

## The East Window



The central of the five lights of the east window shows St John comforting Mary, the mother of Jesus at the foot of the cross. Immediately to the left is an illustration of Matthew 19:14 'Suffer the little children...' and immediately to the right the Ascension (John 17:4). On the extreme left and right are illustrations of verses from Proverbs 31 – verse 20 on the left and verse 28 on the right.

St. John  
The Evangelist,  
Greenock

## The Altar



The altar of oak is usually covered with fine cloth in different colours denoting the different seasons of the Church's year: white or gold signifying joy; red, martyrdom; purple, penitence; green, hope. During times of worship the candles on the altar are lit. The reredos – the carved screen behind the altar depicts the nativity on the left and the ascension on the right.

## The Organ



The organ was built around 1867 by the Glasgow organ builders Mirlees and installed in St John's by the original builders in 1879. It was re-constructed in 1915 as a three manual instrument. With the assistance of a Heritage Lottery Grant the organ was completely restored in 2007.

St. John  
The Evangelist,  
Greenock

St. John, The Evangelist, Union Street, Greenock PA16 8JJ

Welcome  
to St. John's



St. John  
The Evangelist,  
Greenock





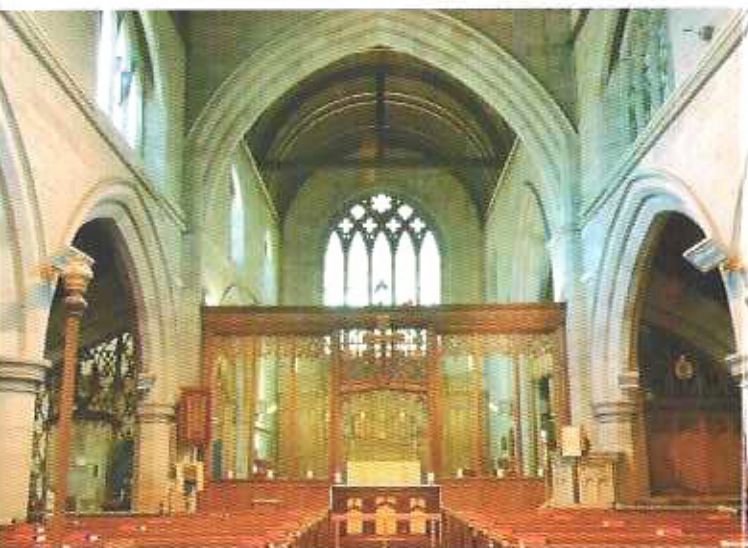
Our church is dedicated to St John the Evangelist - by tradition the 'beloved disciple' of Jesus and the author of the fourth gospel. St John's is part of the Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway - one of the seven dioceses of the Scottish Episcopal Church belonging to the world-wide Anglican Communion.

## Church History

In April 1823 a meeting of some 15 gentlemen was held with a view to erecting an Episcopal church in Greenock. The meeting approved of the plan presented to them by James Dempster, a rising young local architect. Sir Michael Shaw Stewart gave the site and St John's was consecrated in April 1824.

## Present Building

The present church was consecrated on November 28th 1878 by the Bishop of Glasgow and Galloway. It was designed by Paley and Austin of Lancaster in the Early English style and built of freestone from Inverkip quarries, the style of masonry being dressed random rubble. The tower is 140 feet high. Columns, alternately round and octagonal separate the nave from the aisles. The roof and the seats are of pitch pine. The passages are laid with Arbroath flagstones and the chancel with mosaic tiles.



## The North Aisle Windows

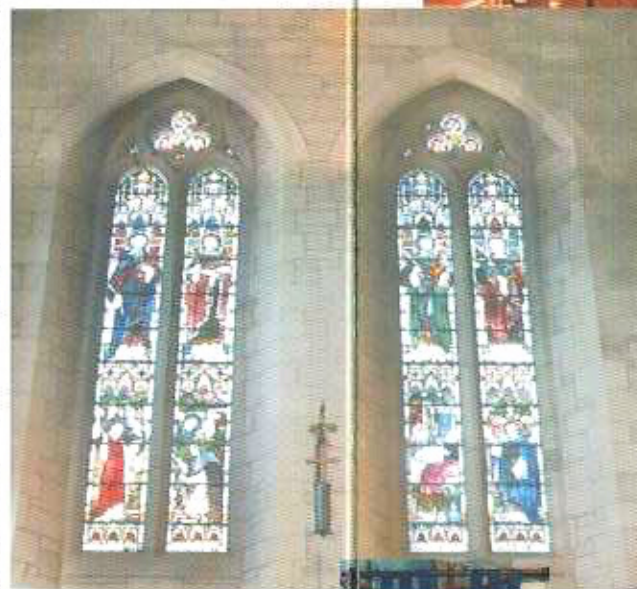
1. James the brother of John. The scenes are of Gesthemane and the Transfiguration.
2. St Elizabeth, the mother of John the Baptist.
3. St George

## The South Aisle Windows

1. Virgin Mary holds a lily (for purity) and the Christ child an apple (represents triumph over sin)
2. St Margaret of Scotland
3. St Andrew

## The West Window

The west Window depicts the writers of the four gospels - Matthew, Mark, Luke and John each with a book and quill. The scenes below are: on the left the raising of Lazarus by Jesus (John 11) and on the right the raising of Tabitha by Peter (Acts 9). Also included in the window are the two sacred monograms for Jesus - IHS (derived from the Latin form of His name) and XP (from the Greek word for Christ).



## The Font

The Font is older than the present building as it was gifted by Lady Emma Shaw Stewart in 1845 for the previous building. It is built of



English stone and is copied from a 15th century original in an Essex church. Its position at the west end of the church symbolises the start of the Christian journey. On top of the font lid is a pelican which was once thought to feed its young with its own blood - symbolising our Lord's sacrifice.

## The Screens

Based on mediaeval Gloucestershire examples the screens were given in the 1920s by the family of Sir John Kerr, one time Governor of Bengal and designed by HO Tarbolton.



The choir screen carries the central cross (or rood). The framework is filled with carvings of birds and animals including monkeys, rabbits and kangaroos. On the cross and behind it on the other side of the screen are symbols of Christ's suffering. The Latin words 'Sic dilexit Deus mundum' are from John 3:16 'for God so loved the world...that he gave his only begotten Son'

A nave altar was introduced in 2006. The Organ screen has the coat of arms of the Glasgow diocese.

The Lady Chapel Screen seen from the Choir has the figure of St Margaret on the left and St John on the right. MR with crown represents Mary, Queen of Heaven and the star is the Star of Bengal. The Lady Chapel was gifted by Florence Thorne in 1938.

