



Welcome to the Parish Church of St Michael & All Angels, Cadbury.

Cadbury Church is placed at about the 600 foot contour line on the south west slope of the 829 foot high pre-Roman fortified hilltop from which the village takes its name.

In 1086 AD this is given as Cadabiria, ie Cada's burgh. Springs are found all along this line which is followed by the lane from Cadbury Cross on the Tiverton-Crediton road (A3072). A steep public footpath runs up to the 'castle'.

The church was given in about 1163 to the priory of St Nicholas in Exeter by William FitzRalph and his wife Aldreda. The present building, of predominantly 15th century construction, is built of local stone. It was extensively restored between 1840 and 1857 when the south wall was rebuilt, new windows placed in

the north and south walls, the nave re-roofed and the upper part of the tower rebuilt. The church was reseated and the western gallery removed. The font, probably of Norman date was restored to its present position where it rests on a floor of Tavistock stone.

The central figure in the window above the east end of the north aisle is of Christ and is a unique piece of 15th century glass, the work of a school of glass workers known as "The Cadbury Master". The outer panels of the window are of Victorian origin and are thought to have replaced original features in the surrounding panels linked to the eight red lines radiating from His five wounds. The fate of the original outer panels is unknown.

Set in the floor to the east end of the north aisle are three 17th century tombstones (the oldest is dated 1610) to members of the Fursdon family. Walter de Fursdon, who took his name from the hills of Mid Devon, settled at Fursdon in 1259 and the family has continued in an unbroken line for over 750 years.

During the past 30 years considerable work has been carried out to restore the roof, the tower, the west window and flooring of the church with financial help from Devon Historic Churches Trust. Substantial maintenance to the fine ring of six bells is still required if they are to be preserved in working order - the oldest of them was cast in Exeter, probably between 1430 and 1450.

Between 1855 and 1906, the living was held by the Rev. F.J.Coleridge. His long ministry is commemorated by a plaque in the belfry:

"For fifty years the faithful pastor trod,
The village byeways and the house of God;
In one the Master's Holy Lessons taught,
And to the other his example brought"

Adapted from "Cadbury Church Devon", copies available from the church.



The south aisle - chancel and altar.



The altar and east window



The 15th century figure of Christ in the east window of the north aisle.



The Norman font



One of several painted transcripts