

In 1873-4 there was a great deal of restoration to the interior when various items - including the original box pews - were replaced. More recently, the front rows of pews have been moved aside to allow a flexible space for orchestras or more informal events.

The organ was originally built by Samuel Green in 1778, and is the only Green organ surviving in the City of London.

## **Postman's Park**

Our churchyard was combined with those of St Leonard Foster Lane and Christ Church Newgate Street to form Postman's Park - so-called because the postmen from the London Chief Post Office used to eat their lunch there. In 1900 the Watts Memorial to Heroic Self-Sacrifice was installed in the park - a moving tribute to those who, like Jesus, died to save others.





## *To visit St Botolph's:*

Christian Heritage London open the building for an exhibition on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 10am-4.30pm and from 11am-4.30pm on Saturdays.

[www.christianheritagelondon.org](http://www.christianheritagelondon.org)

On Tuesdays, the building is open at 1 for 1.10pm for a talk from the Bible over a buffet lunch.

[www.thealdersgatetalks.org](http://www.thealdersgatetalks.org)

On Sundays, the London City Presbyterian Church would be glad to welcome you, at 11am or 6.30pm.

[www.londonfreechurch.org.uk](http://www.londonfreechurch.org.uk)

For all enquiries about the Christian Heritage London exhibition, call 020 3257 2004 or e mail [enquiries@christianheritagelondon.org](mailto:enquiries@christianheritagelondon.org). For general enquiries, please call 020 7606 0684 or e-mail [info@thealdersgatetalks.org](mailto:info@thealdersgatetalks.org).

Small donations may be made via the Christian Heritage London exhibition. If you should wish to make a more substantial donation to the upkeep and ministry of this beautiful church, please contact the church office.

# St Botolph-without-Aldersgate



Our church was originally one of four St Botolph's in the City of London - the others being at Aldgate, Billingsgate (destroyed in the Great Fire of 1666) and Bishopsgate. We are 'without Aldersgate' as the church stands just outside the old City gate, on the main road north.

In the 1950s it was re-designated a guild church, which means it has no parish or Sunday congregation (London City Presbyterian Church use the building on Sundays). Instead, we have a weekday ministry to the working population of the City of London. We have links with the Ironmongers and Cooks livery companies.

Our main weekly service is on Tuesday lunchtimes, when workers from the banks and law firms surrounding us stream in to hear a straightforward message from the Bible, applied to City life.

Visitors often remark how beautiful St Botolph's is on the inside, compared with a fairly drab exterior. We like to think that in this way the building reflects Christians themselves - often coming in all sorts of unattractive shapes and sizes, but with renewed hearts in response to the saving work of Jesus Christ.

*Jesus said, "from within, out of men's hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. All these evils come from inside and make a man 'unclean'."*

But back in the Old Testament book of Ezekiel, God had promised, *"I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws."*

The apostle Peter tells us how we receive that Spirit: *"Repent and be baptised, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and all who are far off."*

We pray that more than enjoying our beautiful building, you, too, will enjoy the inner renewal which comes with accepting Jesus Christ as Lord.



## History

It is thought that a church has stood on this spot for nearly a thousand years. The first building was erected in about 1050. The second was built in the mid-fourteenth century and escaped the Great Fire, but fell into disrepair in the mid-eighteenth century. It was completely rebuilt (with the exception of the east wall) between 1789 and 1791 under the direction of Nathaniel Wright (exterior) and Nathaniel Evans (interior). In 1831 the east front was demolished and the building shortened to widen Aldersgate Street.

## East windows

The east window is the only surviving painting on glass in the City of London. Painted by James Pearson in 1788, it represents Jesus' agony in the Garden of Gethsemane before his death. The two smaller windows on either side were originally by the same artist, but were destroyed in the Second World War and replaced by modern windows depicting the apostles John and Paul.

## Stained glass

Most of the other stained glass in the building is late Victorian, except the four windows in the lower south aisle, which show incidents in the history of the area, including John Wesley preaching in Moorfields. John and Charles Wesley had spiritual awakenings in 1738 near St Botolph's (probably in a house in Little Britain). The Wesley Flame, outside the Museum of London, reproduces John's famous description of his awakening.

## Furniture

The fittings and furnishings are of a mixed date and designed according to the fashion of their times. Church furniture has always sought to be both functional and aesthetically pleasing, and so interiors have always been changed and added to over the years. St Botolph's is a great example of this.

