

## **St Lukes, Ironbridge**

### **CHURCH GUIDE**

This church building has a tower, a nave, side aisles and a small sanctuary. The tower contains a three dial clock, placed there by public subscription in 1838 at a cost of £125 and made by W. Davies of Shifnal.

The position of Ironbridge church is the reverse of the majority of churches, the sanctuary being at the west end and the tower at the east end. This is due to the fact that it was discovered that the land at the west end would not bear the weight of a tower.

The stained glass windows are the work of D. Evans of Shrewsbury. They depict the three saints, Peter, John and James. The other glass was manufactured at Smethwick and the ironwork (pillars etc.) supplied by the Coalbrookdale Company and Messrs Walton of Ironbridge. The timber used in the building came from the Baltic Provinces and was brought to Bristol, and from there was conveyed in barges up the Severn.

The interior of the church is of simple construction, with a gallery on three sides supported along the front by iron pillars and under the floor by iron brackets. There were originally 1062 sittings. Some pews were removed in 1900 when the present organ was installed, some when the War Memorial was placed in the church in 1920, a further number in 1933 to accommodate a new pulpit, and some more in 1979 to create more space.

The mosaic tiled floor in the space between the choir stalls was laid in 1876, and in 1912 the church was renovated and a new Choir Vestry constructed by enclosing the west end of the north aisle. The set of eight tubular bells was installed in 1920.



