

WALL PAINTINGS in the SANCTUARY

Keble's Gazette 8th November 1884

THE PARISH CHURCH

The wall on either side and above the east window of the Parish Church has been very artistically decorated by the firm of Lavers & Westlake, under the personal superintendence of Mr Westlake F. S. A. The subject consists of the four great Archangels - S.S. Michael, Gabriel, Raphael and Uriel. The two former, S.S. Michael and Gabriel, are painted one on each side of the window, in "Canopy Work", surrounded by an outline pattern in red. S.S. Raphael and Uriel are upon the same pattern without canopies, and placed immediately above the other two figures. The groundwork is nearly white. The character of the painting is extremely simple and solemn, and is of a kind very prevalent in the early decorated work about 1310. It supports and assists the painted glass of the East window, and the painting of the reredos, by agreeably harmonising with them.

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NB There is no mention of the work that was painted on the north and south walls of the Sanctuary and Chancel. It would appear that this was done slightly later. This was probably due to the cost of such work, much of which was funded by donations from the church members and public. In the service on the Sunday evening of Nov. 2nd 1884, the collection was in aid of the "wall decorations".