

WELCOME!

Welcome to Perth Cathedral, St Ninian's, the cathedral church of the diocese of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane, within the Scottish Episcopal Church. This building was the first new Anglican cathedral to be built in Britain since the Reformation and was consecrated in 1850. It stands on ground that originally belonged to the House of the Blackfriars, one of the four monasteries and friaries of mediaeval Perth. The cathedral is named after St Ninian, who died in 432 AD and who is known as the apostle to the southern Picts.

The architect William Butterfield, one of the leading lights in the Gothic Revival, also designed All Saints, Margaret Street, London, Keble College, Oxford and the cathedrals of St Paul in Melbourne and St Peter in Adelaide, Australia. The Lady Chapel and other later additions were carried out to designs by John Loughborough Pearson and his son Frank.

The cathedral has recently (2018) undergone a major restoration and now has a watertight roof and a freshly painted interior. The repair of the stonework and windows remains to be done.

We hope you will enjoy your visit. Please do sign our visitors book and, if you so wish, make a donation towards the upkeep of this fine Category A-listed building.

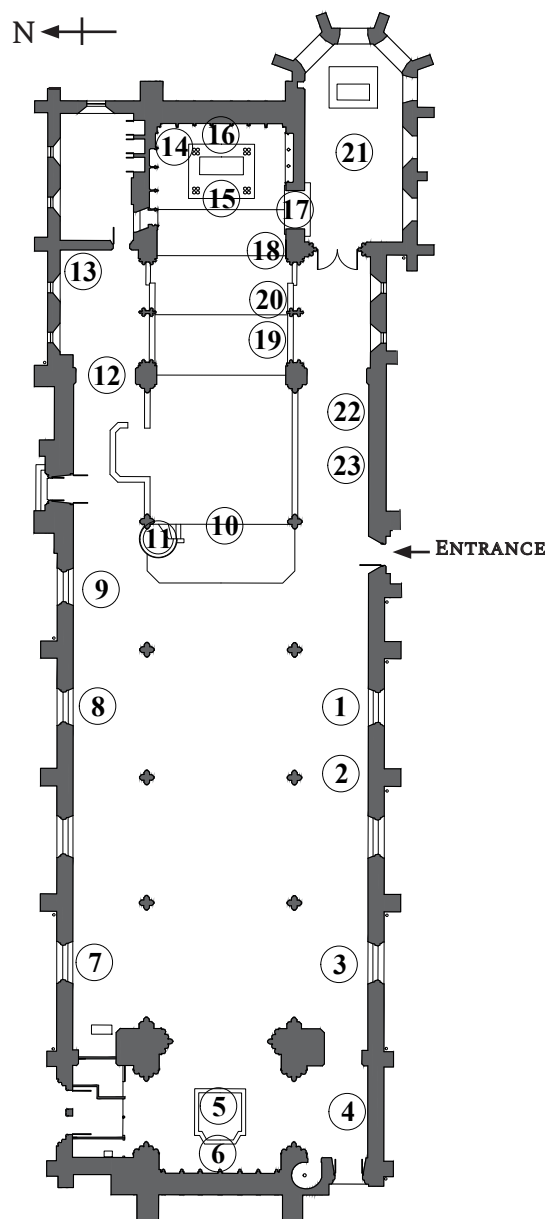
A TOUR OF THE CATHEDRAL

As you enter by the south door the statue facing you is of the Risen Christ, which is the work of an unknown sculptor, It is a memorial to Robert Morison Pullar, a great-grandson of John Pullar who founded the dyeing and dry-cleaning business that was once well-known throughout Britain. Turn left to start a clockwise tour of the cathedral.

1. KINNOULL WINDOW

The 12th Earl of Kinnoull, one of the founders of the nave (completed in 1890), is portrayed as Lazarus, with his wife and children as other figures. All the windows in the nave are by Burlison and Grylls, one of the most highly regarded stained glass firms in the country, in the later 19th century.

2. ST NINIAN'S WAR MEMORIALS



3. CHILDREN'S WINDOW

Dating from 1891, the cost was partly covered by collections made by children throughout the diocese.

4. BLACK WATCH WINDOW AND SOUTH AFRICAN WAR MEMORIAL

This part of the cathedral was intended to be a memorial chapel to the South African (or Second Boer) War. Many Perth men of the Black Watch were either killed or wounded at the Battle of Magersfontein in 1899, including their commanding officer, General Andrew Wauchope. The crest of the Black Watch can be seen at the foot of the window.

5. THE FONT

Designed by William Butterfield, the font dates from 1853. Frank L Pearson's wooden canopy was added in 1916.

6. WEST WINDOW

This fine window depicts the Fall and Redemption of Man and was completed in 1890. It was badly damaged in a freak storm in 2002 and has since been repaired.

7. OLIPHANT WINDOW

Dedicated to Thomas Oliphant who was secretary of the building committee which oversaw the completion of the cathedral between 1887 and 1890. It shows St. Ninian's Cathedral in the left hand panel with St. Ninian consecrating the elements of bread and wine. The right hand panel depicts the martyrdom of St. Andrew above the ruins of St. Andrews Cathedral.

8. SETON-WATSON WINDOW

Donated by the historian R W Seton-Watson in memory of his mother. It depicts the ministry of women through the figures of St Margaret of Scotland, St Elizabeth of Hungary and St Catherine of Siena.

9. FOUNDERS' WINDOW

In memory of Lord Forbes and the Earl of Glasgow who were enthusiastic supporters of the proposal to build the cathedral and who paid for much of the initial building costs.

10. THE ROOD

The sculptures high above the nave are of Christ on the Cross with Mary and John. The rood was designed by Sir Ninian Comper and erected in 1924 in memory of Claud Norie-Miller who died on active service in 1917. The rood screen beneath it was removed in

the 1980s. Norie-Miller's father and younger brother transformed the General Accident from a small Perth-based insurance company to one of Britain's largest (now part of Aviva).

II. PULPIT

Believed to be by Nathaniel Hitch, who frequently worked with the Pearsons, it includes carvings of the Celtic saints, Cuthbert, Kentigern, Patrick and Columba.

12. CRUCIFIXION WINDOW

High above the arch, this was given in memory of Nurse Beatrice Graeme of Inchbrakie who worked with the poor of Perth and died in 1905. The corresponding window on the south transept shows the Virgin and Child and was given by the wife of the Very Rev'd GTS Farquhar, a clergyman who served at the cathedral between 1883 and 1926, latterly as dean of the diocese.

13. CHAPEL OF ST ANDREW

This was completed in 1950 to celebrate the cathedral's centenary.

14. BISHOP TORRY'S TOMB

Marked by a white marble cross, this is next to the high altar and adjacent to a carved list of bishops and priests who served in the dioceses from the 17th century. Torry's portrait hangs on the wall to your left.

15. BALDACCHINO

Over the high altar, this ornately carved canopy, designed by Pearson and completed in 1911, features an intricate mosaic and carvings of saints.

16. EAST WINDOW

Showing Christ in Glory, it was donated in memory of Canon Humble and designed by William Butterfield.

17. STATUE OF BISHOP WILKINSON

This large bronze effigy by Sir George Frampton commemorates the third bishop of the united diocese who died in 1907.

18. BISHOP TORRY'S PASTORAL STAFF

Patrick Torry, born 1763, was ordained during the years of persecution of the Scottish Episcopal Church and travelled the countryside holding secret services in

barns and private homes. Later, after the relaxation of the penal laws, he became the first bishop of the united diocese of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane.

19. CANON STALLS

These are on either side of the choir and are carved in oak, the two larger ones, opposite each other, being for the dean of the diocese and the provost of the cathedral.

20. BISHOP'S THRONE

Nearest to the high altar, this is carved with the coats of arms of the three dioceses.

21. LADY CHAPEL

This intimate chapel is used for weekday services and private prayer. The ceiling boss above the altar commemorates Charles Edward Plumb who was both provost and bishop when the chapel was completed in 1909. The windows are by James Powell and Sons (also known as Whitefriars Glass). The Nunc Dimittis window on the south wall is in memory of Athol MacGregor who provided funds for building the chapel, in memory of his late wife.

22. ORGAN

Situated in the south choir aisle, this fine instrument - described as one of the best north of the Forth - was completely rebuilt and restored by Sandy Edmonstone, an organ builder and member of the congregation, in 1996. Further restoration work was carried out in 2018.

23. ROSE WINDOW

High above the organ, this was completed in 1896 in memory of the naturalist Dr Francis Buchanan White. His father, Dr Francis Isaiah White, had been the only Perth-based member on the cathedral planning committee of the late 1840s.

SERVICES:

SUNDAY: 11.00 SUNG EUCHARIST

MONDAY-THURSDAY: 9.00 MORNING PRAYER

WEDNESDAY: 11.00 EUCHARIST

The cover of this leaflet shows part of the Founders' Window, with St Ninian holding the cathedral which bears his name. The tower was never actually built. The publicity team would like to thank Margot Dunnachie, Tim Haynes, Margaret Lye and David Willis for their help with this guide.
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