's Covent Garden

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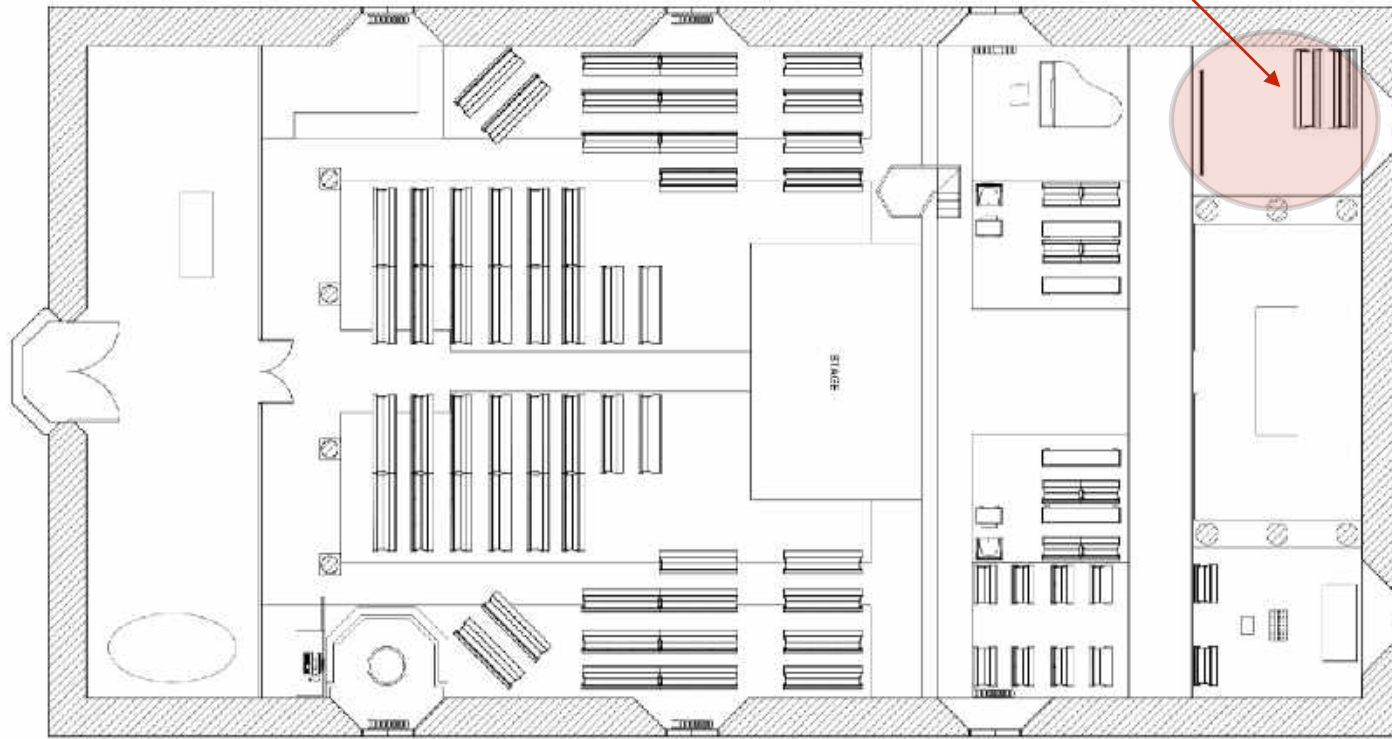


PROJECT ST PAUL'S, COVENT GARDEN
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 QUANTITY n/a

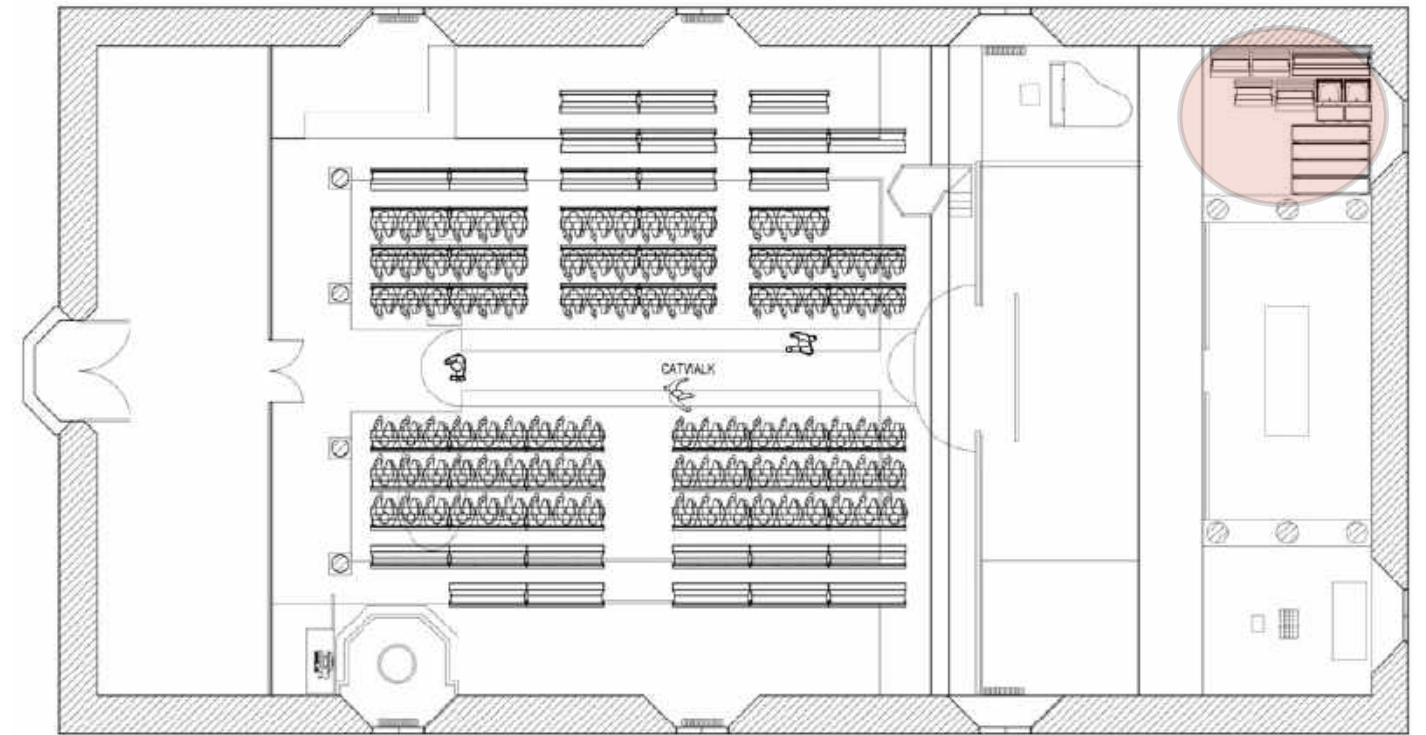
Drawn by OO Scale 1:100 @ A3 Date 13.1.22

Drawings to be used as a guide only. Do not be used for a final construction without written permission.
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Possible storage area for stacks

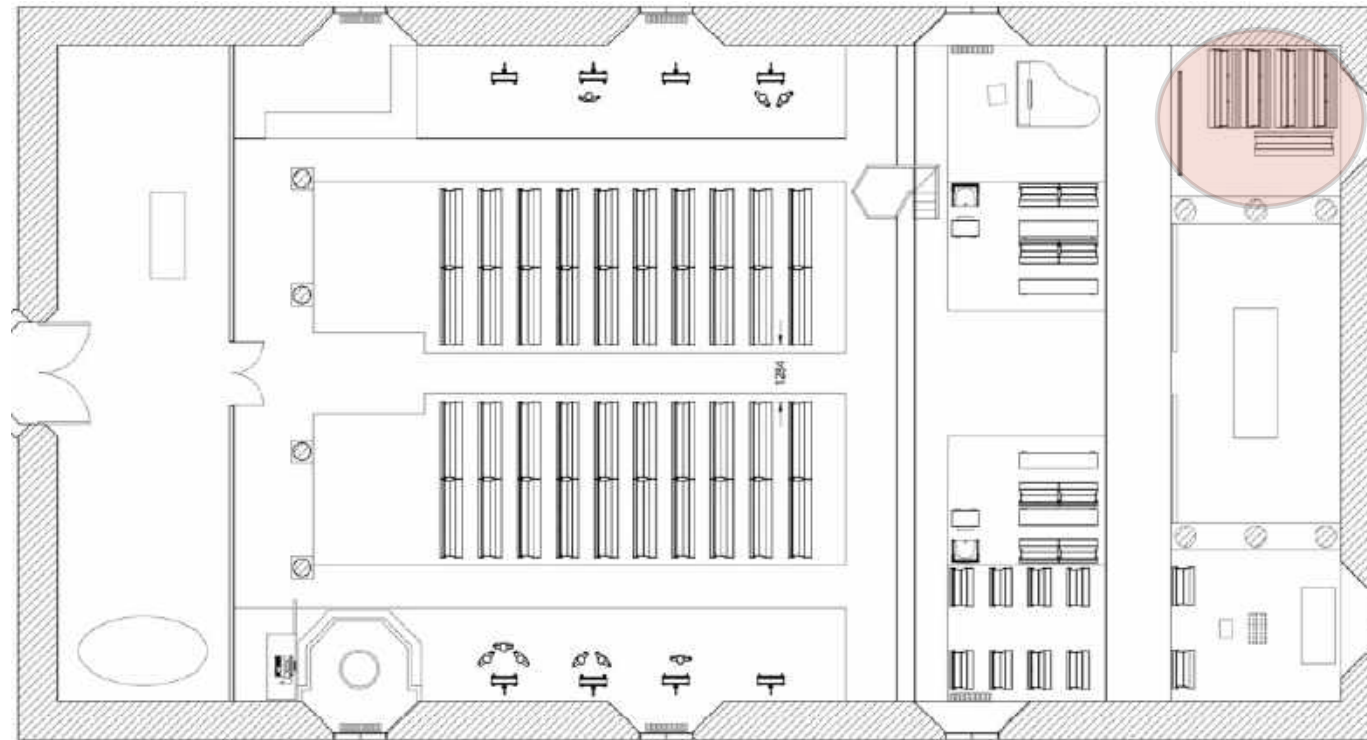


Theatre performance (e.g. during 2018, there were 80 concerts and 70 theatre performances)

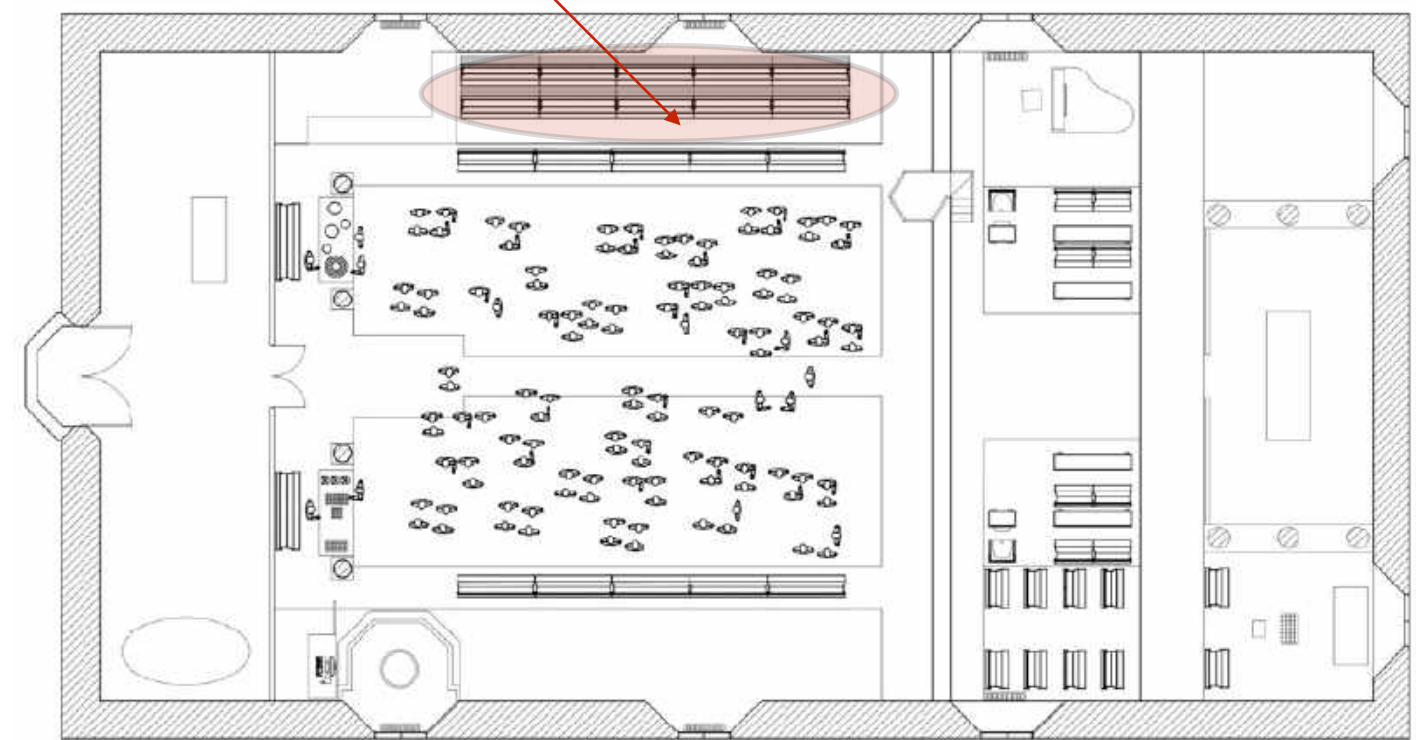


Fashion show (e.g. during London Fashion Week)

50 benches stacked behind one row, laid out for elderly or infirm - this could be split between the South and North side



Art exhibition (e.g. the numerous requests from the Performance Galleries at the Victoria and Albert Museum)



Drinks reception (e.g. AGM of Covent Garden Community Association)

Other possible layouts (1)

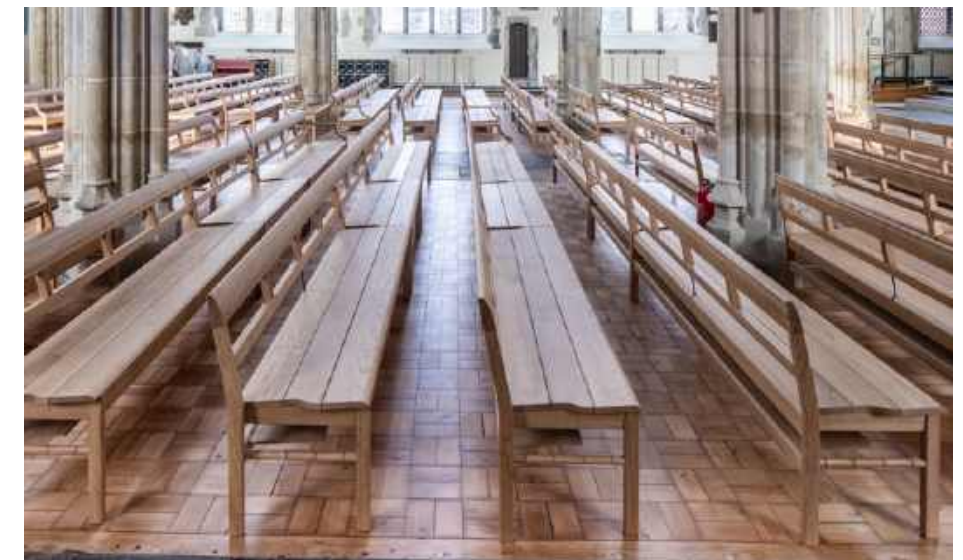
St Paul's, Covent Garden



Re-ordering scheme

St Thomas & St Edmund, Salisbury (2019)





Charterhouse stacking pews
St Thomas & St Edmund, Salisbury





Before, with fixed 19th century pews
St Thomas & St Edmund, Salisbury





After - complete (looking East)

St Thomas & St Edmund, Salisbury



Complete (looking North)

St Thomas & St Edmund, Salisbury

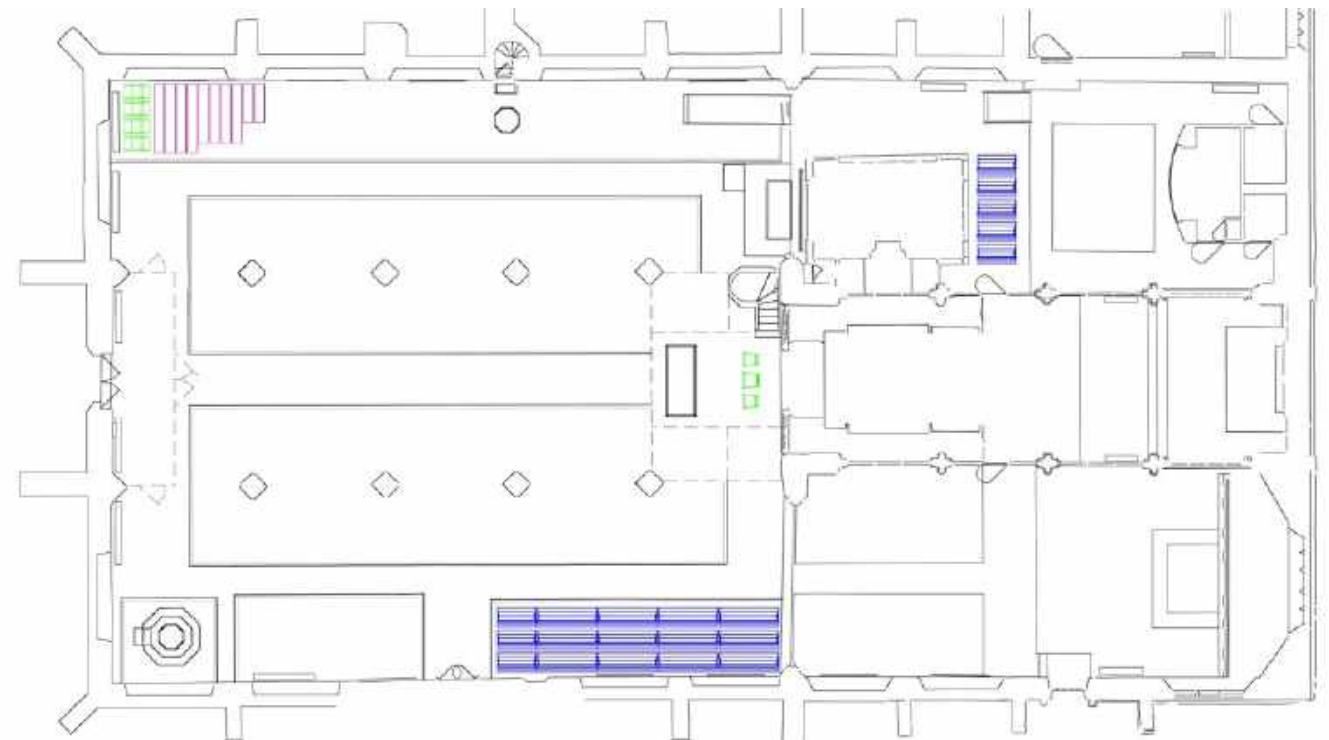
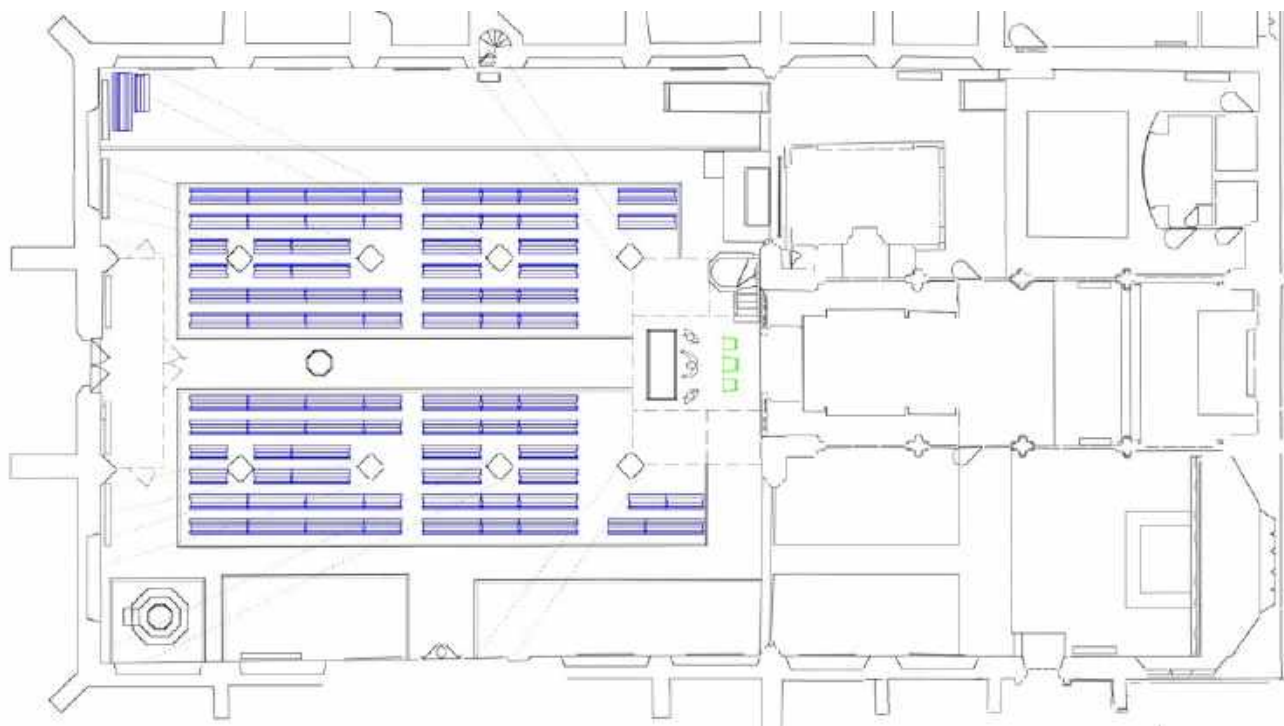
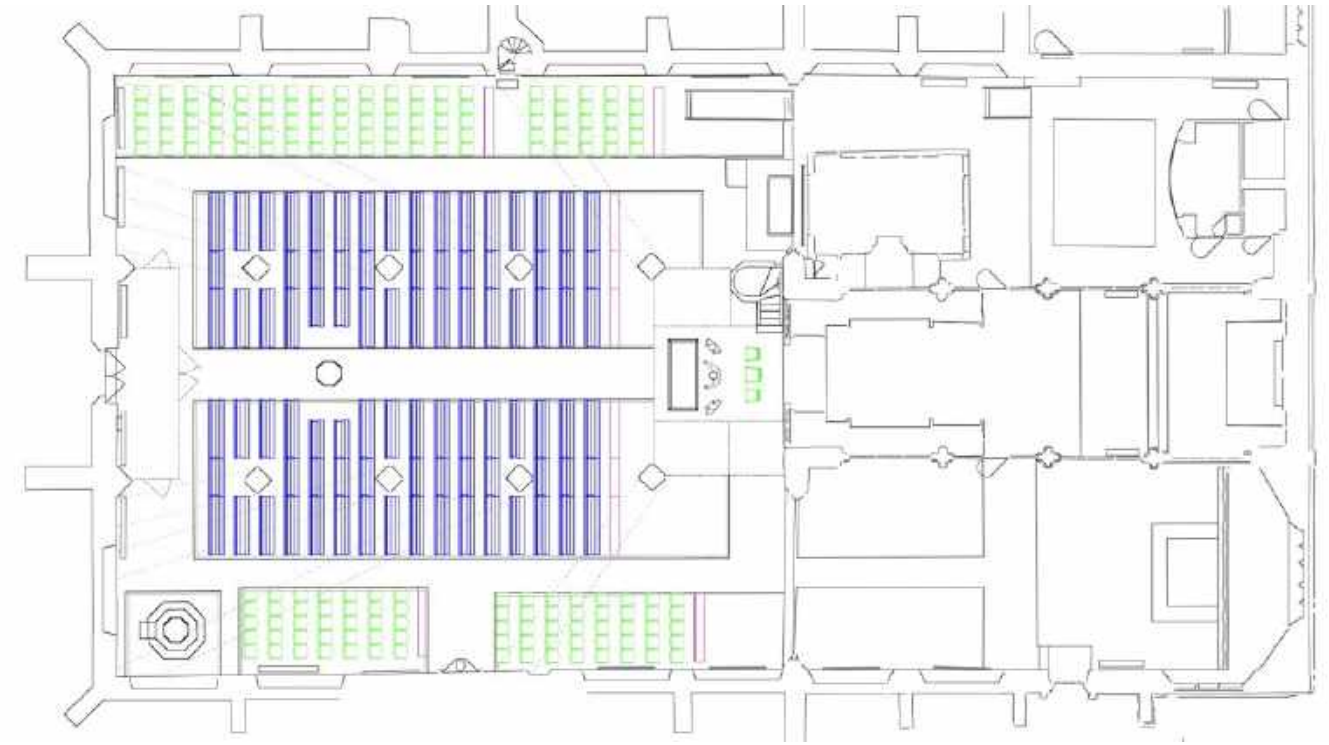




20% with arms

St Thomas & St Edmund, Salisbury





Indicative layouts
St Thomas & St Edmund, Salisbury





Dedication service
St Thomas & St Edmund, Salisbury



Centennial re-ordering scheme

The Shrine of Our Lady of Pompeii, Chicago (May 2026)



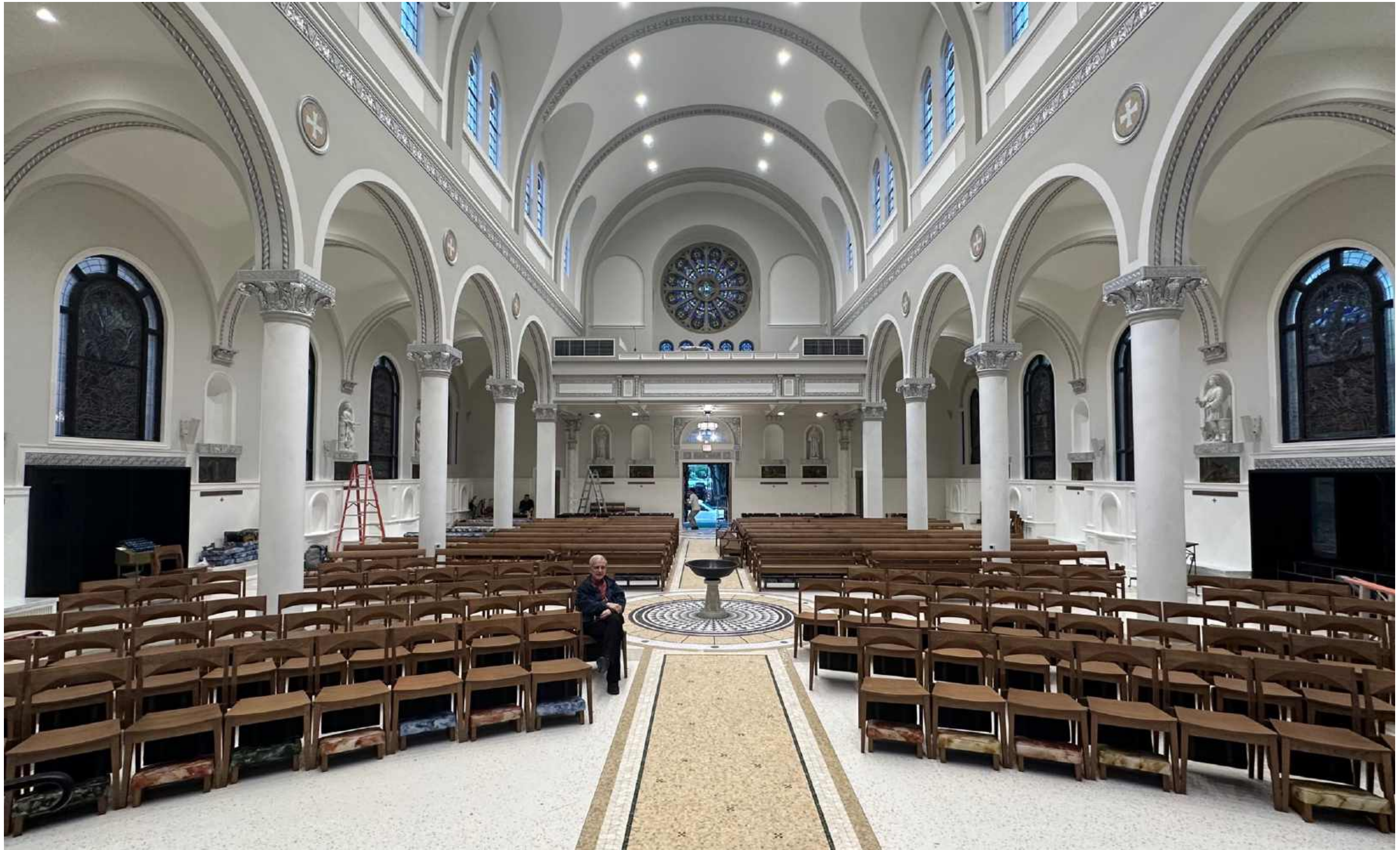
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Completion (looking East)
Shrine of Our Lady of Pompeii, Chicago





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Completion (looking West)
Shrine of Our Lady of Pompeii, Chicago



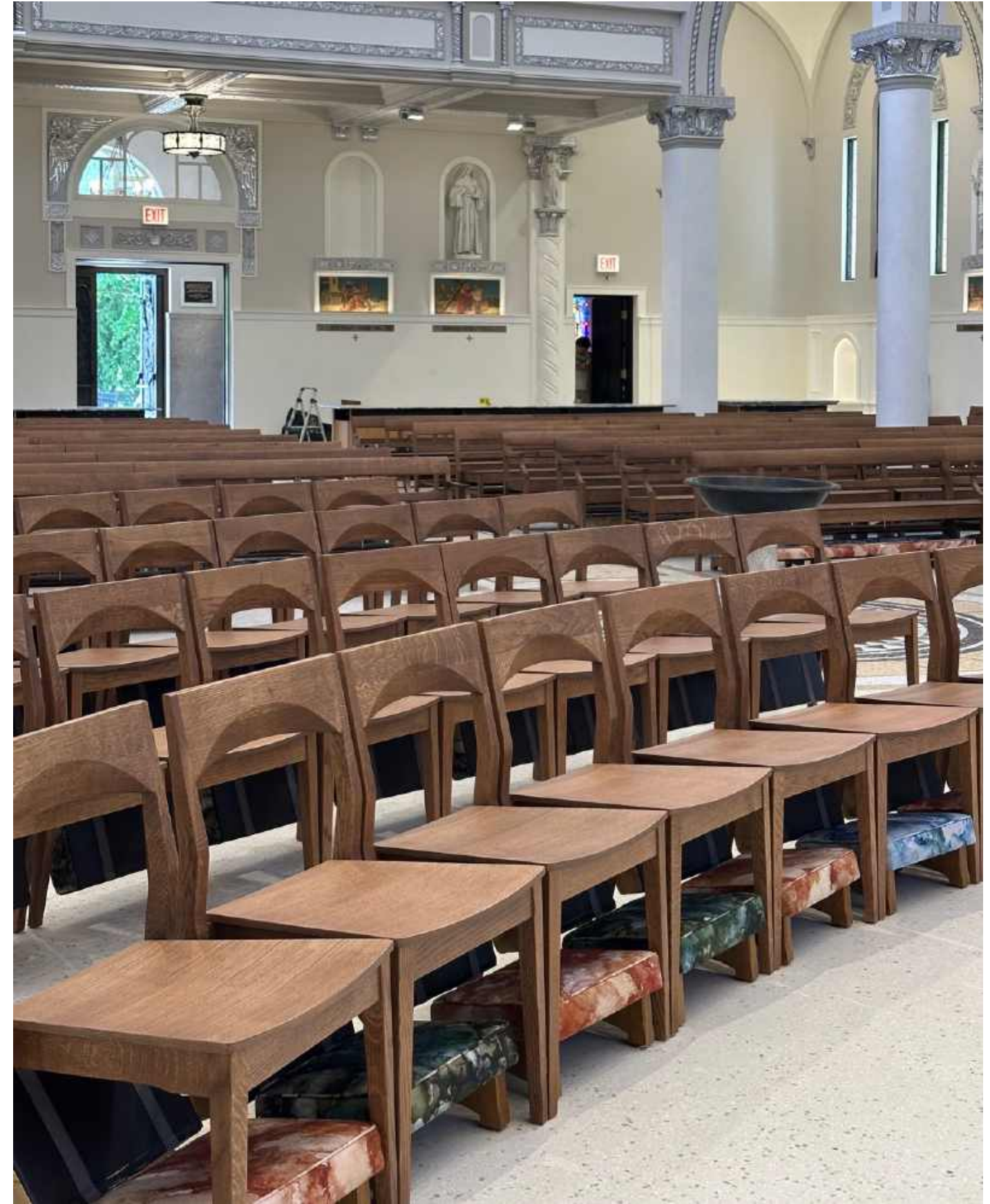
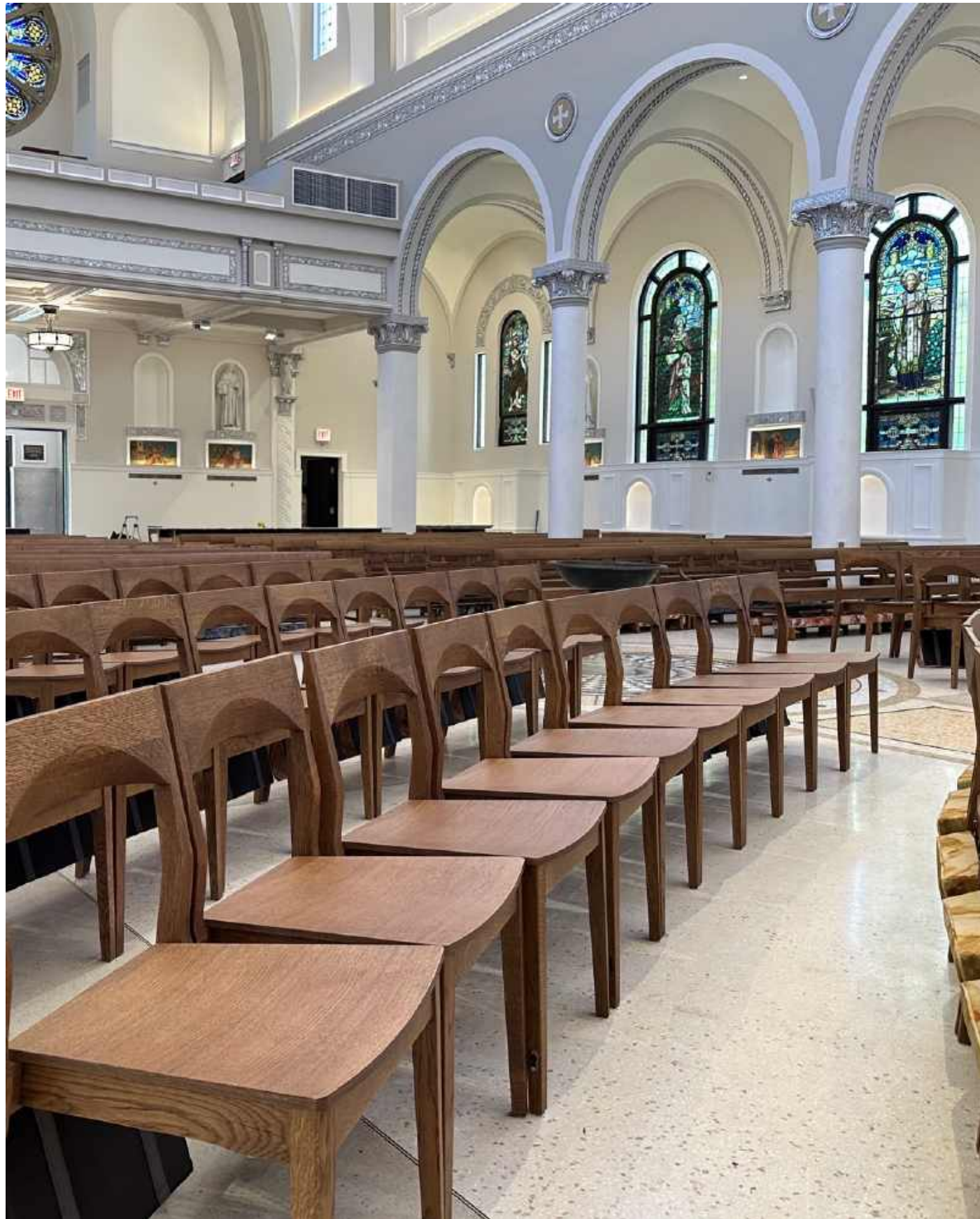


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Front rows - stacking 'St Edmund's' chairs

Shrine of Our Lady of Pompeii, Chicago





© Luke Hughes Designs Ltd 2026

Front rows - stacking 'St Edmund's' chairs
Shrine of Our Lady of Pompeii, Chicago





© Luke Hughes Designs Ltd 2026

Works 'before' and in progress

Shrine of Our Lady of Pompeii, Chicago



Reordering scheme (2026)

St Mary Magdalene, Richmond





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Looking East
St Mary Magdalene, Richmond



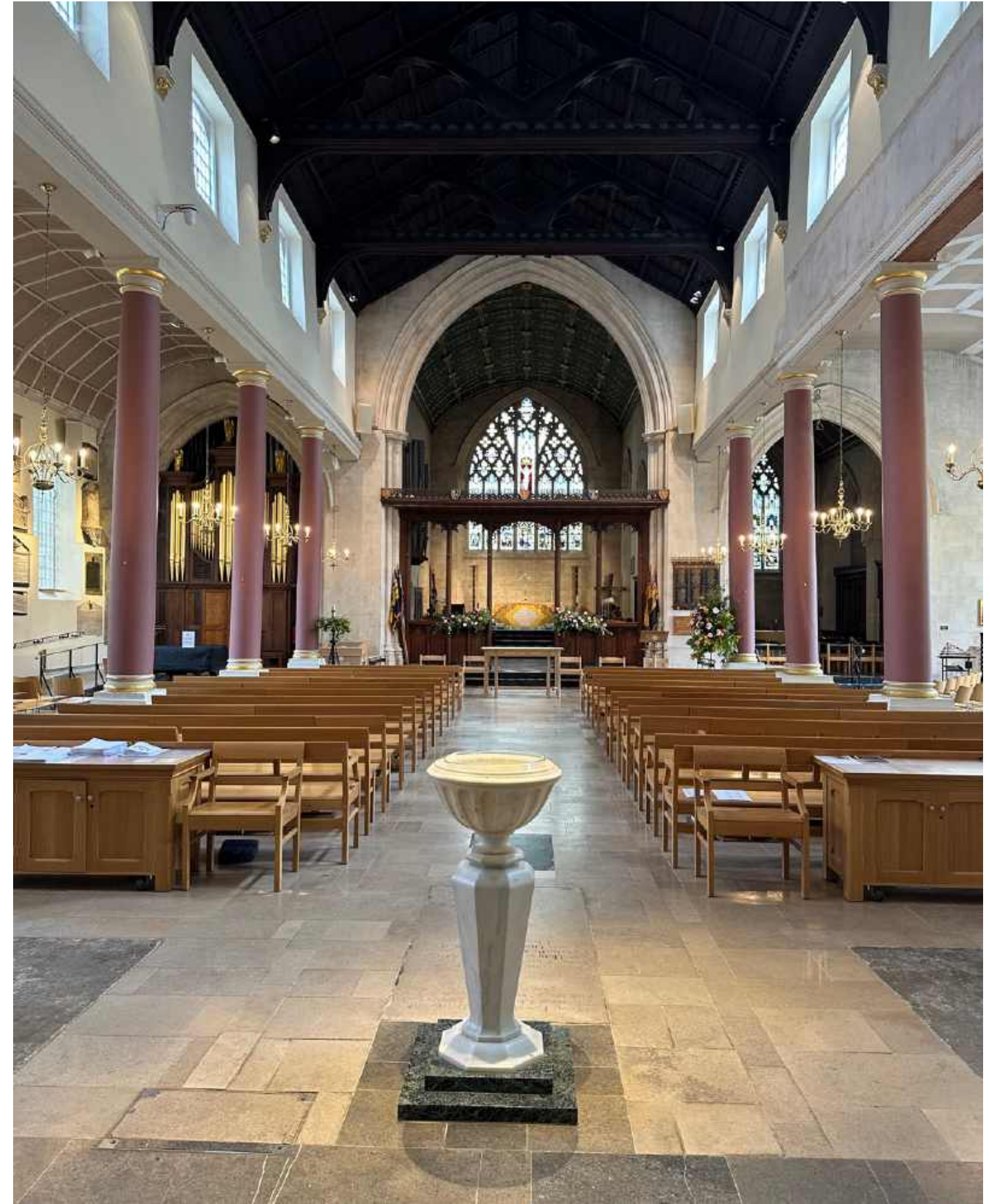
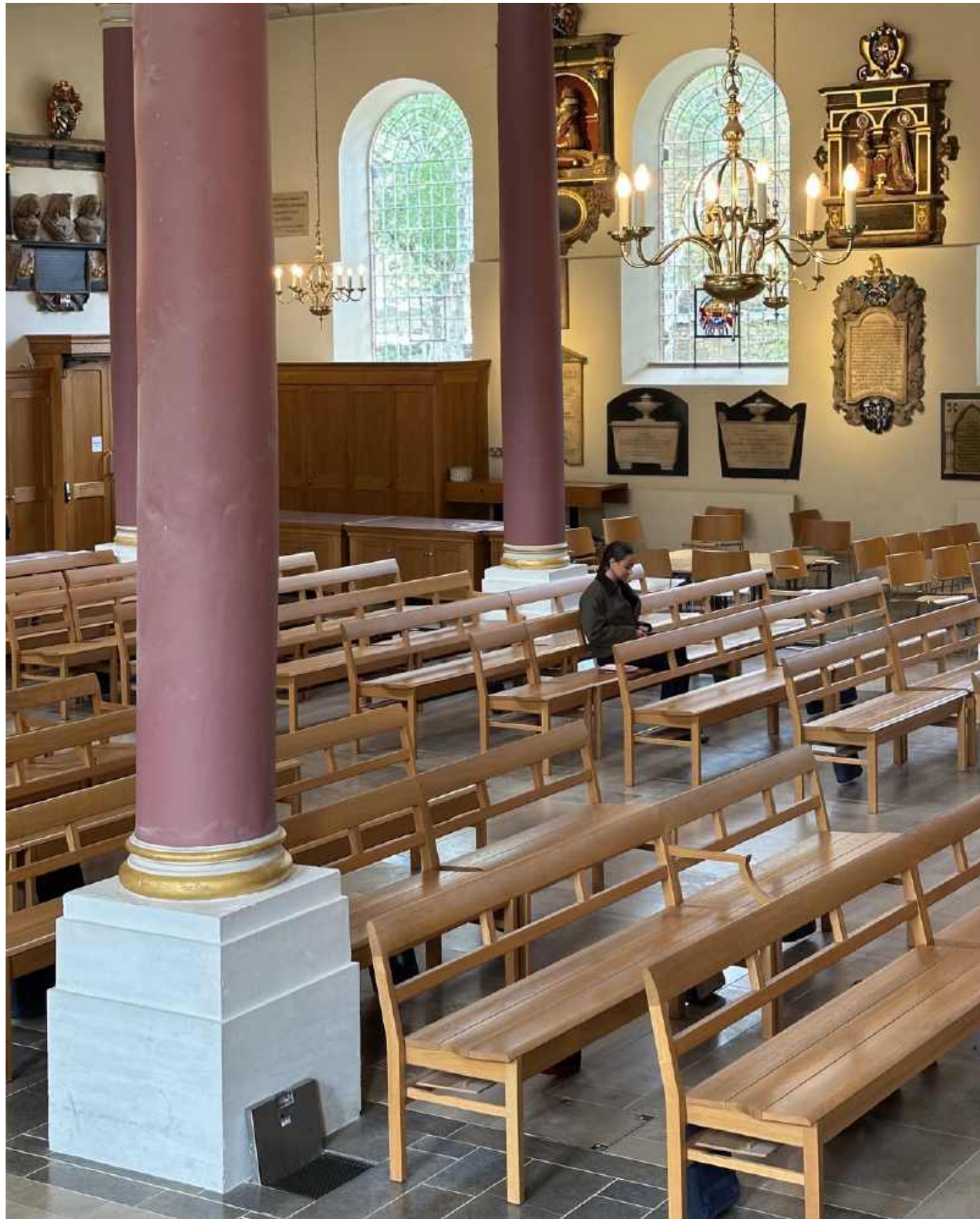


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Clergy seats, prayer-desk, altar etc.

St Mary Magdalene, Richmond





Nave (stacking pews)
St Mary Magdalene, Richmond





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Altar and display case
St Mary Magdalene, Richmond





Select details
St Mary Magdalene, Richmond

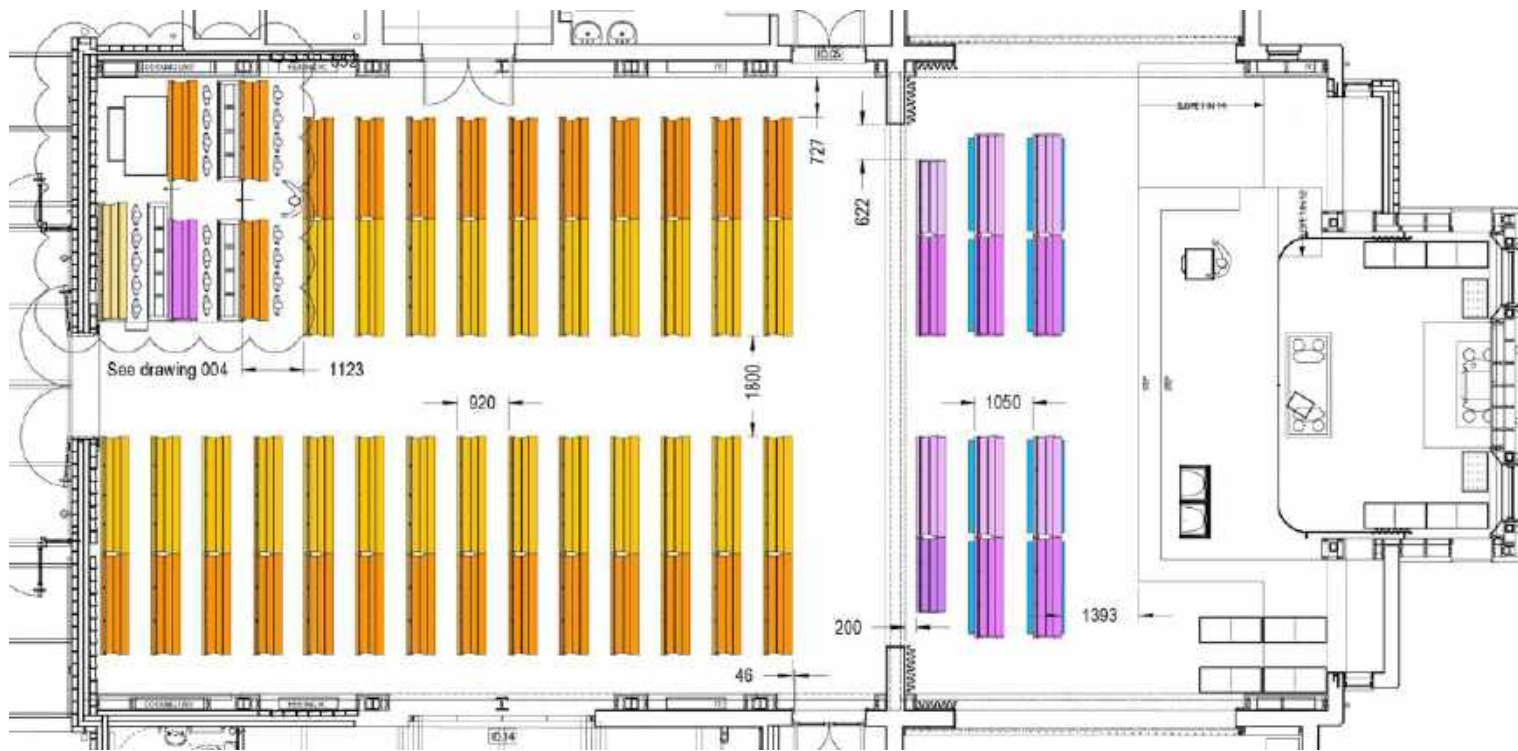


Reordering scheme

St Philip Howard, Cambridge (March 2026)



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Some of the final layouts
St Philip Howard, Cambridge





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Looking South West
St Philip Howard, Cambridge



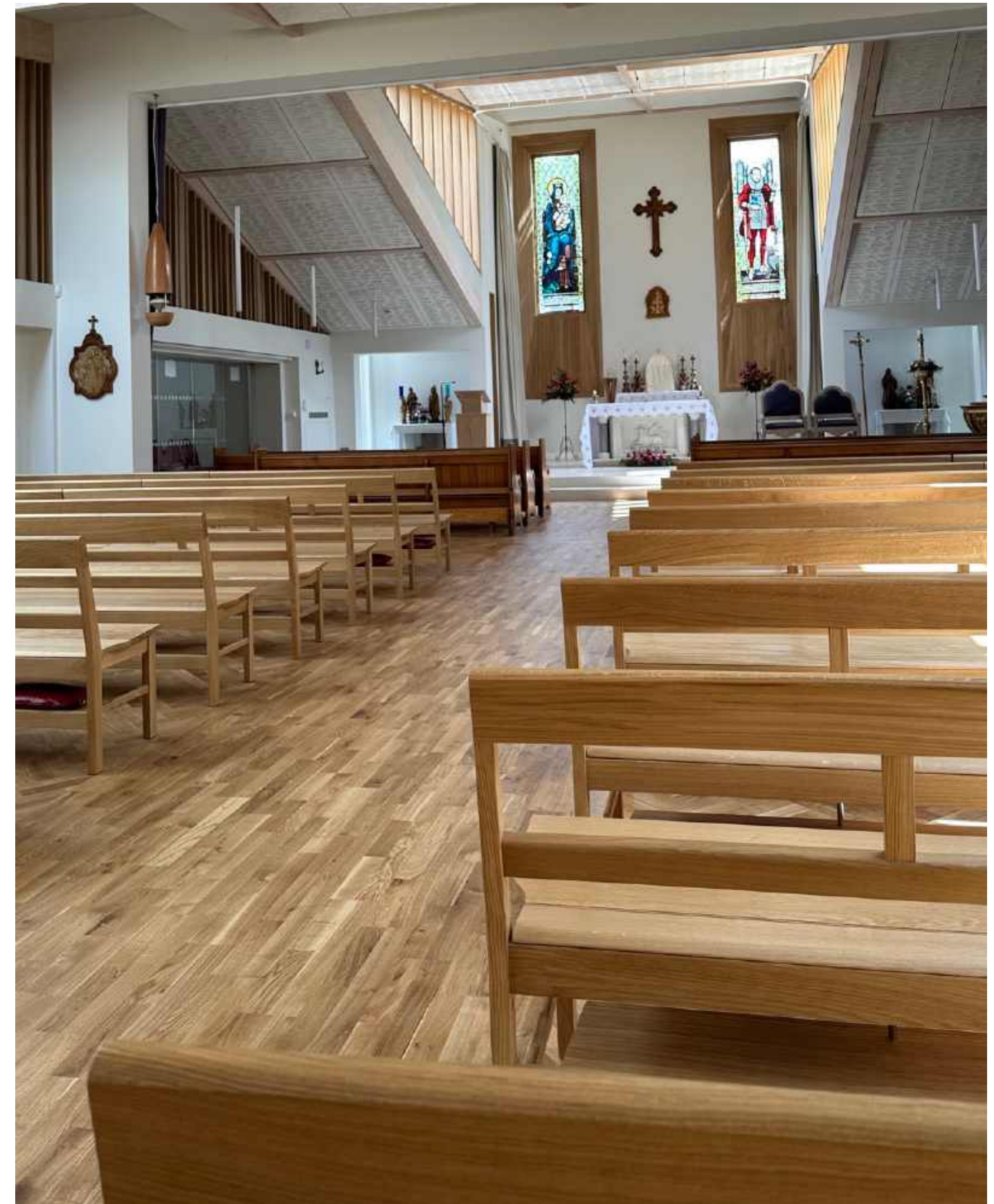
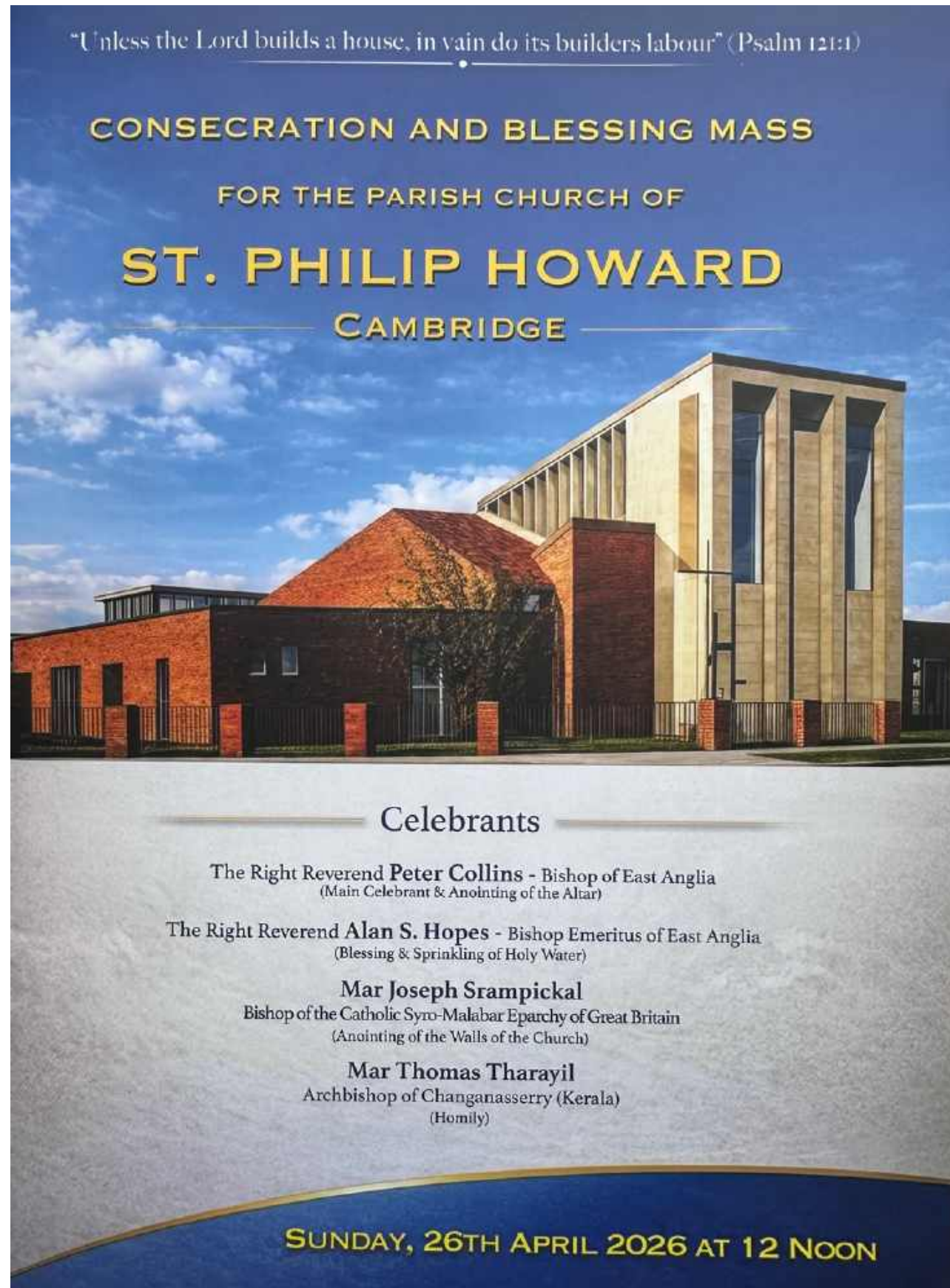
Looking N



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Looking North West
St Philip Howard, Cambridge





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Laid out for the dedication service, looking East
St Philip Howard, Cambridge





Chapel - Mercers' Hall



Salisbury Cathedral (with Bill Pye)



Ely Cathedral



Bristol Cathedral



Winchester Cathedral



St Giles Cathedral



Bangor Cathedral



Chester Cathedral



St Marylebone

Buildings of Worship

Select clients

All Hallows, Gospel Oak
All Saints' Church, Carshalton
All Saints' Church, Woodford
Arundel Cathedral
Bangor Cathedral
Benenden School Chapel
Boxgrove Priory
Bristol Cathedral
Canterbury Cathedral
Cathedral of the Incarnation, NY
Cathedral of St Philip, Atlanta
Chapel of the Resurrection, Valparaiso University
Charterhouse School Chapel
Chester Cathedral
Chichester Cathedral
Church of Holy Rood, Holybourne
Church of the Holy Spirit, Southsea
Clare College Chapel
Community Synagogue of Rye, NY
Congregation Beit Simchat Torah Synagogue, NYC
Congregation Habonim, NYC
Corpus Christi Jesuit Community, Christchurch
Dorchester Abbey
Durham Cathedral
Ely Cathedral
Epsom College Chapel
Exeter Cathedral
Farm Street Church
Hereford Cathedral
Highgate Cemetery
Holy Trinity, Cuckfield

Holy Trinity, Geneva
Hull Minster
Hurst Pierpoint College Chapel
Keble College Chapel
Lichfield Cathedral
Lincoln's Inn Chapel
Mucknell Abbey
New North London Synagogue
Our Lady of Pompeii, Chicago IL
Park Avenue Synagogue, NYC
Peterborough Cathedral
Portsmouth Cathedral
Rochester Cathedral
Salisbury Cathedral
Sheffield Cathedral
Shrewsbury Abbey
Shrewsbury School Chapel
Sidney Sussex College Chapel
Southwark Cathedral
St Alban's Church, Romford
St Andrew's, Holborn
St Andrew's, Alderton
St Andrew's, Feniton
St Andrew's, Southwark
St Andrew's, Stapleford
St Andrew's, Surbiton
St Augustine's, Rumney
St Barnabas, Dulwich
St Bartholomew's, Wilmslow
St Catherine's, Burbage
St Clement Dane's
St Dunstan's Episcopal Church, Madison WI
St Dunstan's Church, Mayfield

St Edmundsbury Cathedral
St Francis at the Engine Room
St George's Chapel, Windsor
St George's, Bloomsbury
St George's, Bristol
St George's, Oakdale
St Giles' Cathedral, Edinburgh
St Joan of Arc, Highbury
St John the Baptist, Tisbury
St John's Presbyterian Church, San Francisco, CA
St John's, Waterloo
St John's, Berwick St John
St John's, Blackheath
St John's, Notting Hill
St John's, Preston
St John's, Shirley
St John's, Tisbury
St John's Chapel, Tower of London
St Joseph's Hospice, Hackney
St Lawrence Jewry
St Luke's, Darien, CT
St Luke's, Chelsea
St Machar's Cathedral, Aberdeen
St Margaret Pattens
St Margaret's, Bethersden
St Mark's, Swindon
St Martin's, Barford St Martin
St Mary and St Giles, Stony Stratford
St Mary Magdalene, Newark
St Mary Magdalene, Richmond
St Mary the Less, Durham
St Mary the Virgin, Oxford
St Mary-at-Hill, Billingsgate

St Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside
St Mary's, Witney
St Mary's House, Brighton
St Mary's, Ealing
St Mary's, Easton
St Mary's, Fairford
St Mary's, Houghton-on-the-Hill
St Mary's, Iffley
St Mary's, Kempford
St Mary's, March
St Mary's, Shroton
St Mary's, Somers Town
St Mary's, Twickenham
St Mary's, Witney
St Mary's, Woodbridge
St Marylebone, Marylebone
St Matthew's, Wilton, CT
St Michael and All Angels, Kingsnorth
St Michael's, Stourport
St Paul's, Covent Garden
St Paul's Cathedral
St Paul's, Croxton
St Peter Ad Vincula, Tower of London
Temple Israel, NYC
The Royal Military Guards Chapel
The Temple Church
Trinity Wall Street, NYC
Westbourne Grove Methodist Church
Westminster Abbey
Westminster Cathedral
Westminster Synagogue
Winchester Cathedral
Winchester University Chapel
York Minster



'I am writing to say ... how delighted we are with the final design and especially the proportions and detailing and how marvellous is the craftsmanship of its execution. It is a fine tribute to your design skills and determination to get things exactly right and to the skill and perfectionism of the craftsmen who made it so beautifully. I would be grateful if you could pass on our thanks

Benefactors of St Barnabas, Dulwich

'The benches achieve a spectacular understatement and show us a different building'

Vicar, St Michael's, Stourport

What can we say?! HUGE gratitude to you and all your amazing colleagues; the new seating is truly wonderful and has transformed the nave. So - thankyou to everyone who has brought this great scheme to fruition - from us all here'

Canon Philip Banks, Precentor, St Edmundsbury Cathedral

'Thanks to you and the whole team for a superb job. It has been a real pleasure doing business with you and... we are delighted with the result'

Project Manager, St Mary's, Ealing

'I especially admire your recent work - each piece is so elegant, practical and singing in harmony with the architecture around it'

Surveyor, Salisbury Cathedral

Member of the congregation were full of delight. I myself was thrilled by the quality of your craftsmanship

Canon Precentor, Rochester Cathedral

Some of the things clients say



'We are in this for permanence, for eternity, so our furnishings, while being flexible, have to signal something of that as well ... Luke Hughes's designs provide that noble look and effect of permanence'

Bishop of London, June 2012

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Established in Covent
Garden since 1981

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For further technical information about the chairs, linking mechanisms, storage and handling techniques, timber options etc. please contact the Design Studio.

CAD blocks are available on request.

