



### **Welcome to the Church of Our Lady, Upton Pyne**

The Church was consecrated by Bishop Grandisson (who also built part of Exeter Cathedral) in 1328. An earlier church was mentioned in 1283, of which there are no identifiable remains. The old stone cross in the churchyard by the south door is older than any part of the present church and may well have belonged to the earlier one. The tower, centre and south aisles were built in about 1380.

The tower is remarkable for having several figures still standing in niches. It is 50 feet high and like the walls of the church is built of the local volcanic trap rock. Under the pinnacles at the four corners of the tower are figures of the four Evangelists. St Matthew, headless and with an angel at his feet is at the south-west, St Mark with a lion at the north-east, St Luke with a calf at the south-east and St John with a lamb at the north-west. The niche over the west door contains a figure of Christ, blessing the people that enter the church. On the south side is an old crowned man, probably King David, with a lamb at his feet. In the south wall are two monuments.

The church was restored in 1875. The roof was entirely renewed, the church re-floored, the organ aisle built (the organ was bought in Exeter in 1865), the pulpit, reading desk and lectern made. The porch was also rebuilt and the pews replaced.

Notable families in the parish have been the Pynes, to whom the manor was granted early in the twelfth century, and the Larders, commemorated in two canopied tombs in the sixteenth century. The Northcote family came to Upton Pyne when the fifth baronet, Sir Henry, married the then heiress Bridget Maria Stafford. The eighth baronet, Sir Stafford Henry, and Viscount St Cyres was made the first Earl of Iddesleigh following service as Foreign Secretary and Chancellor under Queen Victoria. In the village he built a school and the first ever club for working men.





The nave, chancel and altar



The altar and south window



Reredos: painting of the Last Supper (Brought from in Italy 1710, unknown artist)



The south aisle (monuments to the right)



The font



Detail from the north aisle window in memory of Stafford Henry Northcote, first Earl of Iddesleigh, who died 12 Jan 1887 (Political posts he held included Chancellor of the Exchequer 1874-1880 and Foreign Secretary 1885-1886)



Monument to Edmund Larder, south wall