

is hidden. These are all part of the fine three-manual organ built at Lucerne by Coll et Cie in 1907.

Now move back to the west, to the rear of the church. As you pass the pulpit, you see the huge statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Holy Child, which is at the entrance to the lovely 'Lady Chapel', richly decorated by wall painting in the 'William Morris style' (a Victorian creator of famous wall-paper designs), and with painted panels in the roof depicting the IHS symbol (the first three letters in Greek of the name of Jesus), and also panels with the letter 'M' for Mary. The Reredos behind the Altar is Florentine, and the embroidered blue frontal before the Altar shows the lily, the symbol of the Virgin Mary. Note also that the IHS panel is also depicted in the Chapel carpet, made recently by members of the congregation.

If you wish to light a candle before Our Lady's statue, you will find small red holders with candles available on the table. A small donation placed in the bowl helps to buy candles for all the altars of the church.

Returning to the rear of the church, you will see the Baptismal Font, and behind it the War Memorial to the men who died in both Wars. A service is held here, on Remembrance Sunday (the Sunday nearest to November 11th). We hope you have enjoyed your visit to our Anglican Church. If you would like to make an offering to help us with the upkeep and improvement of the church, please place your donation into the Alms Basin on the table by the door. Come again if you can - especially to our services - and God be with you and bless you!



The first Anglican priest was licensed to minister to the British colony at Montreux in 1860. There being no English Church then, services were held regularly for more than fifteen years in the Swiss Protestant Church of Montreux. But before long a move was made to build a church, and in 1875 the original church of Saint John the Evangelist was begun (it was completed in 1878). The event was recorded by the artist Theodore Renkewitz, and several lithographs of it still exist, one in the Church archives. The British colony soon became so large that the church had to be extended three times into the form that it now has - of a beautiful and typical 'Victorian Gothic' architecture, in the style of the 'Tractarian Movement', which was then becoming popular in England, led by John Henry Newman, Edward Bouverie Pusey and others. A style of worship which came to be known as 'High Church' as opposed to the more evangelical style in vogue in the Church of England at the time. It should be remembered, however, that the Church of England is "both Catholic and Reformed", and that the title used abroad is "The Anglican Church".

From that time till the present, Saint John's has had a long history of traditional Anglican worship, with many devoted priests and lay people, many of whom, over the years, have given generously to equip and beautify this House of God. This will be seen from the many brass plaques that surround the interior of the church.

In 1889, a 'Church Institute' was built beside the church, soon to house the "English Library". That organization still exists in Montreux and celebrated its centenary in 1989. In 1954, the Library was moved to allow the Institute to be converted into a residence for the Chaplain of St. John's.



THE BRITISH AND MONTREUX

The English have long had a connection with Montreux and this area. In ancient times, many of the travellers who passed through Montreux, on their way to the Great St. Bernard Pass and on into Italy, were British. Several of the early English kings who made pilgrimages to Rome went that way. They probably included Ceaduald (or Caedwalla), King of the West Saxons, who gave up his throne in frustration after his failure to conquer Kent, and went to die in Rome in 659 a.d. Ceaduald's successor, Ina, followed his example and came this way in 726 a.d. as did Alfred the Great in the ninth century and King Canute in the eleventh.

The ancient road around the lake to the Great St. Bernard was originally controlled, as we know, by the Castle of Chillon. The castle, built on the foundations of much older fortifications, including Roman remains, was largely reconstructed in the thirteenth century by Peter of Savoy. This Peter is the same Peter of Savoy who spent 20 years in England at the court of Henry III, and whose palace in London was on the site of the present Savoy Hotel in the Strand.

Peter's architect for Chillon, Pierre Mainier, had, as one of his assistants, an English castle-builder whom Peter had brought back with him from England in 1260. He became known as Master James of St. Georges. He got his name from the castle of St. Georges d'Esperanche near Grenoble, which he built for the Savoy family. He also worked with Mainier on the construction of Peter's castle at Yverdon, among others.