

## VCH SHROPSHIRE

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Sect. 2.1, Parish churches  
4.1.6., St Julian

This text is made available to readers in advance of its full publication. We welcome suggestions for improvement, references and, of course, we invite readers to point out errors.

The history of St Julian has been prepared by Dr Judith Everard drawing on draft text by Dr Penny Upton and others but has been substantially researched by her. The description of the building and its predecessor is by Wendy Horton.

Illustrations may be found in a further file.

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## ST JULIAN

A church dedicated to St Juliana existed in Shrewsbury by 1066.<sup>1</sup> Later evidence suggests that it originated as a modest royal college. Throughout the Middle Ages it remained a royal free chapel exempt from the jurisdiction of the diocesan.<sup>2</sup> Situated at the upper, northern end of Wyle Cop, the church was probably the latest, and least well-endowed, of the pre-Conquest churches and served the population of the eastern flank of the town.<sup>3</sup> After the Reformation, St Julian's (as it came to be known) continued as a parish church until 1976 when the benefices of St Julian's and Holy Trinity, Coleham were united, and St Julian's church was declared redundant.<sup>4</sup>

### CHURCH ORIGINS AND PAROCHIAL ORGANISATION

The church was dedicated, before 1066, to St Juliana, an early fourth-century martyr from Nicomedia, whose feast day is observed on 16 February.<sup>5</sup> This dedication was apparently unique in medieval England and is unexplained. The Old English verse life of St Juliana by Cynewulf shows that the saint's legend was known in ninth-century Anglian or Mercian circles.<sup>6</sup> By the 16th century the church appears to have been known locally as St Gillian's,<sup>7</sup> a usage still current in 1602.<sup>8</sup> The designation 'St Julian's', in use by c. 1550,<sup>9</sup> and established by the 17th century,<sup>10</sup> perhaps arose as a corruption of St Gillian and from church dedications elsewhere to male saints named Julian whose cults developed in England from the 12th century.<sup>11</sup>

St Julian's modest parish appears to have been carved out of the territory of St Mary's church.<sup>12</sup> The parish included both intramural and extramural elements. The

<sup>1</sup> *VCH Salop.* II, 310.

<sup>2</sup> *VCH Salop.* I, 11; below.

<sup>3</sup> *VCH Salop.* I, 11.

<sup>4</sup> Pers. Comm. Mr Andrew Wright.

<sup>5</sup> *VCH Salop.* I, 310, 315; Owen and Blakeway, *Hist.* II, 415; *Acta Sanctorum*, Feb., II, 808.

<sup>6</sup> J. Frederick, 'Cynewulf's *Juliana*', in *Readings in Medieval Texts: Interpreting Old and Middle English Literature*, ed. D.F. Johnson and E. Treharne (Oxford, 2005), 60–74; R. Woolf, ed. *Juliana* (London, 1955, rev edn Exeter, 1993), 6.

<sup>7</sup> 'St Jyllyan's' 1558–9, and 'St Jellyans' in 1583: W.A. Leighton (ed.), 'Early Chronicles of Shrewsbury, 1372–1603', *TSAHS* 3 (1880), 239–352, at 265, 295.

<sup>8</sup> A presentment at the Great Court in 1602 named it as '*saynt gillians*': SA, 3365/1141.

<sup>9</sup> TNA, E 321/24/19, m. 138.

<sup>10</sup> E.g., '*Saint Julyan*' in the will (1646) of the rector Thomas Knight: TNA, Prob 11/204/207, f. 279.

<sup>11</sup> St Julian the Hospitaller: e.g., St Julian's hospital by St Albans (Herts.), God's House hospital in Southampton; St Julian, bishop of Le Mans: e.g., parish churches of Benniworth (Lincs.) and Kingston by Sea (Sussex) and in Norwich.

<sup>12</sup> Cf. the theory that the [parish was taken from both St Mary's and St Chad's: S. Bassett, 'Anglo-Saxon

25 church stands on Wyle Cop, at the head of ‘the Wyle’, the principal element of the  
 26 intramural parish, leading eastwards down to English Bridge. The rest of the parish lay  
 27 south of the Severn, in three distinct blocks: Coleham, directly opposite the urban core;  
 28 the smaller of the two manors of Pulley, two miles further south; and land in Shelton,  
 29 intermixed with St Chad’s. It seems likely that St Julian’s parochial rights in these areas  
 30 derived originally from its landholdings there, although by 1066 both Coleham and  
 31 Pulley were held by the Crown, and Shelton was held entirely by St Chad’s.<sup>13</sup> In 1772  
 32 the incumbent reported that the parish was mostly compact, ‘about three quarters of a  
 33 mile’ in extent, with a few ‘straggling’ houses in part of Shelton village and on Pulley  
 34 common.<sup>14</sup> In the early 19th century the parish included the whole of the Wyle (Wyle  
 35 Cop and Under the Wyle), and nearly the whole of Coleham, with detached portions  
 36 including Bayston Hill and Pulley, Shelton, Greenfields and Darville, within other  
 37 parishes.<sup>15</sup> The latter two areas, north of the town, derived from the endowment of the  
 38 royal chapel of St Michael in the castle.<sup>16</sup>

39 St Julian’s existed in close association with two other royal foundations in  
 40 Shrewsbury and its liberties: St Michael in the castle<sup>17</sup> and Ford chapelry. The history  
 41 of their relationships during the Middle Ages is obscure.<sup>18</sup> It may be that St Julian’s  
 42 came to belong to the later-founded royal college of St Michael in the castle. This would  
 43 explain why there are successive awards by the Crown of the benefice of St Michael in  
 44 the 13th and 14th centuries,<sup>19</sup> but few explicitly of St Julian’s after c.1250. The 1255  
 45 inquest found that William Bataille was both rector of St Michael’s and a prebendary  
 46 of St Julian’s.<sup>20</sup> It would also explain why Ford chapelry was said, in 1221, to belong  
 47 to the rectory of St Michael in the castle, a status affirmed by the Lord Chancellor c.  
 48 1440, but also to be an appendant of St Julian’s in 1292, confirmed by the bishop of  
 49 Hereford in 1445.<sup>21</sup> In 1416, the three benefices together were awarded to Battlefield

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Shrewsbury and its churches’, *Midland History* 16 (1991), 1–23.

<sup>13</sup> *Ibid.*, 11.

<sup>14</sup> SRO, B/V/5/18, ‘St Julian’s Salop’.

<sup>15</sup> Owen and Blakeway, *Hist.* II, 429; T. Auden, ‘The church and parish of St. Juliana in Salop’, *TSAHS*, 1st ser., 10 (1887), 157–348, map preceding p. 157, pp. 158, 340–7.

<sup>16</sup> Owen and Blakeway, *Hist.* II, 419–22; W.A. Champion, ‘St Michael’s chapel, Shrewsbury castle’, in ‘Victoria County History Shropshire Volume VI, part II, Shrewsbury: Institutions, buildings and culture. Section 4.2. Ancient chapels’ (draft, 2012).

<sup>17</sup> See Champion, ‘St Michael’s chapel’; Owen and Blakeway, *Hist.* II, 416–24; W.G.D. Fletcher, ‘The church of St. Michael within the castle, Shrewsbury’, *TSAS*, 4th ser. 8 (1922), 254–9.

<sup>18</sup> Owen and Blakeway, *Hist.* II, 416 note 2.

<sup>19</sup> Listed by Fletcher, ‘The church of St. Michael’, 257–8.

<sup>20</sup> *Rot. Hundr.*, ii, 78, 79.

<sup>21</sup> Owen and Blakeway, *Hist.* II, 416 note 2.

50 College (see below). St Julian's and its parish nevertheless remained a discrete  
 51 ecclesiastical entity, to be revived after the dissolution of the college.

52 In 1840 part of the parish became the ecclesiastical district of Holy Trinity,  
 53 Coleham.<sup>22</sup>

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### 55 **Advowson, Patrons and Impropiators**

56 St Julian's remained in royal hands, free from episcopal jurisdiction, throughout the  
 57 Middle Ages. In 1416 John de Repyndon resigned the livings of St Julian, St Michael  
 58 in the castle and Ford chapel into the hands of the king to be appropriated to Battlefield  
 59 College, in accordance with arrangements made shortly after the foundation of the  
 60 college in 1410.<sup>23</sup> The continuing existence of an official shows that St Julian's  
 61 remained a royal peculiar.<sup>24</sup>

62 On the dissolution of Battlefield College, in 1549 the Crown sold the rectory of  
 63 St Julian's, with the tithes belonging to St Michael in the castle in Coton and Darville,<sup>25</sup>  
 64 to John Cowper and Richard Trevor.<sup>26</sup> In 1558 the rectory was sold by Cowper to John  
 65 Hallywell,<sup>27</sup> an attorney at the bar of the court of the Council in the Marches.<sup>28</sup> In 1550  
 66 Hallywell was described as 'attorney of the town'; he provided counsel to the borough  
 67 in various causes.<sup>29</sup> He owned a substantial property in Under the Wyle, described at  
 68 his death in 1561 as a 'great tenement',<sup>30</sup> probably identifiable as that traditionally  
 69 known as Mytton's Mansion,<sup>31</sup> and was therefore a parishioner of St Julian's. His son,  
 70 John Hallywell, also an attorney,<sup>32</sup> in 1583 conveyed the rectory and tithes, including  
 71 those of St Michael in the castle, to his brother William.<sup>33</sup> By 1604 the rectory belonged  
 72 to Gerard Sherer.<sup>34</sup> Sherer was the only son of the parishioner Thomas Sherer (d. 1598),  
 73 who most probably had purchased the rectory from William Hallywell. Thomas Sherer  
 74 was chief registrar of the Council in the Marches and was elected bailiff of Shrewsbury

<sup>22</sup> *London Gaz.*, 11 Aug. 1840, 19,883, pp. 1858–9.

<sup>23</sup> *Cal. Close*, 1413–19, 354; *VCH Salop.* II, 129.

<sup>24</sup> Auden, 'Church and parish', 164–5, and see below.

<sup>25</sup> Owen and Blakeway, *Hist.* II, 417–22, 425, 428.

<sup>26</sup> *VCH Salop.* II, 130; *VCH Salop.* VI (1), 159.

<sup>27</sup> TNA, CP 25/2/77/655/5 & 6 Phil. and Mary/Trin.; *VCH Salop.* VI (1), 159.

<sup>28</sup> Oxford, Bodleian Library, Blakeway MS 26, note interleaved between pp. 288–9.

<sup>29</sup> SA, 3365/486, ff. 5v, 33.

<sup>30</sup> J.L. Hobbs, 'Three borough rentals of Shrewsbury, 1521, 1580 and 1610', *TSAS* 53 (1949–50), 224; TNA, C 142/143/39.

<sup>31</sup> Champion, 'Notes'.

<sup>32</sup> I.e., not the father, as implied in *VCH Salop.* VI (1), 159.

<sup>33</sup> TNA, CP 25/2/201/25 Eliz. I/Easter; Owen and Blakeway, *Hist.* I, 428–9; TNA C 3/93/20.

<sup>34</sup> *VCH Salop.* VI (1), 159.

75 on five occasions between 1572 and 1590; he built a substantial mansion at the bottom  
76 of Wyle Cop.<sup>35</sup> In 1605, Gerard Sherer conveyed the rectory to Richard Scott of  
77 Frankwell.

78 Richard Scott (d. 1628), the lay impropiator or rector from 1605,<sup>36</sup> owned, and  
79 inhabited, the Saracen's Head in Frankwell, but at his death he held much property  
80 elsewhere in Shrewsbury including in St Julian's parish.<sup>37</sup> His son Isaac,<sup>38</sup> also of  
81 Frankwell and described as an innholder in 1636,<sup>39</sup> evidently inherited the rectory, as  
82 he sold it in 1640 to Thomas Knight (d. 1648),<sup>40</sup> one of the 24 aldermen appointed  
83 under the new charter of 1638.<sup>41</sup> Knight made Thomas Nicholls, a fellow alderman,  
84 and Rowland Hunt, the town clerk, trustees of the rectory for the purpose of raising  
85 portions for some of his children. Of these, a younger son, Rowland Knight, was called  
86 'proprietor' in the parish books, 1651 and 1656, and presumably inherited the rectory.<sup>42</sup>

87 In 1658 Rowland Knight conveyed the rectory to John Corbett esq.<sup>43</sup> The post-  
88 Restoration descent of the rectory is unclear, but at some date during the later 17th  
89 century it became the property of the Prynce family of Whitehall, Abbey Foregate,<sup>44</sup>  
90 and then of the Jacobite Sir John Astley (1687–1771) after his marriage in 1711 to Mary  
91 Prynce. Astley was the lay rector in 1750, when he gave £100 for the rebuilding of the  
92 church. His heir was the son of his daughter Alice – Charles Bennett, fourth earl of  
93 Tankerville. Alice had married the third earl in St Julian's in 1742.<sup>45</sup> The earl of  
94 Tankerville continued to hold the advowson until c. 1898, when it was acquired by the  
95 Church Patronage Trust.<sup>46</sup> At the merger of St Julian's and Holy Trinity, Coleham, the  
96 patronage of the new benefice was vested in the bishop of Lichfield and the Church  
97 Patronage Trust by turns.<sup>47</sup>

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<sup>35</sup> *VCH Salop*. VI (1), 144, 153, 157; *Visit. Salop. 1623*, 437–8. Sherer's Mansion is illustrated in Owen and Blakeway, *Hist.* I, 356. It was demolished in the 20th century.

<sup>36</sup> SA, 6001/4083, 3649.

<sup>37</sup> TNA, PROB 11/154, f. 140v.

<sup>38</sup> SA, 6001/2794, pp. 266–8 (Scott pedigree).

<sup>39</sup> SA, 3365/1842, box 4 (suit list, 1634); 3365/221.

<sup>40</sup> Owen and Blakeway, *Hist.* II, 429; TNA, CP 25(2)/478/15 Chas I/Hil.

<sup>41</sup> Owen and Blakeway, *Hist.* I, 408.

<sup>42</sup> Owen and Blakeway, *Hist.* II, 429.

<sup>43</sup> TNA, CP 25(2)/591/1658 Trin.

<sup>44</sup> The rectorial tithes (at Coleham and Coton Hill) were in the hands of William Prynce of Abbey Foregate by 1699: TNA, PROB 11/476, f. 223.

<sup>45</sup> Owen and Blakeway, *Hist.* II, 429; Auden, 'Church and parish', 225–6; Hulbert, *Antiquities of Shrewsbury*, 306. For Astley, see *VCH Salop*. VI (1), 188; *Complete Peerage* XII(1), 634–5.

<sup>46</sup> *Crockford's Clerical Dir.*, 1897 and 1900 volumes.

<sup>47</sup> SA, P251/F/4/1/36.

99 **Endowment and Income**

100 In 1086 the estate of St Juliana was half a hide, valued at 8s., worked by two burgesses  
 101 who in 1086 were rendering 3s.<sup>48</sup> By 1279, the estate contained 13 burgages and 3 a.  
 102 in the town fields; the burgage rents amounted to just 6s. 1d., although the assessors  
 103 valued these tenements at a total of 45s. 6d. A few years later, a further burgage had  
 104 been added but the rents still had not been reviewed.<sup>49</sup> For the papal taxation of 1291  
 105 the church was valued at £8,<sup>50</sup> but in 1292 it was valued at 20 marks (£13 6s. 8d.).<sup>51</sup>  
 106 The location of the burgages is not known, but some at least presumably stood near the  
 107 church.<sup>52</sup>

108 The estate of St Julian's was transferred to Battlefield College in 1416, and the  
 109 church appropriated. At the dissolution of the college, in 1549, the rectory of St Julian's  
 110 was granted to lay impropiators who allowed a small stipend to the curate.<sup>53</sup> With no  
 111 glebe or tithes, the small value of the living marked the history of the parish.<sup>54</sup> During  
 112 the Interregnum, however, arrangements were more satisfactory. The Trustees for the  
 113 Maintenance of Ministers allowed a salary of £60, enjoyed by Zachery Mayne when he  
 114 became minister in 1658;<sup>55</sup> and in 1659 the Council of State envisaged raising this  
 115 further to £150 per annum.<sup>56</sup> After the Restoration these arrangements presumably  
 116 came to an end; by the later 17th century ministers were soliciting donations from the  
 117 corporation.<sup>57</sup> In 1685 it was asserted that the impropiator had formerly allowed the  
 118 perpetual curate a stipend of £4 10s., but it had decreased to £4, a figure that remained  
 119 constant at least until the late 19th century.<sup>58</sup>

120 There were intermittent attempts to endow the living with property in the parish.  
 121 In 1755, Elizabeth Hanmer left a house on English Bridge, 'The Wren's Nest' for the  
 122 residence of the parish clerk. When the bridge was rebuilt in 1769, a replacement house  
 123 was purchased in St Julian's Friars.<sup>59</sup> In 1772 the minister reported that the living was

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<sup>48</sup> *VCH Salop.* II, 315.

<sup>49</sup> U. Rees, 'A late 15th-century rental of tenements in Shrewsbury', *TSAHS*, 66 (1989), 79–83; SA, 6000/28, p. 38.

<sup>50</sup> *Taxatio*, 247b.

<sup>51</sup> Owen and Blakeway, *Hist.* II, 416, citing Assize roll (1292), 'rot. 89'.

<sup>52</sup> Rees, 'A late 15th-century rental', 79.

<sup>53</sup> *VCH Salop.* II, 128–9.

<sup>54</sup> *VCH Salop.* VI (i), 159.

<sup>55</sup> *Cal. SP Dom.* 1657–8, 338.

<sup>56</sup> *Cal. SP Dom.* 1659–60, 251.

<sup>57</sup> Auden, 'Church and parish', 183; S. Watts (ed.), *Glebe Terriers*, 107–9. Cf. Owen and Blakeway, *Hist.*, II, 429.

<sup>58</sup> Watts (ed.), *Glebe Terriers*, 106–9.

<sup>59</sup> Auden, 'Church and parish', 201–2, 208.

124 worth about £60 per annum, mostly derived from two small farms: one in Loppington  
 125 (Shropshire) and the other at Pool Quay (in Guilsfield, Montgomeryshire) purchased  
 126 with Queen Anne's Bounty, surplice fees and voluntary offerings.<sup>60</sup> Mary Elisha, who  
 127 died in 1780, bequeathed a fund to augment the benefice; this was applied in 1794 to  
 128 the purchase of a house, now 17 Wyle Cop, and a stable in Beeches Lane.<sup>61</sup> In the later  
 129 19th century the lease was worth £35 per annum to the minister, whose annual income  
 130 was by then £159. In 1899 the property was sold by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners  
 131 for £1,150, the proceeds being invested on behalf of the incumbent.<sup>62</sup> By 1925 the  
 132 annual value of the living had increased to £414 and in 1941 it was put at £358.<sup>63</sup>

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### 134 **Clergy Houses**

135 There is no evidence of residences provided for the earlier prebendaries of the collegiate  
 136 church. From the 12th century, the clergy were associated with the other royal  
 137 foundations in Shrewsbury: St Mary's and St Michael in the castle; and from c.1416 St  
 138 Julian's may have been served by a chaplain from Battlefield College. For the century  
 139 after the Reformation, a succession of poorly-paid curates held the benefice and there  
 140 were periods with no incumbent at all.<sup>64</sup> The endowment was increased in the later 17th  
 141 century and with it the prospect of house for the incumbent. A bequest by Elinor Hinkes,  
 142 whose will was proved in 1733, would have provided a newly-built house for the  
 143 minister on Wyle Cop and 'four or five little houses' on the same site as almshouses  
 144 for elderly women, but the bequest failed for lack of funds.<sup>65</sup> Typically, in 1772 the  
 145 incumbent of St Julian's reported that he was obliged to rent a house a few hundred  
 146 yards from his church.<sup>66</sup> Efforts were made to purchase a residence from 1898, but it  
 147 was not until 1935 that a house was provided when St Julian's purchased the old  
 148 vicarage of St Alkmund's.<sup>67</sup> That house was sold to private ownership after St Julian's  
 149 church was declared redundant. Holy Trinity, Coleham, with which St Julian's was  
 150 merged, already provided a vicarage.<sup>68</sup>

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<sup>60</sup> SRO, B/V/5/18, 'St Julian's Salop'; Watts (ed.), *Glebe Terriers*, 108.

<sup>61</sup> SA, P256/F/1/4; Owen and Blakeway, *Hist.* II, 433; Auden, 'Church and parish', 211.

<sup>62</sup> SA, P256/F/1/4; Auden, 'Church and parish', 211; Watts, *Glebe Terriers*, 108.

<sup>63</sup> *Crockford's Clerical Directory* (1925), 1105; *Kelly's Directory of Shropshire* (1941), 221.

<sup>64</sup> Auden, 'Church and parish', 192.

<sup>65</sup> Auden, 'Church and parish', 202–3.

<sup>66</sup> SRO, B/V/5/18, 'St Julian's Salop'; Watts (ed.), *Glebe Terriers*, 106–9.

<sup>67</sup> SA, P256/F/1/3/, and see 'St Alkmund' in this section.

<sup>68</sup> *London Gaz.*, 26 Mar. 1886, p. 1479; Watts, *Glebe Terriers*, 98.

## 152 CHURCH LIFE

153 **Middle Ages**

154 The collegiate church of St Juliana may have comprised at least three prebends before  
 155 c. 1200. In the reign of King John, William le Strange, also dean of St Mary's, held two  
 156 parts of the church, and Peter the clerk/Peter of Salop held the third portion and may  
 157 have been responsible for pastoral care in the parish.<sup>69</sup> In 1223, the king presented a  
 158 clerk of the earl of Chester, Adam de Nesse, to the vacant prebend formerly held by  
 159 Peter.<sup>70</sup> In 1255 the church still comprised two prebends in the gift of the king, held by  
 160 royal clerks: Ralph of Leicester (worth 10 marks) and William Bataille (worth 4½  
 161 marks) who was also 'rector' of St Michael in the castle and a prebendary of St  
 162 Mary's.<sup>71</sup>

163 By the mid 13th century, the royal free chapels of St Julian and St Michael in the  
 164 castle were routinely united in the hands of an individual cleric. On the death of William  
 165 Bataille in 1260, his prebends in the church of St Mary and the 'chapel of St Juliana'  
 166 were awarded to Richard Russell,<sup>72</sup> probably to be identified with Richard of Sarum  
 167 (below) and Richard 'de Say' who, as 'parson' of St Michael's in 1271/2 sued to  
 168 recover the church's rights in Soulton.<sup>73</sup>

169 By this time, the portions of St Julian's were consolidated in the hands of single  
 170 incumbent. In 1282, after the death of Richard of Sarum, the Crown granted 'the church  
 171 of St Juliana' – implicitly, the whole benefice – to Master Peter 'de Cosimato', treasurer  
 172 of the ruler of Salerno.<sup>74</sup> Master Adam 'de Dusiaco', alias 'de Saverne', was the  
 173 incumbent of both St Juliana and St Michael in 1291–2.<sup>75</sup> Dusiaco was succeeded in  
 174 1295 by the royal clerk Robert de Cottingham, who received separate letters for his  
 175 presentment to the church of St Juliana and to 'the king's free chapel of Shrewsbury  
 176 castle'.<sup>76</sup> Thereafter, royal letters appointing clergy to these benefices name only St

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<sup>69</sup> *Cal. Pat.* 1216–1225, 382; Owen and Blakeway, *Hist.* II, 415, citing testimony given in 1227/8 (in 'Placit. Coron. s.a. 12 Henry III'). The dates of William le Strange's deanship are unknown, but he appears to have been a canon of Bridgnorth in the 1220s: *VCH Salop.* II, 122, note 254. See also Auden, 'Church and parish', 159 note 3, citing BL, Add. MS 30324, f. 82 (1223).

<sup>70</sup> *Cal. Pat.* 1216–25, 382.

<sup>71</sup> *Rot. Hund.*, ii, 78–9; Owen and Blakeway, *Hist.* II, 416.

<sup>72</sup> *Cal. Pat.* 1258–1266, 78.

<sup>73</sup> Owen and Blakeway, *Hist.* II, 422, known only from 'a short and not very intelligible entry' in an Assize roll from 56 Henry III.

<sup>74</sup> *Cal. Pat.* 1281–1292, 40.

<sup>75</sup> Owen and Blakeway, *Hist.* II, 416, citing Assize roll of 1292, 'rot. 89'; Fletcher, 'The church of St. Michael', 257.

<sup>76</sup> *Cal. Pat.* 1292–1301, 147, 154.



177 Michael in the castle, yet it is apparent from other sources that the appointment also  
178 included St Juliana.<sup>77</sup>

179 St Juliana's links with royal clerks and with the castle apparently rendered it a  
180 place of safe deposit for visiting dignitaries, for in 1338 Adam, 'parson of St Juliana' –  
181 probably Adam Doverton, warden of St Michael in the castle – complained that thieves  
182 had broken into his church and chests therein and carried away goods and £200 in  
183 money, belonging to William Clinton, later earl of Huntingdon.<sup>78</sup>

184 The unitary incumbency of the two free chapels continued in 1342, when the king  
185 once again granted them to a royal clerk, John de Winwick.<sup>79</sup> By this time, it appears  
186 that St Juliana's had become subordinate, and the incumbent of St Michael's was styled  
187 as 'warden'. In 1350, Master Geoffrey Fromond, the king's physician, was awarded  
188 'the free chapel in Shrewsbury castle, with the chapel of St Juliana in the town, annexed  
189 to [it]'.<sup>80</sup> Again, in 1352, the royal clerk Thomas Keynes received 'the free chapel  
190 within the king's castle of Shrewsbury', but elsewhere was described as parson of the  
191 chapels of St Michael in the castle, St Juliana and Ford.<sup>81</sup> By 1394, when the king  
192 granted the two benefices for life to his clerk Ralph of Repton, St Juliana's, described  
193 as a parish church, was said to be annexed to St Michael's, even though by then the  
194 castle chapel itself had been pulled down.<sup>82</sup> In 1416 and again in 1542 St Juliana's was  
195 described as annexed to St Michael's.<sup>83</sup>

196 There is little evidence for how pastoral care was administered beyond the  
197 chantries discussed below. The removal of the town market, which had long been held  
198 in the cemetery between St Alkmund's and St Julian's churches, in 1261 must have  
199 been welcomed as more conducive to worship.<sup>84</sup> After the appropriation by Battlefield  
200 College, it is possible that one of the chaplains residing there served as minister of St  
201 Juliana. In 1542, the chaplain Edward Shorde obtained a lease for life of the chapels of  
202 St Michael in the Castle and St Juliana for a nominal rent, his obligation being to  
203 discharge the master of Battlefield College of the cure of souls there. In 1548, Richard  
204 Hill was identified as the stipendiary of St Juliana. He was paid £4 per annum from

<sup>77</sup> *Cal. Pat.* 1307–1313, 98, 103, 106, 139, 198; *Cal. Pat.* 1307–1313, 2; *Cal. Pat.* 1317–1321, 68; *Cal. Pat.* 1321–1324, 195; *Cal. Pat.* 1327–1330, 380, 528.

<sup>78</sup> *Cal. Pat.* 1330–1334, 13; *Cal. Pat.* 1338–40, 146, 360, 481; cf. *VCH Salop.* VI(1), 71.

<sup>79</sup> *Cal. Pat.* 1340–1343, 479.

<sup>80</sup> *Cal. Pat.* 1348–1350, 552.

<sup>81</sup> *Cal. Pat.* 1350–1354, 263; Owen and Blakeway, *Hist.* II, 416, citing Gough's MSS.

<sup>82</sup> *Cal. Pat.* 1391–1396, 468; *Cal. Pat.* 1401–1405, 53; Champion, 'Ancient chapels: St Michael's'.

<sup>83</sup> *Cal Close.* 1413–18, 354; Owen and Blakeway, *Hist.* II, 430.

<sup>84</sup> *Cal. Close* 1259–1261, 351; *VCH Salop.* VI (1), 76.

205 land pertaining to the Shearmen's Company,<sup>85</sup> which might imply instead that he was  
 206 chaplain of the Shearmen's chantry (below).

207 Throughout the Middle Ages, St Juliana's remained a royal free chapel exempt  
 208 from the jurisdiction of the diocesan; indeed it seems to have had its own peculiar  
 209 jurisdiction for in 1390 and 1446 it is recorded as having an official who exercised  
 210 probate of wills.<sup>86</sup> The right of the master of Battlefield College to prove wills at St  
 211 Juliana's was confirmed in 1536.<sup>87</sup>

212

### 213 *Chapels, Chantries and Burials*

214 A service of St Mary is first recorded *c.* 1295,<sup>88</sup> and a Lady chapel by the 14th century,  
 215 when its holdings included property and a rent in Under the Wyle (*c.* 1311, 1330),<sup>89</sup> as  
 216 well as tenements in Coleham.<sup>90</sup> The founder may have been a member of the Weston  
 217 family, which from the late 13th into the 14th century held a range of tenements 'on the  
 218 Wyle' facing St Juliana's church.<sup>91</sup> In 1358 the chaplain of the service was Richard  
 219 Pigot, and his demise of property in Under the Wyle, witnessed by the town bailiffs,  
 220 was made with the assent of the parishioners.<sup>92</sup>

221 The church was favoured by local notables, burgesses, and guildsmen as a place  
 222 of burial and for the establishment of chantries. One of the earliest known burials was  
 223 that of Esmond Trumwyn, presumably a relative of the early 14th-century county  
 224 sheriff, Roger Trumwyne, who had a residence on Swan Hill. His monument, an  
 225 inscribed marble slab, lay in the north aisle of the old church.<sup>93</sup> Other burials included  
 226 those of William Talpenny and Robert Upton, spicer, in the 1360s.<sup>94</sup> Leading  
 227 townsmen continued to be buried in the church after its appropriation by Battlefield  
 228 College. A stone, inlaid with two brass coats of arms, commemorated the merchant

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<sup>85</sup> Auden, 'Church and parish', 168.

<sup>86</sup> Owen and Blakeway, *Hist.* II, 424–5; J.H. Denton, *English Royal Free Chapels, 1100–1300. A Constitutional Study* (Manchester, 1970), 122.

<sup>87</sup> *VCH Salop.* II, 129.

<sup>88</sup> U. Rees (ed.), *The Cartulary of Haughmond Abbey* (1985), no. 994, p. 191; *VCH Salop.* VI (1), 71, 123.

<sup>89</sup> *Ibid.*; SA, 6000/6264; Owen and Blakeway, *Hist.* II, 429.

<sup>90</sup> Rees (ed.), *Cart. Haughmond Abbey*, no. 994; SA, 6000/170; Auden, 'Church and parish', 163, 222.

<sup>91</sup> SA, 6000/3684–7.

<sup>92</sup> Auden, 'Church and parish', 163.

<sup>93</sup> BL, Add MS 30,331, f. 45 (records name as 'Esmound'); Owen and Blakeway, *Hist.* II, 434; Auden, 'Church and parish', 160 (assumes the name to be Edmund); *VCH Salop.* VI (1), 36, 40, 83 (note Sir Roger is wrongly styled Sir John on p. 83). [See below p. 000.](#)

<sup>94</sup> *VCH Salop.* VI(1), 71.

229 Thomas Oteley (d. 1495) and his two wives.<sup>95</sup> Oteley's was a particularly notable  
 230 burial, recorded by the town chronicle about a century later.<sup>96</sup> Five times bailiff, Oteley  
 231 had served as mayor of the Calais staple, and was to purchase the Pitchford estate south  
 232 of Shrewsbury.<sup>97</sup> His second wife, Elizabeth Scriven of Frodesley (d. 1485), was a  
 233 member of a family whose fortune had been made in the wool trade and who had been  
 234 significant parishioners with a substantial property below the Wyle known as 'Scriven's  
 235 great tenement'.<sup>98</sup> Other important medieval townsmen whose armorial bearings were  
 236 displayed in the church, presumably also on monuments, include Urien St Pierre ('de  
 237 St Peire'), bailiff of Shrewsbury, 1423 and 1430 and William Bastard, bailiff, 1445 and  
 238 1451.<sup>99</sup>

239 In 1456, when Thomas Barker was parochial chaplain, Alice Clement directed  
 240 that she be buried in the chapel of St Katherine in St Juliana's church. The whole choir  
 241 of St Juliana together with that of St Chad was to assist at her exequies; four torches  
 242 and two wax lights were to burn about her body on the day of her funeral, one of which  
 243 was to remain on the high altar at St Juliana to burn daily at the elevation of the Host,  
 244 while others were placed on the altars of St Katherine and St Thomas.<sup>100</sup> Alice was the  
 245 widow of the brewer Nicholas Clement, a member of the first town council, who built  
 246 (c. 1430) the substantial range on Wyle Cop known as 'Henry Tudor house'.<sup>101</sup>

247 The Shearmen's Company, who had established a hall nearby in what is now  
 248 Milk Street in the 14th century, were certainly involved in the affairs of the church by  
 249 the mid 15th century. The company's records suggest that c. 1467, after an agreement  
 250 with the parish, it took over the service of St Mary, acquiring a bag of deeds at the same  
 251 time, and goods including two silver spoons and a mazer.<sup>102</sup> The Shearmen's hall itself,  
 252 a stone building (demolished c. 1900) ascribed to the 14th century, may have comprised  
 253 one of the chantry's early endowments.<sup>103</sup> The service of St Mary was given further

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<sup>95</sup> Auden, 'Church and parish', 223–4. Cf. BL, Add 30,331, f. 45: A transcription from a record made by Elias Ashmole in the mid 17th century mentions a gravestone with two brass escutcheons on the south side of the church.

<sup>96</sup> 'Early chron.', 249.

<sup>97</sup> *VCH Salop*. VI (1), 111 (date of death wrongly given as 1486).

<sup>98</sup> *Ibid.*, 81 (n. 6), 106, 123, 132.

<sup>99</sup> Owen and Blakeway, *Hist.* II, 426; Auden, 'Church and parish', 224–5.

<sup>100</sup> Owen and Blakeway, *Hist.* I, 215, II, 429; Auden, 'Church and parish', 164–5.

<sup>101</sup> Auden, 'Church and parish', 164–5; W.A. Champion, 'John Ashby and the history and environs of the Lion Inn, Shrewsbury', *TSAHS*, 75 (2000), 60–1.

<sup>102</sup> Auden, 'Church and parish', 166 (giving correct regnal, but wrong calendar year); Aberystwyth, National Library of Wales, Castle Hill MSS, 2641.

<sup>103</sup> M. Moran, *Vernacular Buildings of Shropshire* (Logaston, 2003), 219.

254 property after 1467,<sup>104</sup> and by the time it was surveyed by the chantry commissioners  
 255 its estate (though lacking any plate) was said to be worth £4 3s. 6d.<sup>105</sup> When granted  
 256 by the Crown in 1549, it included holdings in eleven tenements.<sup>106</sup>

257 St Katherine's altar, first recorded in Alice Clement's will,<sup>107</sup> was possibly the  
 258 location of a perpetual obit established by Richard Yemens in 1524 and evidently  
 259 managed by the inmates of the nearby Franciscan friary.<sup>108</sup> The altar was the focus of  
 260 a chantry, evidently of local importance, perhaps serving a parish guild. In 1546 a  
 261 number of uncontested suits were brought by the wardens of the chantry in the town  
 262 court (the *curia parva*), perhaps in an attempt to wind up its estate before the arrival of  
 263 the chantry commissioners later that year.<sup>109</sup> Similarly, it was later alleged that the  
 264 wardens had concealed from the chantry commissioners the property endowed for a  
 265 priest to sing mass at St Katherine's altar (below). These measures were successful  
 266 insofar as St Katherine's chantry escaped survey.

267 An obituary funded from a tenement at the High Cross worth 3s. 4d. per annum  
 268 was identified in 1552.<sup>110</sup>

269 Even in the 1530s the parishioners of St Julian's showed particular anxiety about  
 270 the likely fate of their church goods, which included nine chalices.<sup>111</sup> As a result of  
 271 reportedly spreading a rumour that the king intended 'to have but one church where  
 272 now were two, and in every parish church but one chalice' in April 1537 Thomas  
 273 Couper, Thomas Lloyd and Richard Atkys, important parishioners,<sup>112</sup> were examined  
 274 by officials of the Council in the Marches, including the Lord President, Bishop  
 275 Rowland Lee. All three were imprisoned for seditious words;<sup>113</sup> Couper was removed  
 276 from the office of town clerk and died soon afterwards.<sup>114</sup>

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<sup>104</sup> *VCH Salop.* VI (1), 123.

<sup>105</sup> TNA, SC 6/EdwVI/393; A. Hamilton Thompson (ed.), 'Certificates of the Shropshire chantries under the Acts of 37 Henry VIII, cap. IV., and 1 Edward VI, cap. XIV', *TSANHS*, 3rd ser. 10 (1910), 343.

<sup>106</sup> TNA, E 318/39/2095, m. 5.

<sup>107</sup> Auden, 'Church and parish', 222–3.

<sup>108</sup> *VCH Salop.* VI(1), 120.

<sup>109</sup> SA, 3365/1795 (1545–6), f. 32v.

<sup>110</sup> TNA, SC 6/EdwVI/393.

<sup>111</sup> For this para., *L&P Hen. VIII*, XII (1), 358.

<sup>112</sup> Atkys, a mercer and much employed on town business, was elected bailiff in 1539: Owen and Blakeway, *Hist.* I, 300; Morris, 'Provosts and bailiffs' [4: 1485–1545], 271. Lloyd, a draper and resident of Wyle Cop, had been an assistant on the borough council since at least 1525: SA, 3365/75 (council lists); 3365/1842, box 1, nos. 3, 6 (suit lists).

<sup>113</sup> *L&P Hen. VIII*, XV, 183, 228 (the entries in the calendar have been allocated to the wrong year).

<sup>114</sup> *L&P Hen. VIII*, XII (2), 334; TNA, C 1/716/51–7; *VCH Salop.* VI (1), 103, 154.

278 **Reformation**

279 As the dissolution of the chantries loomed, parishioners of St Julian appear to have  
 280 taken pre-emptive action to prevent the church's goods from being seized by the Crown.  
 281 John Hallywell and John Skinner, the wardens of St Katherine's chantry, were accused  
 282 in the Court of Augmentations of concealing from the chantry commissioners the  
 283 property endowed for a priest to sing mass at St Katherine's altar and to have sold the  
 284 endowments for £40. The sum (it was alleged) had then been lent out to some of the  
 285 parishioners, the interest being employed to retain, for a stipend of 5 marks, a priest at  
 286 the same altar.<sup>115</sup> Although the court's judgment has not survived, the parishioners'  
 287 concealment may have succeeded, as no record exists of the chantry's endowments later  
 288 being sold by the Crown.

289 Another bill brought in the Court of Augmentations by William Newall at the  
 290 same time claimed that in June 1548 some of the leading parishioners of St Julian's had  
 291 removed many of the parish goods, including a great silver cross, garnished with rubies  
 292 and precious stones, a silver censer, eight chalices, four cruets, a silver gilt pyx and a  
 293 cup, together worth at least £78. The defendants, who included the subsequent lay  
 294 rector/impropriator (and close neighbour of Newall's)<sup>116</sup> John Hallywell, pleaded that  
 295 St Julian's was a parish church, and therefore not subject to the recent Act for the  
 296 dissolution of chantries, colleges and free chapels.<sup>117</sup> Of its goods only one silver gilt  
 297 chalice, a pyx and a cross of copper and gilt – together with a number of copes,  
 298 vestments, altar cloths, and a pair of organs – remained to be presented to the king's  
 299 commissioners in 1553.<sup>118</sup> In the event, the church was allowed to keep only one  
 300 chalice, one paten and three bells.<sup>119</sup>

301 Among those alleged to have assisted John Hallywell in removing the church  
 302 goods was Richard Barber, identifiable as Richard Barber alias Owen (d. 1579), a  
 303 member of the Shearmen's Company.<sup>120</sup> By 1553 Owen was a member of the town  
 304 council, later being sworn an alderman in 1572. He was also one of the parishioners  
 305 alleged to have concealed property belonging to St Katherine's chantry in St Julian's

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<sup>115</sup> TNA, E 321/24/19, m. 138–9. William Newall alleged that the original endowment, to maintain the priest, had been given to the chapel of St Giles (i.e. presumably the chapel of that name in Abbey Foregate). The import of this claim, if not garbled, is unclear.

<sup>116</sup> See the 1548 suit list for Under the Wyle: SA, 3365/1842, box 1, no. 5.

<sup>117</sup> TNA, E 321/24/19, mm. 137, 139–40.

<sup>118</sup> J. Hunter, 'Inventories of the church goods in the town of Shrewsbury at the time of the Reformation ...', *TSANHS* 10 (1887), 401–2.

<sup>119</sup> Hunter, 'Church goods', 401–2, 404–5.

<sup>120</sup> For this para., see Champion, 'John Ashby', 57.

306 (above), and his religious leanings were later thought to be suspect. About 1575 the  
 307 Shrewsbury draper and Protestant busy-body Thomas Browne, who played an  
 308 unwitting role in exposing the Ridolphi plot, accused Owen of being ‘a great and  
 309 ignorant papist’, and claiming that ‘many great and notable papists, under the colour of  
 310 guest wise’, visited Owen’s inn, the Red Lion, now the Lion hotel, on Wyle Cop.<sup>121</sup>

311 The lay rectors/impropriators did provide curates for St Julian’s, apparently  
 312 favouring Welsh-speakers. The following dates are those on which the curates occur in  
 313 sources: John Griffiths (1552, 1553),<sup>122</sup> Roger Hewster (1558, 1561),<sup>123</sup> Thomas ap  
 314 Rees (1573)<sup>124</sup> and William ap Robert (1574–post 1597).<sup>125</sup> The latter was also curate  
 315 of St Alkmund’s from 1591.<sup>126</sup>

316 Given the conservatism of some leading parishioners, and the likely affinities of  
 317 its first lay rectors, it is perhaps not surprising that St Julian’s showed little if any sign  
 318 of Protestant radicalism during Elizabeth’s reign. Significantly, when the church cross  
 319 was pulled down in 1583 the deed had to be done at night.<sup>127</sup> John Hallywell himself  
 320 was elected one of the town bailiffs in 1558, the year he became lay rector, and it was  
 321 during his term of office that on his initiative the church bell at St Julian’s began to be  
 322 rung at 4 a.m., 6 a.m., noon and 6 p.m., ‘and so to continue for ever the which is a  
 323 goodly knowledge for the inhabitants and strangers the which is called to this day  
 324 Hallywell’s knell’.<sup>128</sup> The 4 a.m. bell was evidently used to signal the end of curfew, as  
 325 the parish clerk was paid 40s. half yearly by the borough for ringing it.<sup>129</sup>

326 Thomas Jervis was curate in 1601 and 1605.<sup>130</sup> From this date episcopal records  
 327 for St Julian’s are lacking until the Restoration. The parish register, which begins in  
 328 1559, mentions a John Powell, ‘minister’ in 1609.<sup>131</sup>

329 The churchwardens’ accounts, which survive from 1621, furnish considerable  
 330 information on church life at St Julian’s.<sup>132</sup> A parish assessment of £6 was levied in

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<sup>121</sup> Ibid.

<sup>122</sup> Hunter, ‘Church goods’, 401, 404.

<sup>123</sup> SRO, B/V/1/2, B/V/1/5 (Liber Cleri).

<sup>124</sup> SRO, B/V/1/8 (Liber Cleri).

<sup>125</sup> SRO, B/V/1/15 (Register of Orders); B/V/1/23 (Liber Cleri).

<sup>126</sup> SRO, B/V/1/23 (Liber Cleri).

<sup>127</sup> ‘Early Chron.’, 295.

<sup>128</sup> Ibid., 265.

<sup>129</sup> SA, 6001/299, p. 2.

<sup>130</sup> SRO, B/A/4/1 (Subscription Book); B/V/1/24 (Liber Cleri); Auden, ‘Church and parish’, 172.

<sup>131</sup> SA, P256/A/1; Auden, ‘Church and parish’, 172.

<sup>132</sup> The references to Auden, ‘Church and parish’, below, are to extracts, printed there, from the earliest churchwardens’ accounts (SA, P256/B/2/1/1–2, P256/B/2/1/6), with Auden’s commentary. See also SA, 6001/171 for handwritten extracts.

331 1621 for repairs to the church, the ‘great bell’ and the glazing. In 1622 there were  
 332 payments for timber for the font and for the man responsible for the work; this suggests  
 333 that, like St Chad’s in 1587, the stone font was broken up and replaced by a timber one.  
 334 Wine was bought for Holy Communion at Whitsun, All Saints, Christmas, Palm  
 335 Sunday, Good Friday, Easter Eve, Easter Day, and Low Sunday.<sup>133</sup>

336 Pews were in use and a source of rental income before 1625, and are frequently  
 337 mentioned in the churchwardens’ accounts thereafter.<sup>134</sup> In 1633 the parishioners  
 338 agreed to re-pewing the church. Subsequently, however, there were problems with  
 339 parishioners ‘mak[ing] two seats into one’.<sup>135</sup>

340 In 1633, 200 persons paid for the bread and wine for the obligatory Easter  
 341 communion, an indication of the number of communicants and evidence of a good  
 342 turnout;<sup>136</sup> in 1634 the number of male householders in Coleham and the intramural  
 343 streets of the parish was 195,<sup>137</sup> which perhaps reflects the fact that several important  
 344 townsmen lived in the parish.<sup>138</sup> In 1633, the goods of the parish included a Bible, a  
 345 Book of Common Prayer, two books of homilies, the Paraphrases of Erasmus, Jewells’  
 346 Defence of the Church of England and Harding’s attack, a book of thanksgiving for  
 347 deliverance from the Gunpowder treason, a book of canons, one surplice, a silver cup  
 348 and cover, a pewter flagon, a diaper cloth and carpet for the communion table, and two  
 349 parish chests with locks.<sup>139</sup>

350 Little is known of the curates in the decades before the Civil War.<sup>140</sup> Peter  
 351 Studley, the curate of St Chad’s (1623–37), apparently also served as minister of St  
 352 Julian’s. In 1626 parishioners of St Julian’s complained that Studley read the service  
 353 but did not preach or even read homilies, while sermons were being preached in other  
 354 parish churches.<sup>141</sup> Some defied the Church authorities and went elsewhere; at the 1633  
 355 visitation more than two dozen parishioners were presented for not frequenting their  
 356 own church and John Bennett, a weaver, was presented for deriding and mocking a  
 357 minister.<sup>142</sup> The anti-Puritan Studley was a fierce opponent of the town’s godly party

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<sup>133</sup> Auden, ‘Church and parish’, 174–8.

<sup>134</sup> *Ibid.*, 178, 184, 190.

<sup>135</sup> *Ibid.*, 183, 206.

<sup>136</sup> *Ibid.*, 179.

<sup>137</sup> SA, 3365/1842, box 4.

<sup>138</sup> Auden, ‘Church and parish’, 181.

<sup>139</sup> *Ibid.*, 179–81.

<sup>140</sup> *Ibid.*, 173, 182–3.

<sup>141</sup> Coulton, *Regime and Religion*, 82.

<sup>142</sup> SRO, B/V/1/53; Lake, ‘A Shropshire axe-murder’, 47.

358 and was evidently not in sympathy with all his parishioners.<sup>143</sup> Andrew Harding was  
 359 called ‘minister’ in 1635, Richard Lee was curate in 1636 and 1641, and William Tyler  
 360 in 1644.<sup>144</sup>

361 From 1640 the lay rector/impropriator was alderman Thomas Knight, a supporter  
 362 of parliament and a presbyterian (above). In 1641, the altar rails in St Julian’s were  
 363 taken down and made into seats in the chancel.<sup>145</sup> Knight (d. 1648), who was a resident  
 364 of Dogpole in St Julian’s parish, counted as associates his fellow aldermen Humphrey  
 365 Mackworth and Thomas Nicholls, as well as Rowland Hunt, all of whom assisted in his  
 366 testamentary arrangements.<sup>146</sup> Mackworth – a notable figure in the town’s history – and  
 367 Nicholls were staunch parliamentarians (both were declared traitors by the king in  
 368 1642), as well as leading members of Shrewsbury’s godly party. Rowland Hunt, made  
 369 town clerk after the Parliamentary capture of Shrewsbury, was the brother of Thomas  
 370 Hunt, another noted local opponent of the Crown, and governor of Shrewsbury towards  
 371 the end of the Interregnum.<sup>147</sup>

372

### 373 **Interregnum**

374 When Shrewsbury was taken over by Parliamentary forces in 1645, soldiers entered the  
 375 church and removed the communion table cloth, the Book of Common Prayer, and the  
 376 book of prayer for the 5th of November.<sup>148</sup> In 1647, St Julian’s lay rector/impropriator,  
 377 Thomas Knight, was chosen as an elder of the projected Shrewsbury *classis*,<sup>149</sup> and in  
 378 the same year (while he was serving as the town’s mayor) he headed a list of 11 names  
 379 elected by the parishioners to comprise the vestry, with their duties laid down at the  
 380 same time.<sup>150</sup> Under Knight’s son Rowland the vestry’s religious affiliation and  
 381 responsibilities evidently remained, as it was Thomas Hunt and others who offered the  
 382 vacant living of Julian’s to the inspirational preacher Henry Newcome of Gawsworth  
 383 in 1656. It was perhaps then, in an attempt to attract Newcome, that somewhat  
 384 surprisingly £16 4s. 6d. was paid for ‘beautifying the church chancell & Pulpitt’ and

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<sup>143</sup> *VCH Salop.* VI (1), 166–7; Coulton, *Regime and Religion*, 82–7.

<sup>144</sup> Auden, ‘Church and parish’, 182–3.

<sup>145</sup> *Ibid.*, 185.

<sup>146</sup> TNA, PROB 11/204/207, ff. 278v–280.

<sup>147</sup> *VCH Salop.* VI (1), 167, 181–5; Owen and Blakeway, *Hist.* I, 543; SA, 6001/2792, pp. 563–4 (Hunt pedigree).

<sup>148</sup> Auden, ‘Church and parish’, 186.

<sup>149</sup> Coulton, *Regime and Religion*, 107.

<sup>150</sup> Auden, ‘Church and parish’, 186–7.



385 £100 was spent in repairing the north and south aisles and the steeple.<sup>151</sup> In the event,  
 386 Newcome decided not to accept, and the parish had to be content with visiting  
 387 ministers.<sup>152</sup> The churchwardens paid £17 3s. to John Bryan, probably the young  
 388 Puritan minister of Holy Cross, ‘for several sermons in our parish’ given in 1655 and  
 389 1656, and a Daniel Chadwick was one of several ministers who preached in 1657.<sup>153</sup>

390 The arrival in 1658, however, of a new and possibly more conservative lay rector,  
 391 John Corbett, esq.,<sup>154</sup> may have brought religious divisions in the parish more into  
 392 view. Corbett’s identity is uncertain but he may have been John Corbet of Stoke-upon-  
 393 Tern (1619–64) who succeeded to a baronetcy on the death of his father, Sir John  
 394 Corbet of Adderley (1594–1662). Corbet the elder was a member for the county during  
 395 the Long Parliament (though excluded at Pride’s Purge), and a ‘moderate puritan’ (he  
 396 was later head of the elders for the Whitchurch *classis*), but his son was a royalist.<sup>155</sup> If  
 397 this identification is correct, John Corbett’s purchase of the rectory was provocative, as  
 398 his father was at that time on the borough council, from which he was removed at the  
 399 Restoration.<sup>156</sup>

400 A new minister, Zachary Mayne, was appointed in March 1658, at the same time  
 401 being appointed by the Council of State to give a Sunday lecture.<sup>157</sup> Yet Mayne had  
 402 scruples about serving without having been ordained: ‘Henry Hammond of Worcester,  
 403 chief proponent in England of what would be called Anglicanism, tried to persuade him  
 404 to be ordained secretly by the former bishop of Bangor, William Roberts’, but Mayne  
 405 resigned instead. It was said that ‘he gave no disturbance to the town, but ... had a fair  
 406 reception and acceptance’ in Shrewsbury.<sup>158</sup>

407 The vestry then agreed in 1659 to invite Thomas Griffiths, but others ‘well-  
 408 affected in and about Shrewsbury’ petitioned the Council of State to have instead the  
 409 Fifth Monarchist John Rogers appointed as minister and public preacher. The petition

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<sup>151</sup> *Ibid.*, 189.

<sup>152</sup> *Ibid.*, 189–90; *VCH Salop*. VI (1), 183–4, and references given there.

<sup>153</sup> Auden, ‘Church and parish’, 190–1.

<sup>154</sup> TNA, CP 25(2)/591/1658 Trin. The fine recording the purchase of the rectory was entered in Trinity term, but the conveyance would have occurred earlier.

<sup>155</sup> For Sir John Corbet, Coulton, *Regime and Religion*, 87, 91, 95, 107, 109, 112, 140.

<sup>156</sup> Coulton, *Regime and Religion*, 140.

<sup>157</sup> *Ibid.*, 131; *Cal. SP Dom.* 1657–8, 338.

<sup>158</sup> J. Maltby, ‘Suffering and surviving: the civil wars, the Commonwealth and the formation of “Anglicanism”, 1642–60’, in *Religion in Revolutionary England*, C. Durston and J. Maltby (eds.) (2006), 158–80; *Calendar of the Correspondence of Richard Baxter, I: 1638–1660*, N.H. Keeble and G.F. Nuttall (eds.) (1991), 108–9; quoted in Coulton, *Regime and Religion*, 131.

410 was granted, although never put into effect.<sup>159</sup> In the same year the lawyer Francis  
 411 Gibbons (1609–81), whose family owned substantial property on Wyle Cop, including  
 412 Henry Tudor House, gave a gift of £1 towards the church ceiling.<sup>160</sup> Gibbons came  
 413 from a family of staunch royalists who had suffered severely for their loyalty to Charles  
 414 I.<sup>161</sup> His uncle Dr Francis Gibbons had been a chaplain to the king, and vicar of Holy  
 415 Cross until his death in 1640.<sup>162</sup> Yet it was in 1659 too that the font was removed from  
 416 the west end of the church.<sup>163</sup> Such clues suggest that at the time there were active  
 417 parishioners of both a radical and conservative stamp.

418

#### 419 **1660 to 1840**

420 In 1661, the Restoration was marked at St Julian's by the purchase of a Book of  
 421 Common Prayer, the altar was repaired, and the communion rails and the font  
 422 reinstated.<sup>164</sup> Despite such investment in the fabric, however, there still 'appears to  
 423 have been no regular vicar, but the money derived from the tithes at Pulley was  
 424 expended on various ministers who took duty in the parish'.<sup>165</sup> Several ministers were  
 425 paid for preaching in 1662, including Dr Benjamin Whichcott, provost of King's  
 426 College, Cambridge (whose brother-in-law, Thomas Hayes, was a leading parishioner),  
 427 and Roger Hayward, vicar of St Chad's and chaplain to Charles II.<sup>166</sup>

428 Finally, John Haynes was instituted as curate and preacher in 1665; he was  
 429 probably also second master of the Free School.<sup>167</sup> Haynes's successor in 1669 was  
 430 Maurice Harrison, probably the son of John Harrison, a Lancashire minister ejected in  
 431 1662, who served the church until his death in 1689.<sup>168</sup>

432 The appointments of curates throughout the 18th century promoted the interests  
 433 of eminent Shrewsbury families, particularly linking the patronage and endowment of  
 434 St Julian's with that of Holy Cross, the Abbey church, culminating in the advowson  
 435 descending to the earls of Tankerville. Philip Wingfield (curate, 1703–18) was the son  
 436 of Samuel Wingfield of Preston Brockhurst and Elizabeth, a daughter of Sir Richard

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<sup>159</sup> Auden, 'Church and parish', 191–2; *VCH Salop*. VI (1), 184.

<sup>160</sup> Auden, 'Church and parish', 191.

<sup>161</sup> Champion, 'John Ashby', 59–60. Auden's identification of Francis Gibbons as a cousin of the same name is not followed here: Auden, 'Church and parish', 191.

<sup>162</sup> *VCH Salop*. VI (1), 167.

<sup>163</sup> Auden, 'Church and parish', 191.

<sup>164</sup> *Ibid.*, 192.

<sup>165</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>166</sup> *Ibid.*, 192–3.

<sup>167</sup> SRO, B/V/1/67 (Liber Cleri); B/A/1/17 (Register); Auden, 'Church and parish', 193.

<sup>168</sup> SRO, B/V/1/77 (Liber Cleri); Owen and Blakeway, *Hist.* II, 430; Auden, 'Church and parish', 193.

437 Prince.<sup>169</sup> His successor, James Pearson (curate, 1718–56), was the son of Samuel  
 438 Pearson, the vicar of Holy Cross.<sup>170</sup> During his long incumbency, Pearson oversaw the  
 439 rebuilding of St Julian’s church (below, Church Architecture).

440         Given that St Julian’s church was poorly endowed, while the parish housed some  
 441 families of wealth and status, the subject of pews was ever significant; ‘St Julian’s was  
 442 ... an example of the highest development of the pew system’.<sup>171</sup> The rebuilding of the  
 443 church was the opportunity for a complete renewal of the provision and regulation of  
 444 pews. The parishioners agreed that, on Easter Monday 1751, all pews would be ‘set ...  
 445 to the highest bidder’ and in future there would be no more making two seats into  
 446 one.<sup>172</sup> The pew-holders retained the right to their pews as long as they were  
 447 householders in the parish. Vacated pews then reverted to the church to be relet to  
 448 another parishioner on payment of a modest entry fee.

449         John Tombes Wingfield (perpetual curate, 1756–91) was the son of John  
 450 Wingfield, MD, a younger son of Thomas Wingfield of Preston Brockhurst.<sup>173</sup> In 1772,  
 451 Wingfield reported that he conducted two services every Sunday. Holy Communion  
 452 was held monthly, with about 40 communicants, and many more at festivals.<sup>174</sup> Being  
 453 also chaplain to the earl of Tankerville, and holding the benefices of Atcham and Little  
 454 Berwick, later in life Wingfield employed an assistant curate.<sup>175</sup>

455         One of the most distinguished incumbents was Hugh Owen, FSA. Owen  
 456 graduated from St John’s College, Cambridge. His first appointment was as curate of  
 457 Atcham in 1784.<sup>176</sup> Presented to the living of St Julian’s in 1791, Owen was later  
 458 awarded a prebend at Salisbury cathedral and a portion of Bampton (Oxon.).<sup>177</sup> He was  
 459 mayor of Shrewsbury in 1819. Owen was appointed archdeacon of Salop in 1822 and  
 460 was praised for ‘his attention to the repairs of the churches in his Archdeaconry ... the  
 461 true antiquarian taste evinced in those repairs redounds to his praise’. In 1826 the two-  
 462 volume history of Shrewsbury by Owen and J.B. Blakeway, the minister of St Mary’s,  
 463 Shrewsbury, was published. Blakeway died in same year, and Owen resigned St

<sup>169</sup> SRO, B/A/1/19 (Register); Owen and Blakeway, *Hist.* II, 430; Auden, ‘Church and parish’, 203–4.

<sup>170</sup> SRO, B/A/4/28 (Subscription Book), B/A/1/21 (Register 1749–68); Auden, ‘Church and parish’, 204–5.

<sup>171</sup> Auden, ‘Church and parish’, 205.

<sup>172</sup> *Ibid.*, 206.

<sup>173</sup> SRO, B/A/1/21, B/A/4A/34, B/A/1/26; SA, 3441/62; Owen and Blakeway, *Hist.* II, 430.

<sup>174</sup> SRO, B/V/5/18, ‘St Julian’s Salop’.

<sup>175</sup> Edward Powys (1779), Thomas Spencer Browne (1783): SRO, B/A/1/24 (Register 1777–85).

<sup>176</sup> SRO, B/A/1/24 (Episcopal Register 1777–85).

<sup>177</sup> This rest of this paragraph: obituary in *Gentleman’s Mag.* 78 (pt 1) (1828), 89; SRO, B/A/1/29 (Register 1820–36).

464 Julian's to take his place at St Mary's. Owen himself died in 1828. He was remembered  
 465 as 'an excellent minister ... his sermons were plain, forceable, and persuasive; his  
 466 manner of delivery zealous and impressive'. In Owen's time St Julian's was reputed to  
 467 be the most popular church in Shrewsbury.<sup>178</sup>

468 As a reflection of this popularity, by 1796 the pews were being let to third parties  
 469 for profit by parishioners who had come to regard them as family property.<sup>179</sup> Around  
 470 this time, the Methodist entrepreneur Charles Hulbert complained that, although at one  
 471 time he owned more property in St Julian's than any other parishioner, including 45  
 472 houses and a manufactory, 'not a single seat could be allotted to it'. Hulbert was  
 473 partisan, though, and his previous residences in St Mary's and St Chad's had also lacked  
 474 pews.<sup>180</sup> A parish meeting held in 1802 resolved measures to curb abuses of the pew  
 475 system.<sup>181</sup> The sale or letting of pews continued to be an important source of revenue  
 476 for the churchwardens: valued at over £100 in 1809, with the front seats of the galleries  
 477 the most expensive. The only free seats were the inconvenient ones at the back of the  
 478 galleries.<sup>182</sup>

479 The quality of music was also enhanced. In 1792 the vestry resolved to purchase  
 480 an organ and that John Wynne and his sister Mary be appointed jointly as organists  
 481 with an annual salary of 10 guineas. By 1795 the payment was being made to 'Miss  
 482 Wynne, organist'. The choir was also developed from 1797, with payments of up to  
 483 five guineas per annum for 'a person to instruct children of this parish to sing', and one  
 484 guinea to a person to blow the bellows for the organist whenever the choir practised. In  
 485 1799 John Lee was paid £15 12s. 10½d. 'for altering the Gallery for Singers'.<sup>183</sup> In  
 486 1810 the churchwardens paid £6 6s. for 'boys and girls for singing in the course of the  
 487 year' and a further £2 2s. for a pew for them.<sup>184</sup>

488 Charles Hulbert praised Hugh Owen as minister. He was less appreciative of a  
 489 Sunday school conducted in St Julian's belfry, around 1800. Although there was a paid  
 490 master, a Mr Lewis, Hulbert judged the school to lack adequate support and instead  
 491 established his own Sunday school for workers at his Coleham factory.<sup>185</sup> The Sunday

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<sup>178</sup> Obituary of Owen: *Gentleman's Mag.*, 98 (1828), 89.

<sup>179</sup> Auden, 'Church and parish', 213.

<sup>180</sup> C. Hulbert, *Memoirs of Seventy Years of an Eventful Life* (1856), 186.

<sup>181</sup> Auden, 'Church and parish', 214.

<sup>182</sup> *Ibid.* 227.

<sup>183</sup> Auden, 'Church and parish', 212–13.

<sup>184</sup> *Ibid.*, 216.

<sup>185</sup> Hulbert, *Memoirs*, 186–7, 195–7.

492 school at St Julian's was later abandoned while the 'general Sunday school ...  
493 conducted by the Dissenters' flourished.<sup>186</sup>

494 The churchyard was proving insufficient for burials. In 1809 the vestry resolved  
495 to purchase a house, garden and premises adjoining St Julian's churchyard to enlarge  
496 the burial ground. In the event, St Julian's purchased the garden, comprising 360½  
497 square yards, for £254 10s and the new burial ground was consecrated in 1810.<sup>187</sup>

498 Hugh Owen was succeeded in 1826 by an able young man, Frederick Iliff.<sup>188</sup> In  
499 1828, Iliff offered some improvements to the church from his own means: a new  
500 communion table and a contribution towards the cost of installing gas lighting, and the  
501 churchwardens made some matching expenditure to improve the chancel furnishings  
502 and install the gas.<sup>189</sup> The church was first lit by gas in September 1828.<sup>190</sup> In the same  
503 year, Iliff initiated a programme of Sunday evening services held at St Julian's 'for the  
504 free accommodation of the town at large' with different clergymen offering prayers and  
505 sermons in rotation. The parishioners gave up their pews and the church was 'crowded  
506 to excess'.<sup>191</sup> In 1832, there were three services every Sunday, including the free  
507 evening service, with a usual attendance of about 600 and just over 100 communicants  
508 at the major festivals.<sup>192</sup> Iliff supplemented the meagre living with a mastership at  
509 Shrewsbury School, but stayed for only a few years, leaving Shrewsbury in 1832 to  
510 become head master of the Liverpool Royal Institution school.<sup>193</sup> Francis Thompson,  
511 LLB, who had served as assistant curate to Iliff, was appointed perpetual curate in his  
512 stead.<sup>194</sup>

513 The parish population had risen to 2,996 by the 1831 census, but the number of  
514 sittings in St Julian's church was 900 to 930, of which 178 were free seats.<sup>195</sup> In  
515 response to the population increase, in 1836 the parishioners purchased a site of 2,135  
516 square yards in Coleham which would provide space for both the construction of a large

<sup>186</sup> St Julian's, Shrewsbury, in 1832 survey: SRO, B/V/5/22.

<sup>187</sup> SA, P256/B/7/2/1-4; Auden, 'Church and parish', 215-16; [below p. 000 and sect. 2.12, 'Burial grounds'](#).

<sup>188</sup> SRO, B/A/1/29 (Register 1820-36); SA 6001/3056: Henry Pidgeon, 'Salopian Annals', IV, 1826, fo. 26r.

<sup>189</sup> Auden, 'Church and parish', 218. The old communion table was probably the same one purchased by Charles Hulbert and donated by him to Hadnall church: Hulbert, *Memoirs*, 186.

<sup>190</sup> SA 6001/3056: Henry Pidgeon, 'Salopian Annals', V, 1828, fo. 89.

<sup>191</sup> *Ibid.*, fo. 72.

<sup>192</sup> SRO, B/V/5/22: 1832 survey.

<sup>193</sup> SRO, B/A/1/29 (Register 1820-36); *Shrewsbury Chron.*, 1 June 1832, 3; Auden, 'Church and parish', 218.

<sup>194</sup> SRO, B/A/1/29 (Register 1820-36).

<sup>195</sup> SRO, B/V/5/22: 1832 survey of parishes; *London Gaz.*, 11 Aug 1840, 19,883, 1858-9.

517 new chapel of ease and an additional burial ground. Holy Trinity church was  
518 consecrated in 1837 with James Colley as the first minister.<sup>196</sup>

519

520 **1840 to Present**

521 Holy Trinity Coleham was created an ecclesiastical district in 1840 under the patronage  
522 of the incumbent of St Julian's.<sup>197</sup>

523 Francis Thompson resigned the living in 1841 and was replaced by James Jardine  
524 Rogerson, a Scotsman, formerly stipendiary curate at Christchurch (Hants.), who  
525 resided with his family initially at College Hill then at Wyle Cop, Coton Hill and  
526 Glansevern Lodge, The Mount.<sup>198</sup> Rogerson was responsible for building the church  
527 and creation of the consolidated district of Christ Church Bayston Hill in 1844. The  
528 district comprised of portions of St Julian's and Condober parishes, but the church was  
529 situated in St Julian's parish, and in the gift of the incumbent of St Julian's.<sup>199</sup> In 1848  
530 Rogerson and the incumbent of Bayston Hill, John Breeze, purchased a cottage and  
531 garden in Bayston Hill as the 'site for a school for poor persons of Bayston Hill'.<sup>200</sup>

532 At the religious census of 1851, Rogerson reported that St Julian's church had  
533 seating for 1,400 of which 400 seats were free. There were two Sunday services,  
534 morning and evening, with average attendances of 850 and 940, respectively, plus about  
535 85 Sunday scholars.<sup>201</sup> St Julian's two dependent churches were also surveyed. At Holy  
536 Trinity Coleham, James Colley reported that his church had seating for 812 of which  
537 504 were free. There were morning and evening Sunday services with average  
538 attendance of 320 and 600, respectively, plus 150 Sunday scholars in the morning. An  
539 afternoon service had recently been reintroduced. At Christ Church Bayston Hill, John  
540 Breeze reported that his church had seating for 400, all free. He conducted morning and  
541 afternoon Sunday services with an average attendance of 180 and 200, respectively,  
542 plus 65 to 72 Sunday scholars.<sup>202</sup>

543 In 1851, Spencer Percival Mansell, vicar of Meole Brace, was thanked by the St  
544 Julian's churchwardens for 'assisting their own Pastor in his ministerial duties'.

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<sup>196</sup> Auden, 'Church and parish', 219; C.D. Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel in Early Victorian Shropshire: Returns from the 1851 Census of Religious Worship* Shropshire Record Series 8 (Keele, 2004), 73.

<sup>197</sup> *London Gaz.*, 11 Aug. 1840, 19,883, 1858-9; SA, P251/F/1.

<sup>198</sup> Hampshire Record Office, 21 M65 E6/1 (Curates Register); P256/F/1/4/1/2: 1841 insurance policy; TNA, HO 107/1992: Shropshire Census 1851.

<sup>199</sup> *London Gaz.*, 14 Sept. 1844, 20,384, 3202-3; Field, *Church and Chapel*, 73.

<sup>200</sup> SA, P24/R/1/1.

<sup>201</sup> Field, *Church and Chapel*, 72-3.

<sup>202</sup> *Ibid.*, 73.

545 Mansell preached at St Julian's in 1857 and two sermons shortly before his death in  
546 1861.<sup>203</sup>

547 Rogerson died in 1862 and was succeeded by James Colley, who had achieved a  
548 great deal as the minister of Holy Trinity Coleham since its consecration in 1837.<sup>204</sup>  
549 When the living of Christ Church Bayston Hill became vacant in 1879, Colley  
550 nominated Frederick Wilson Kittermaster, the curate of St Chad's, Shrewsbury, who  
551 was his son-in-law, having married Rhoda Jane Colley in 1869. Their eldest daughter  
552 in turn married a son of Colley's successor, Thomas Auden.<sup>205</sup>

553 Thomas Auden was one of the most distinguished and energetic ministers of St  
554 Julian's.<sup>206</sup> After a successful early career in education, Auden was appointed vicar of  
555 Ford in 1869, where he was responsible for the restoration of the church and building a  
556 vicarage house and school. While at Ford, Auden was one of the founders of the  
557 Shropshire Clerical Union and a supporter of the campaign to promote Shrewsbury to  
558 a bishopric. Appointed perpetual curate of St Julian's in 1879, he lived with his family  
559 at Belmont, where James Colley had resided previously. Finding the church in a  
560 dilapidated and unsanitary condition due to intramural interments, Auden oversaw a  
561 major programme of restoration of the interior (below, Church Architecture) which  
562 required the church to be closed from June 1883 to February 1884, during which time  
563 the congregation worshipped at St Mary's.<sup>207</sup> Pew rents were abolished in 1882.<sup>208</sup>

564 A Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, in 1887 Auden published a history of St  
565 Julian's church and parish, printing extensive extracts from the churchwardens'  
566 accounts and parish registers.<sup>209</sup> He concluded part of the parish history with remarks  
567 on the recent increase of the parish population 'by the selling of land at Greenfields for  
568 building purposes, and the old deer park ... bids fair to be soon covered with houses for  
569 the spiritual needs of whose inhabitants some provision must before long be made'.<sup>210</sup>  
570 In response, Auden launched the building of a mission room within the new housing  
571 estate at Greenfields – the foundation stone was laid in August 1891.<sup>211</sup> St Julian's was

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<sup>203</sup> SA, P256/E/3/3/1; on 'Witchcraft and National Education': *Staffordshire Advertiser*, 16 May 1857, 5; *Eddowes's J.*, 12 Mar. 1862, 4.

<sup>204</sup> *Crockford's Clerical Dir.*, 1878, 200.

<sup>205</sup> *Cambrian News*, 24 Jan. 1879, 3; *Shrewsbury Chron.*, 27 Apr. 1906, 5.

<sup>206</sup> This paragraph: 'The late Prebendary Thomas Auden, F.S.A.', *TSAS*, 4th ser. 8 (1922), 149–54.

<sup>207</sup> Auden, 'Church and parish', 229–31.

<sup>208</sup> *Eddowes's J.*, 5 Apr. 1882, 12.

<sup>209</sup> Auden, 'Church and parish'.

<sup>210</sup> *Ibid.*, 220.

<sup>211</sup> SA, P256/J; *Eddowes's J.*, 4 Mar. 1891; *Staffordshire Advertiser*, 15 Aug. 1891, 4.

572 a mid-career posting for Auden, however; in 1892 he was promoted to the vicarage of  
 573 Condover and in the later stages of his career made his most important contributions to  
 574 secondary and higher education, rewarded with a prebend at Lichfield cathedral in  
 575 1895.<sup>212</sup> He died in November 1920.<sup>213</sup>

576 The low value of St Julian's as a living was creating difficulties. Thomas Hervey  
 577 Rabone, the son of the earl of Shrewsbury's gardener at Alton Towers, had served for  
 578 the past 10 years at a mission chapel on Alton Common. Rabone was ordained in 1891  
 579 in order to take up the cure of St Julian's, but he may have been standing in for Auden,  
 580 who formally resigned the living in 1892 for that of Condover.<sup>214</sup> Rabone was credited  
 581 with organising fundraising to augment the living of St Julian as a tribute to Auden.<sup>215</sup>  
 582 Later in 1892, the earl of Tankerville presented John Varley, from Southampton.  
 583 Varley's health was poor to the point that he often could not fulfil his duties. His death  
 584 from typhoid in June 1897 was unexpected, however, and left the parish in great  
 585 difficulty.<sup>216</sup> The earl of Tankerville had recently given up the patronage to the Church  
 586 Patronage Trust, and the trustees delayed in deciding whom to present. A lapse of six  
 587 months would have entitled the bishop to step in. Just in time, in December 1897, Malby  
 588 Crofton Brownlow was inducted with the bishop's approval.<sup>217</sup>

589 Brownlow, who had been curate of St George's, Brighton, left Shrewsbury in  
 590 1903 when offered the living of his old parish.<sup>218</sup> With his successor, Norton Fleetwood  
 591 Duncan, the low church Evangelical 'tradition' of St Julian's came to the fore,  
 592 presumably with the influence of the Church Patronage Trust as patron. Duncan was a  
 593 graduate of Trinity College Dublin and clerical secretary of the Society of Irish Church  
 594 Missions in London from c. 1890, but was said to have worked in Shrewsbury prior to  
 595 that.<sup>219</sup> One of his first actions in post was to obtain a faculty for the removal of a retable  
 596 cross and vases from St Julian's, to be sold and the proceeds applied to church  
 597 purposes.<sup>220</sup> A fortnight-long 'parochial mission' was to be held at St Julian's in

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<sup>212</sup> 'The late Prebendary'.

<sup>213</sup> *The Times* 15 Nov. 1920.

<sup>214</sup> *Staffordshire Advertiser*, 30 May 1891, 7; 6 June 1891, 7; *Eddowes's J.*, 23 Sept. 1891, 5; 'The late Prebendary', 151.

<sup>215</sup> SA, P256/B/7/2/4, P256/E/3/1/1; *Wellington J.*, 29 Oct. 1892, 1.

<sup>216</sup> *Hampshire Advertiser*, 5 Nov. 1892; 26 June 1897, 6; 30 June 1897, 2; *Shrewsbury Chron.*, 9 July 1897, 6; 24 Dec. 1897, 6.

<sup>217</sup> *Shrewsbury Chron.*, 24 Dec. 1897, 6; *Crockford's Clerical Dir.*, 1898.

<sup>218</sup> *Brighton Gaz.*, 24 Oct. 1903, 6.

<sup>219</sup> *Dublin Daily Express*, 2 Mar. 1904, 7.

<sup>220</sup> *The Mail* (London), 5 Aug. 1904, 4.



598 January 1906, led by the Revd J.A. Bevan from Great Yarmouth.<sup>221</sup> In 1909 Duncan  
 599 gave weekly evening lectures to a large congregation in the church, on topics such as  
 600 ‘The Claims of the Church of Rome’, and later that year he addressed the annual  
 601 conference of the Evangelical Protestant Union in Manchester.<sup>222</sup>

602 Duncan left Shrewsbury for a parish in Sheffield, and was succeeded by Leonard  
 603 Newby, minister of St Julian’s from 1916 until his retirement in 1945. Newby was the  
 604 author of a number of theological works, the best known being *Reflections on the*  
 605 *Devotional Life* (1931). It was Newby who acquired the old vicarage of St Alkmund’s,  
 606 in St Alkmund’s square, as a vicarage for St Julian’s.<sup>223</sup> Successive ministers were:  
 607 Ronald Arthur Smith (1949–1957), David Henry Faithfull Shiress (1958–67) and Paul  
 608 Maynard James (1967–1976).

609 The great optimism of the mid 19th century, which saw a number of new churches  
 610 being built in Shrewsbury, had given way by the early 1970s to a drastic programme of  
 611 church closure. St Julian’s was at the top of the list for redundancy. In 1971 the  
 612 Parochial Church Council (PCC) of St Alkmund rejected a proposal of amalgamation  
 613 with St Julian’s.<sup>224</sup> Thereafter Paul Maynard James and his congregation fought to save  
 614 their church, not least, they argued, because as the only Evangelical church in the area  
 615 they would struggle to fit in anywhere else.<sup>225</sup> In the 1970s it was stated in the parish  
 616 magazine that ‘our worship does not follow an ornate form and is not what is commonly  
 617 called “high church”’.<sup>226</sup>

618 Their fight was in vain for on 15 September 1976 St Julian’s was declared  
 619 redundant and its parish merged with that of Holy Trinity Coleham. The patronage of  
 620 the new benefice was vested in the bishop of Lichfield and the Church Patronage Trust  
 621 by turns, with James as vicar.<sup>227</sup> The inventory of church goods of St Julian’s contained  
 622 nothing of great value other than a chalice dated 1779, another chalice in memory of  
 623 Elizabeth Sarah Jones (1900–65), and two patens dated 1807.<sup>228</sup> The last entry in the  
 624 PCC minutes was written by the Revd James who noted that St Julian’s parish ceased  
 625 to exist on 1 October 1976 when the new parish of Holy Trinity with St Julian was

<sup>221</sup> *Wellington J.*, 25 Nov. 1905, 6.

<sup>222</sup> *Shrewsbury Chron.*, 29 Jan. 1909, 12; *Wellington J.*, 16 Oct. 1909, 7.

<sup>223</sup> *Shrewsbury Chron.*, 22 June 1945.

<sup>224</sup> SA, P251/F/4/1/2.

<sup>225</sup> SA, P251/F/4/1/6; P251/F/4/1/5; P251/F/4/1/25; P251/F/4/1/28. The authors are also grateful to Revd Paul James for his recollections.

<sup>226</sup> SA, P251/H/1/1 St Julian Newsletter Aug/Sep 1972.

<sup>227</sup> SA, P251/F/4/1/36.

<sup>228</sup> SA, P251/F/4/1/3/1; P251/F/4/1/46.

626 formed.<sup>229</sup>

627 Made redundant, the church was sold to Andrew Wright, who established a craft  
628 centre in the nave and a residential apartment in the tower. It was re-established as an  
629 interdenominational place of worship in 2001; an Evangelical church used the chancel  
630 but had left by 2014.<sup>230</sup>

631

## 632 CHURCH ARCHITECTURE

633 *Wendy Horton*

634

### 635 **Site**

636 The close juxtaposition of St Julian's church and St Alkmund's church may result from  
637 their development within the existing large parish of St Mary. St Julian's church was  
638 probably the last to be founded, given its constrained space. It is bounded by Fish Street  
639 to the west, High Street to the south, gardens behind Dogpole to the east and St  
640 Alkmund's graveyard to the north. Given that there were houses between St Julian's  
641 church and the High Street until 1789, the medieval graveyard must have been  
642 elongated. The ground rises up towards the north, necessitating a retaining boundary  
643 wall on the south side, fronting the High Street.

644 The earliest physical evidence for the church, although not *in situ*, is the base of  
645 a circular respond with complex mouldings and corner ornament, which is no later than  
646 1150 and may have come from a Norman arcade. It is now located outside, in the south  
647 angle of the nave and chancel bay. The base of a broken stone coffin lies adjacent and  
648 may be contemporary<sup>231</sup>

649 A tower is all that survives from the medieval period, built in two phases in the  
650 late 12th and early 16th centuries, respectively. The body of the church was rebuilt in  
651 classical style in 1748–50 to a design by Thomas Farnolls Pritchard, before  
652 embellishment of the south front in sandstone ashlar in 1846. A more substantial  
653 enlargement and alteration, particularly of the west end, was undertaken in 1883–4 by  
654 Samuel Pountney Smith. St Julian's church was made redundant in 1976 and has since  
655 been in private ownership.<sup>232</sup> (Figs 1, 2)

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<sup>229</sup> SA, P256/D/1/5.

<sup>230</sup> Pers. comm. Andrew Wright.

<sup>231</sup> D.H.S. Cranage, *An Architectural Account of the Churches of Shropshire* (Wellington, Shropshire, 1894–1912), x, 919, 922; Auden, 'Church and parish', 350; drawings by J. Nurse.

<sup>232</sup> J. Newman and N. Pevsner, *The Buildings of England: Shropshire* (New Haven, 2006) 526; Cranage,

656

657 **The Medieval Church**658 *Former Medieval Body*

659 There are relatively few depictions of the body of the medieval church before its  
 660 demolition in 1748 as this pre-dated the contemporary observers such as Owen and  
 661 Blakeway and the Revd Edward Williams. Exterior paintings show a tower, aisled nave,  
 662 south porch, long narrow chancel and north-east chapel, all of which may be based on  
 663 manuscript drawings of 1768. A sketch plan exists but its accuracy is uncertain, whilst  
 664 the exact dimensions of the church are not recorded. Comparisons of a historical  
 665 reconstruction of 1630 and a plan of 1838 suggest that the old and new churches were  
 666 of similar length, but the former was narrower. (Figs 3, 4, 5)

667 The Norman church had an aisled nave. Owen and Blakeway reported three-bay  
 668 arcades consisting of round arches on heavy circular piers. The western respond bases  
 669 were found during Pountney Smith's excavations during his restoration of 1883–4 and  
 670 were subsequently covered over but not recorded. They were similar to the one  
 671 relocated outside. The lower two stages of the tower are Transitional (see below),  
 672 suggesting it was added to the existing nave. The south side of the chancel was Early  
 673 English in character and thus early to mid 13th century. It was part of a remodelling  
 674 correlating with a general renovation of Shrewsbury churches during the reign of Henry  
 675 III. A painting shows three Early English lancets and a contemporary priest's door, the  
 676 latter with a continuous hoodmould doubling as a sill band. The schematic plan shows  
 677 a three-bay arcade inside both chancel and nave. On the north side, a double-gabled  
 678 structure with door forms the north aisle, its date uncertain. The only evidence of  
 679 Decorated work is a window re-inserted into the Perpendicular north-east chapel (see  
 680 below). Flanking the tower were small gabled structures reached through internal tower  
 681 arches, remains of which were found during Pountney Smith's excavations. Such  
 682 arches are unusual and may have led to the chapels dedicated to St Catherine and St  
 683 Thomas, known to have existed in the church in the 15th century. (Fig 6)

684 There is much late Perpendicular work, suggesting significant rebuilding in the  
 685 late 15th and early 16th centuries, including the upper two stages of the tower, the roof,  
 686 south aisle, north-east chapel, and probably the gabled south porch which obscures the  
 687 original doorway. East of the porch are three square-headed late Perpendicular windows

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919–22; NHLE no. 1247563, St Julian's church, grade II\* (9 Nov. 2021); Shropshire HER PRN 01355 and 62492.

688 and stepped buttresses. The roof appears to be continuous over the nave and south aisle,  
 689 its internal structure probably contemporary. The bosses from its inter-sections were  
 690 re-used in the 18th-century church. To the north-east and adjoining the north aisle is  
 691 the Shearmen's chapel, dedicated to St Mary, which has battlemented parapets in  
 692 Perpendicular style. This chapel was patronised and funded by the town's wealthy  
 693 Shearmen's Company from as early as 1358, possibly the source of the Decorated  
 694 window. The Shearmen held special services at their altar and a Corpus Christi  
 695 procession every year. In 1480 there is a record of lime being delivered for the repair  
 696 of this chapel.<sup>233</sup>

697 Thomas Otteley (d. 1485), former alderman of the town, was buried inside the  
 698 medieval church and there were three coats of arms, relating to him and his two wives,  
 699 Anne and Margaret.<sup>234</sup>

700

#### 701 *The Tower*

702 The four-stage tower is all that remains of the medieval church. It is rectangular in plan,  
 703 the north and south sides longest and probably reflecting the narrow form of the site.  
 704 The lower two stages are of roughly coursed red sandstone with simple lancets to the  
 705 second stage, the whole in Transitional style and suggesting a late 12th-century date. It  
 706 was therefore added to the Norman aisled church. The lower west face has been altered  
 707 by the insertion of a tall pointed window in the early 18th century (see below).<sup>235</sup> (Fig  
 708 7)

709 The upper two stages are constructed of coursed white Grinshill stone, the detail  
 710 in late Perpendicular style, so probably of early 16th-century date. At the base is a  
 711 moulded string course with pronounced gargoyles and human figures, with small stair-  
 712 lights to the third stage. Piercing the fourth stage are three-light cusped belfry openings  
 713 under four-centred arched heads, except for the east opening which is two-light. Narrow  
 714 diagonal buttresses rise up to a decorative frieze of pierced quatrefoils, above which are  
 715 battlemented parapets and tall pinnacles with crockets, the latter rebuilt in 1818–19 (see  
 716 below). A small canopied niche containing the statue of St Juliana is located on the

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<sup>233</sup> SA, PR/2/383, c.1820; SA, PR/1/481; SA, 6001/199: Revd Hugh Owen, *The History of Shrewsbury* (c.1825), south elevation; SA, PR/1/483 (north elevation); XLS29674 (unattributed sketch plan c. 1750); SA, 6001/299, drawings, 1768; Cranage, 919–21; Owen and Blakeway, *Hist.* II, 425–6; Auden, 'Church and parish', 163–6, 220–3; SA, 8611/TP/13/1: map by John Wood, 1838.

<sup>234</sup> Auden, 'Church and parish', 166; Owen and Blakeway, *Hist.* II, 426.

<sup>235</sup> Shropshire HER PRN 01355: The Keele Beds red sandstone is typical of this period

717 south side above the string course, probably that originally mounted on the chancel wall  
 718 (see below). A newel staircase was recorded inside the upper stages of the tower and  
 719 there are said to be masons' marks inside the belfry. Squinches inside the upper corners  
 720 suggest that a spire may have been contemplated but never built.<sup>236</sup>

721

### 722 *Sub-Medieval Work*

723 Parish accounts are available from the year 1621 and provide a record of routine repairs  
 724 to the medieval church. By 1648 the chancel required remedial works but there was  
 725 some dispute over who was paying, and in 1656, £100 was spent repairing the tower  
 726 and aisles. Thomas Wright was paid £15 15s. in 1659 for a buttress to the steeple and a  
 727 new churchyard wall. He also provided stone and lime for the north-east chapel.<sup>237</sup>

728 In 1703 the lower stages of the tower required repair and the Corporation of  
 729 Shrewsbury gave permission for the parish to acquire red sandstone from Nobold  
 730 Quarry. The tall narrow west window may date from this time, along with the flanking  
 731 shallow stepped buttresses shown in 1768 (see Fig 6). Works to the tower chamber  
 732 included thickening the internal corners, giving them a canted appearance, whilst the  
 733 Early English staircase is thought to have been removed and replaced. The schematic  
 734 plan marks the vestry in the south porch.<sup>238</sup>

735

### 736 **The 18th-Century Church**

737 Although James Pearson was curate from 1720 and hence the incumbent when the body  
 738 of the church was rebuilt, a brief for rebuilding existed as early as 1711/12. Owen and  
 739 Blakeway reported that the church was ruinous and part of the chancel had fallen, before  
 740 the demolition took place. Money was raised through rates and public subscription,  
 741 John Astley, the patron, paying £100 and the Drapers' Company, £50. The overall cost  
 742 was relatively low, at £1,700.<sup>239</sup>

743 The faculty for rebuilding the church was issued by the Diocese of Lichfield in  
 744 March 1748. The old building was described as so decayed, dilapidated and ruinous  
 745 that it was neither capable of being repaired nor of having divine service read and

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<sup>236</sup> Newman and Pevsner, *Shropshire*, 526; Cranage, 219–22; T. Auden, 'St Julian's Church, Shrewsbury' *TSAS*, 39 (1917), Miscellanea iv; Andrew Wright, St Julian's church, pers. comm., 18 Sept. 2021.

<sup>237</sup> Auden, 'Church and parish', 163, 165, 175–89.

<sup>238</sup> Cranage, 920; Auden, 'Church and parish', 197–8; XLS29674 (sketch plan).

<sup>239</sup> Auden, 'Church and parish', 107, 204–5; Cranage, 921; Owen and Blakeway, *Hist.* II, 426.

746 performed there. It also stated that the church was too small and straight to  
 747 accommodate all the parishioners, so required rebuilding and enlargement according to  
 748 an attached plan. The tower was to be retained and is labelled ‘Old steeple’ with a south  
 749 doorway, west and north windows and a new internal staircase leading to the new  
 750 galleries. The new five-window body, measuring 79 ft long by 48 ft wide, was to have  
 751 a south entrance in the west bay approached by steps and a small east end door to the  
 752 south aisle. Internally, the three-sided galleries were to be supported on four columns  
 753 to each side, the existing large pulpit with steps positioned in the north-east corner of  
 754 the nave and the font in the north-west corner. Although the tower remained, the  
 755 pinnacles on top were to be replaced by eight vases intended to be in keeping with the  
 756 new classical-style building.<sup>240</sup> (Fig 8)

757 This new, classical style, church was designed by Thomas Farnolls Pritchard  
 758 (1723–77), who is best known for designing the Iron Bridge in Shropshire towards the  
 759 end of his life. He was born in the parish and followed his father, John, also a  
 760 churchwarden, into the joinery business before becoming an architect and designer.  
 761 During his career, Pritchard designed several Shropshire churches and wall  
 762 monuments, but the rebuilding of St Julian’s was his first major project. He swore an  
 763 oath to the parish confirming that the roofs, walls and pillars of the old church were  
 764 much decayed and incapable of being repaired, and it was agreed that the body of the  
 765 church should be rebuilt according to his designs. He worked with some experienced  
 766 craftsmen, Richard Scoltock and Samuel Smith, bricklayers, and William White,  
 767 carpenter.<sup>241</sup>

768 After the faculty was granted, the foundations were laid using stone from the old  
 769 church. The new body was a large square box of red brick with white Grinshill stone  
 770 dressings in a simple classical style, best seen on the north side as the south side was  
 771 later embellished. The five-window elevation has square windows with lugged  
 772 architraves to the ground floor and taller round-arched windows with keystones lighting  
 773 the gallery. Detail includes sandstone quoins, a dentilled stone eaves cornice and raised  
 774 stone copings. A painting of the south front by the Revd Edward Williams in 1789  
 775 shows the porch fronting the west bay of the nave with a simple triangular pediment on

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<sup>240</sup> SA 6000/15004: Copy of Faculty, bought in a sale at Bennett’s booksellers in 1886, accompanied by a letter to Thomas Auden.

<sup>241</sup> J. Ionides, *Thomas Farnolls Pritchard of Shrewsbury, Architect and ‘Inventor of Cast Iron Bridges’* (Ludlow, 1998), , fig. 1–11; [wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas\\_Farnolls\\_Pritchard](http://wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_Farnolls_Pritchard) (10/11/21); SA 6000/15004

776 round columns approached by stone steps. The small chancel bay at the east end has a  
 777 hipped roof and high on the south wall is a niche containing a statue, probably that of  
 778 St Juliana, moved from the old chancel wall. The south vestibule, not shown on  
 779 Pritchard's original design drawing of 1748, is a lean-to against the tower, with a large  
 780 sun-dial above and the classical-style vases rising from the parapets.<sup>242</sup> (Fig 9)

781

#### 782 *Interior*

783 The plain, simple exterior of Pritchard's church can be contrasted with the elegant and  
 784 well-detailed classical interior, including four Tuscan columns to each side with ringed  
 785 capitals supporting moulded entablatures. The galleries rising from these were removed  
 786 by Pountney Smith in 1883–4, but they are shown in early photographs with wood  
 787 panelled fronts and box pews and the organ situated on the west gallery. The nave has  
 788 a coved and plastered ceiling decorated with the painted bosses taken from the former  
 789 Perpendicular church roof.<sup>243</sup>

790 A round panelled arch leads into the chancel bay with decorative keystone and  
 791 three cherubs in a cloud above. The chancel has a quadripartite vaulted ceiling, the east  
 792 Venetian window with Ionic pilasters supporting cornices to the outer lights. Above the  
 793 central arched light is a circular glory with rays flanked by groups of three cherubs. At  
 794 the west end is a similar round arch with fluted keystone in front of Pritchard's very  
 795 tall, acute tower arch, later reconstructed by Pountney Smith.<sup>244</sup> (Figs 10, 11)

796 Divine services commenced in the rebuilt church on 26 August 1750. Extracts of  
 797 a minute book list payments made for materials, carriage, labour and fees for Mr  
 798 Pritchard and Mr Scoltock. The accounts were balanced on 25 August 1750 resulting  
 799 in a credit of £14 ½*d.* At a parish meeting on 8 April 1751, the seating allocations were  
 800 confirmed, the servants sitting at the back of the gallery. Mr Pritchard's bill for the  
 801 altar-piece, £25 5*s.* 8*d.*, was paid in 1754. A new organ was purchased and erected in  
 802 1792, whilst the low brick parapets with lead gutters were constructed in 1793.<sup>245</sup>

803

#### 804 *19th-Century Alterations*

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<sup>242</sup> SA, 6001/372/1 f. 127: Revd Edward Williams, *Watercolours* (1789); Ionides, *Thomas Farnolls Pritchard*, fig. 1–11; T. J. Howell, *The Stranger in Shrewsbury* (Shrewsbury, 1816), 103.

<sup>243</sup> SA PH/S/13/S/9/27, 28

<sup>244</sup> Owen and Blakeway, *Hist.* II, 426.

<sup>245</sup> SA, 6000/15004; SA, 6001/171: Extracts of parish book of St Julian's by Joseph Humphreys; Auden, 'Church and parish', 107, 205, 212, 226; SA XLS2392: Hugh Owen.

805 Pritchard's vases surmounting the tower were not popular and they were replaced by  
 806 eight new pinnacles with crockets on embattled parapets in 1818–19, the funding raised  
 807 through subscription. Repairs were also undertaken around this time. Henry Pidgeon  
 808 reported in 1826 that the sandstone basement was dressed and repointed and the  
 809 windows given heavy mouldings, whilst the brickwork was covered in Roman cement  
 810 and coloured, probably with iron oxide. The church was shown with a coating of this  
 811 type in Revd Williams's painting of 1789.<sup>246</sup>

812 In the early 19th century, the sun-dial was removed from the tower and replaced  
 813 by a clock, shown in a print of 1822. Pidgeon noted that in 1828 the clock-face was  
 814 illuminated with gas, switched on by its own internal machinery. The statue of St  
 815 Juliana was taken down from the chancel bay between 1822 and 1846 and relocated in  
 816 place of the sun-dial, leaving a brick-filled blocking in its former position. Pidgeon  
 817 noted in February 1830 that a 'hideous' brick porch had been erected at the east end of  
 818 the south aisle, but this was removed in 1846 (see below). In addition, the handsome  
 819 sounding board above the pulpit was removed but the stairs leading up to the pulpit  
 820 were improved, and an entrance was made between the nave and the triangular bier  
 821 house in the external north-east angle.<sup>247</sup>

822 The row of small houses between St Julian's church and the High Street was  
 823 demolished in 1789 exposing the south front of the plainly detailed church (see  
 824 'Churchyard', below). Following this, the prominent south elevation was embellished  
 825 in sandstone ashlar in 1846 in Doric style by the stonemason Richard Dodson. This was  
 826 a significant deviation from the simplicity of Farnolls Pritchard's design. The  
 827 benefactor, Revd Richard Scott, enabled this work and a stone tablet at the west end of  
 828 the south aisle is dedicated to him. It states that the limited funds available for the  
 829 rebuilding in 1750 had necessitated the use of brick and a design of little taste. The  
 830 embellishment is described in some detail. Rusticated banding was added to the lower  
 831 storey with rusticated quoins and pilaster strips between the windows, the latter  
 832 lengthened. A dentilled string course supported Doric pilasters to the upper storey,  
 833 rising to an entablature with triglyph frieze supporting balustraded parapets with vase-  
 834 shaped acroteria. The upper round-arched windows were given fluted architraves, the

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<sup>246</sup> Owen and Blakeway, *Hist.* II, 426; Auden, 'Church and parish', 227; Pidgeon, 'Salopian Annals', IV, entry for 21 Apr. 1826; SA, 6001/372/1 f. 127; Revd Edward Williams.

<sup>247</sup> Shropshire Museums, Print 4767, 1822; Pidgeon, 'Salopian Annals', VI, (18 December 1828, 8 Feb. 1830; SA, P256/B/4/3: Plan (1877); SA, 6009/182: John Homes Smith, watercolour, mid 19th century.



835 sills supported on consoles and with aprons with Greek frieze motifs. A stone doorcase  
 836 was made for the east end doorway of the south aisle. The embellished building is  
 837 shown in a watercolour by John Homes Smith with matching forecourt boundary wall  
 838 fronting the High Street.<sup>248</sup> (Fig 12)

839 The organ on the west gallery was enlarged in 1850 under the auspices of Revd  
 840 James Jardine Rogerson. New bells were given in 1868, and a brass reading lectern was  
 841 a gift of Mrs Hazeldine in 1872. Late 19th-century photographs show the large  
 842 octagonal stone pulpit to the north-east, the lectern in the centre, a simple ballustraded  
 843 altar rail and a wood panelled reredos.<sup>249</sup>

844

845 *Alterations in 1883–4*

846 Major alterations, particularly to the west end, were undertaken in 1883–4 by Samuel  
 847 Pountney Smith, architect, of Shrewsbury. His plan of 1877, showing the church in  
 848 advance of these alterations, is the first detailed plan of the building since 1748. It is  
 849 not surprising that some changes had taken place. The vestry was now in the tower  
 850 chamber and staircase lobbies had been added north and south of the tower, the stairs  
 851 leading up to the galleries. A north door was inserted into the nave opposite the south  
 852 door, whilst a triangular addition in the external north-east angle, formerly a bier house,  
 853 was now a robing room. Retained from 1748 were the pulpit, font and three-sided  
 854 galleries, the whole seating 569 adults and 34 children.<sup>250</sup> (Fig 13)

855 Pountney Smith's proposals of March 1882 included removing the galleries but  
 856 leaving the Tuscan columns and their entablatures, the column bases clad in stone  
 857 panelling. The lobbies flanking the tower were replaced by much larger vestibules flush  
 858 with the north and south walls of the nave. Existing south and north doorways into the  
 859 nave were replaced by windows, and a large entrance portico added to the south side of  
 860 the south vestibule. Inside, the tall tower arch was reconstructed and pointed arches  
 861 were formed between the tower and vestibules, all springing from compound piers. As  
 862 the west gallery was to be taken down, the organ was relocated to the north-east corner  
 863 and the font was moved to the tower chamber. These changes at the west end allowed  
 864 for extra seating in the body of the church, which could now accommodate 491 adults

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<sup>248</sup> Andrew Wright, pers. comm., 18 Sept. 2021; Cranage, 921–2; SA, 6009/182: John Homes Smith, watercolour, mid 19th century.

<sup>249</sup> Auden, 'Church and parish', 220; SA, PH/S/13/S/9/27, 28.

<sup>250</sup> SA, P256/B/4/3.

865 and 47 children, including on chairs in the tower chamber. At the east end of the south  
 866 aisle, the door was removed and replaced by a window, now infilled, and a window was  
 867 inserted into the south side of the chancel. The triangular robing room was enlarged  
 868 into a wrap-around structure with hipped roof containing the clergy and choir vestries,  
 869 the latter with its own porch.<sup>251</sup> (Fig. 13)

870 An alternative proposal by Pountney Smith, dated December 1882, shows the  
 871 western three bays of the north and south galleries retained, seating an extra 150 adults.  
 872 Staircases lined the vestibules flanking the tower, but it is not clear where the main  
 873 entrance was. This scheme did not reach fruition.<sup>252</sup>

874 Pountney Smith's alterations at the west end add to the character of the church.  
 875 They include the flat-roofed south vestibule in classical style, of red brick with  
 876 sandstone dressings including rusticated quoins, a dentilled cornice and low parapets,  
 877 fronted by a large Tuscan sandstone portico reached by stone steps. On the less-visible  
 878 north side, the vestibule consists of a brick lean-to with roundel above a north door.  
 879 Inside the south entrance, the tower chamber and vestibules are dominated by the heavy  
 880 arches at right angles. Narrow pointed double-chamfered arches spring from massive  
 881 semi-circular responds with ringed capitals which form composite piers, the north arch  
 882 not quite symmetrical. Sandstone detail elsewhere is more typically Victorian Gothic,  
 883 such as the segmental-headed doorway leading into the south aisle, with roll mouldings,  
 884 attached shafts and foliate capitals. Flagstones and grave slabs, mainly of 17th- or 18th-  
 885 century date, have been laid on the floor of the south vestibule and tower chamber, with  
 886 a raised wooden floor to the north vestibule.<sup>253</sup> (Fig 14)

887 In front of the organ is an alabaster pulpit given by Vincent Crump, churchwarden  
 888 in 1884–5, the panels bearing biblical scenes in relief. The marble font is a quatrefoil  
 889 bowl on circular shafts, a gift of Mrs Auden.<sup>254</sup> (Fig 15)

890

### 891 *Stained Glass*

892 The painted east window by David Evans depicts the Transfiguration of Christ on  
 893 Mount Tabor in the central light, flanked by further biblical scenes. It was erected in  
 894 1861 by which time this style was out of date. An earlier east window depicting St

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<sup>251</sup> SA, P256/B/4/3; Cranage, 921–2.

<sup>252</sup> Ibid.

<sup>253</sup> Newman and Pevsner, *Shropshire*, 526.

<sup>254</sup> SA, PH/S/13/S/9/33, 44; Cranage, 922; Auden, 'Church and parish', 252.

895 James was acquired by the Revd Hugh Owen in 1804, originally from Rouen and  
 896 containing 15th- and early 16th-century glass. It also bore the arms of England and  
 897 Wales quarterly and those of the Corporation of Shrewsbury and the Diocese of  
 898 Lichfield. This window is said to be located behind the chancel screen. The west  
 899 window has brightly-coloured glass depicting Christ, given anonymously during the  
 900 restoration of 1883–4.<sup>255</sup>

901

#### 902 *Later History*

903 The bells were made in Whitechapel in 1968 and raised by J.J. Peele. The window in  
 904 the east bay of the south front was replaced at an unknown date by a priest's door.<sup>256</sup>

905 St Julian's church was made redundant in 1976 and purchased by a private buyer  
 906 in 1979. The pews were removed soon afterwards and the wood used to make small  
 907 vestibules flanking the north and south sides, whilst a classical-style partition was  
 908 installed beneath the chancel arch in front of the altar. From 1980 to 2001 the resulting  
 909 open nave was used as a craft centre on a regular basis. The church also formed the set  
 910 for the filming of *A Christmas Carol* in 1982. After 2001, the church was again used  
 911 for worship on a non-ecumenical basis. The pulpit remains in its original position in  
 912 front of the organ in the north-east corner, whilst the font was moved from the tower to  
 913 the north vestibule. The bells are now at ground level in the tower chamber.<sup>257</sup>

914

#### 915 **Monuments**

916 The Trumwin slab is a shaped coffin lid of coarse Wenlock marble nearly a foot thick,  
 917 with a Latin inscription around the outside including the name 'EDMOVND  
 918 TROVMWYN'. It is hard to date, but the family is recorded in Shropshire from the late  
 919 13th century. The tomb was originally located in the north aisle of the medieval church,  
 920 and was later re-appropriated by the Hussey family, the first Thomas Hussey dying in  
 921 1620. It appears that the Trumwin coffin was broken as part of this process. It was  
 922 placed in the graveyard after the demolition of the medieval church and is probably that  
 923 outside the south-east angle of the new church. Following the alterations of 1883–4, the

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<sup>255</sup> Newman and Pevsner, *Shropshire*, 526; Cranage, 922; Auden, 'Church and parish', 226; Howell, *Stranger*, 103; Andrew Wright, pers. comm., 18 Sept. 2021.

<sup>256</sup> Andrew Wright, pers. comm., 18 Sept. 2021.

<sup>257</sup> *Ibid.*

924 inscribed slab was set into the south-west corner of the south vestibule but is now  
925 covered over.<sup>258</sup> (Fig 16)

926 A rectangular stone tablet commemorating Thomas Farnolls Pritchard (d. 1777),  
927 his wife, Eleanor (d. 1768), and three of their children who died young, was recorded  
928 in a photograph of c.1943, but its whereabouts is unknown. There is now a brass plate  
929 mounted on the south side of the tower arch commemorating them. On the opposite  
930 side of the arch is a similar brass plate to the surgeon, Henry Corser (d. 1692) and his  
931 wife Anne, who died the day after her husband. At the west end of the south aisle is a  
932 stone tablet recording the munificence of the Revd Richard Scott, who beautified the  
933 south front in 1846, with details of his work. At the east end of the south aisle is a  
934 shaped marble tablet supporting a lion, in memory of Robert Lawrence (d. 1806), the  
935 proprietor of the Raven and the Lion inns, who established a road into Wales and the  
936 first mail coach to Shrewsbury. Nearby is a monument to Elizabeth Stanier (d. 1810)  
937 and members of her family.<sup>259</sup>

938

### 939 **Churchyard**

940 There was once a lane between the two juxtaposed churches which was repaired in  
941 1398. It became a footpath later, bounded by a fence and stile by the early 17th century.  
942 A former sandstone boundary wall and buried metalled surface were found during  
943 excavations in 1883–4 on the west side of the graveyard, adjacent to Fish Street.<sup>260</sup>

944 An historical reconstruction of the scene in 1630 shows garden strips beyond the  
945 east end of the churchyard. In 1656, a plot of land towards the east of the graveyard and  
946 abutting St Alkmund's churchyard was rented out as a garden to Mr Buttrey, a draper,  
947 who had to fence it at his own cost.

948 A detached garden plot north-east of the churchyard, beyond the bounding  
949 pathway, was purchased in 1810 for no other purpose except burying the dead, because  
950 the current churchyard was said to be insufficient (see above).

951 Henry Pidgeon noted in 1824 that a tradesman had recently built a house and  
952 workshop just beyond the south-east corner of the church. The parish agreed that he

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<sup>258</sup> SA, XLS29674: from a handwritten letter by unknown author, 1964; Auden, 'Church and parish', 160, 177, 350: drawings by J. Nurse; Auden, 'St Julian's Church, Shrewsbury', *Miscellanea iv*; Owen and Blakeway, *Hist. II*, 434–5; Andrew Wright, pers. comm., 18 Sept. 2021.

<sup>259</sup> SA, PH/S/13/5/9/41: National Building Record, c.1943; Owen and Blakeway, *Hist. II*, 434–9; Cranage, 922.

<sup>260</sup> Auden, 'Church and parish', 174, 342; Shropshire HER PRN 01355, ESA 5901.

953 could take up the steps and 3 ft of the walkway around the east end of the church, which  
 954 had been part of the graveyard until 1810. The ground fell away during excavations for  
 955 the cellar of the new house, revealing a multitude of coffins and bones. By 1838, the  
 956 garden plots east of the churchyard had also been partly infilled with buildings. St  
 957 Julian's churchyard was closed to burials in 1855 and Holy Trinity Coleham from  
 958 1856.<sup>261</sup> Between 1982 and 1987 the detached graveyard, which had been disused for  
 959 many years, was landscaped as a small park. The gravestones were set down into the  
 960 ground to form paving and were surrounded by wooden benches, flower beds and  
 961 shrubs.<sup>262</sup> (Figs 17, 18)

962 A row of four small single-storey dwellings with attic dormers stood along the  
 963 south side of the graveyard, fronting onto the High Street, by c.1630. Their form  
 964 suggests they may have been almshouses, although there is no documentary evidence  
 965 of such a foundation, and in 1772 the minister reported there were no almshouses in the  
 966 parish.<sup>263</sup> The houses were below the level of the graveyard, including the interments,  
 967 but they were demolished in 1789 as part of a scheme to widen the High St following  
 968 on the construction of the New Shire Hall.<sup>264</sup> A rubble stone retaining wall was  
 969 subsequently built, surmounted by iron railings supplied by the founder William  
 970 Hazledine in 1806 for the considerable sum of £51 17s. 6d. This arrangement is shown  
 971 in a print of 1822; the wall continuing at right angles along Fish Street and with a flight  
 972 of steps leading to the south porch between walls splayed towards the bottom with  
 973 round end piers. Despite the expensive railings, the plain church was now conspicuous  
 974 from the High Street, and in 1846 the wall was rebuilt as part of Dodson's  
 975 embellishment of the church. The new wall was constructed of rusticated red sandstone  
 976 ashlar with white sandstone dressings, including pilasters and a Greek frieze beneath  
 977 arcaded parapets. Steps led up to the porch and past the east end.<sup>265</sup> (Figs 17, 19)

<sup>261</sup> *London Gaz.*, 2 May 1854, 21,549, 1363.

<sup>262</sup> Auden, 'Church and parish', 188–9; SA, P256/B/7/2/1; SA, PH/S/13/S/9/24–6; SA, TP/21; Pidgeon, 'Salopian Annals' I, entry for 22 May 1824; SA, TP/13: map by John Wood, 1838.

<sup>263</sup> SRO, B/V/5/18, 'St Julian's Salop', 4.

<sup>264</sup> SA 6001/200; Owen, 1825, 192–3.

<sup>265</sup> Auden, 'Church and parish', 227–8; SA, 6009/182: Watercolour; SA, TP/21; NHLE no. 1270464: grade II listed (10 Nov. 2021).