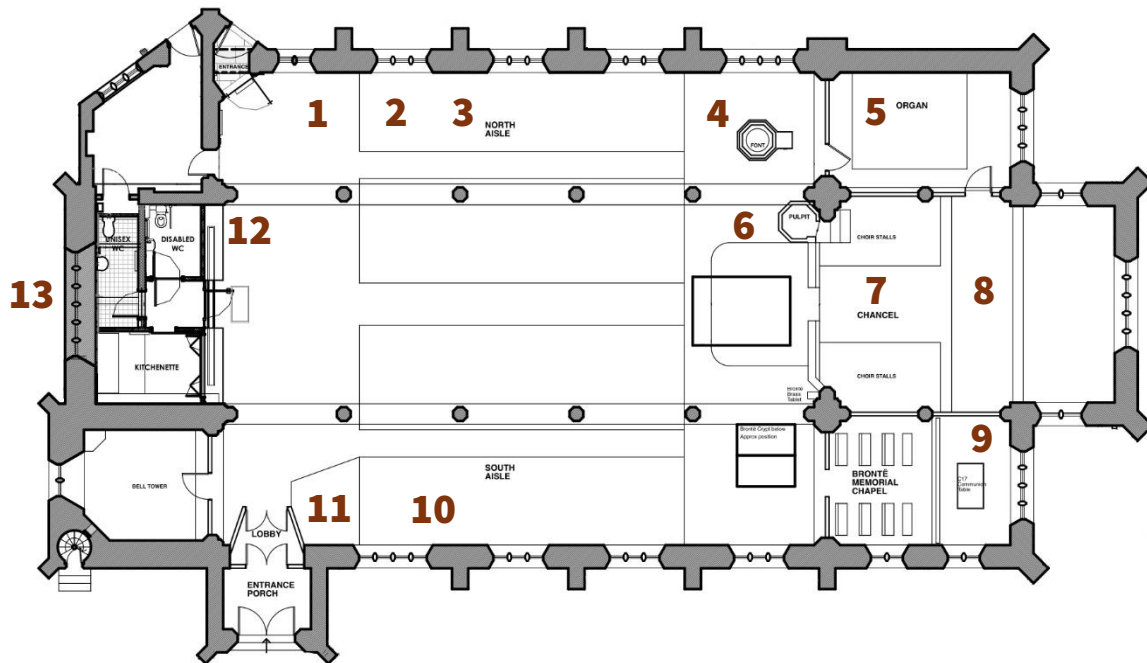


A short self-guided tour of Haworth Church



1. The Roll of Honour

Three memorials commemorate the men of Haworth and neighbouring village of Stanbury who died in the First and Second World Wars.

2. Doctor's Window

This window is dedicated to Dr Joseph Connell Wilson, who was a local physician at the turn of the twentieth century. The window was dedicated in 1939.

3. William Weightman Memorial

Weightman was curate here at the time of the Brontës. He was popular with parishioners and it is believed that Anne may have been in love with him. He died tragically at the age of 27 from cholera, which he contracted when ministering to a sick family.

4. The Font

Made of alabaster with marble columns, the font was given to the church by Mrs George Merrell, wife of a local mill owner. An earlier stone font used in the 1740s by William Grimshaw is located in the graveyard by the south door. This font, which was missing for many years, was restored to the church in 1929.

5. The Organ

Built by local experts, J.J. Binns of Bramley, the organ was originally hand pumped, with a console behind the choir. In 1975 the organ was completely renovated, and the console relocated to its current position in 1991. The organ was restored again in 2013.

6. The Pulpit and Chancel Screen

The pulpit and chancel screen are made of alabaster and were given to the church by George Firth. The figures on the pulpit and Jesus and the two disciples on the road to Emmaus from Luke:24.

7. The Choir Stalls

Made of solid oak, the carvings on the Rector's stall are the four animals from Revelation:4, which also represent the four gospels.

8. The Altar and East Window

The reredos, made of Derbyshire alabaster, is based on Leonardo da Vinci's *The Last Supper* and was presented by the wife of John Wade, rector of the church from 1861-98, after Patrick Brontë.

The main east window above the altar is based on the early Christian hymn *Te Deum Laudamus* (We praise thee O God). Christ is seated in glory as King and is surrounded by the worship of angels and saints. The stone shields behind the altar carry symbols of Jesus' execution, such as the crown of thorns and the lance which pierced his side. The shields on the left and right carry symbols of the archangels Michael, Raphael, Gabriel and Uriel.

9. The Brontë Chapel

This chapel has become one of the country's most visited places of literary pilgrimage. For 40 years, Patrick Brontë and his family lived at the Parsonage just to the west of the church. People from all over the world are drawn to the place where Charlotte, Emily and Anne's passion and originality produced masterpieces including *Jane Eyre*, *Wuthering Heights* and *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*.

The memorial on the side wall is the one Patrick Brontë himself had made. It records his wife Maria and each of their six children who died in turn, each aged 39 or younger. Patrick outlived them all and his own name was added at the bottom of the memorial after his death in 1861 at the age of 84. In 1882, a brass tablet commemorating Emily and Charlotte was placed at the foot of the pillar outside the chapel. This marks the spot where the whole family are buried, apart from Anne who died and was buried in Scarborough.

A display of Brontë-related memorabilia is located just outside the chapel, including a copy of the entry in the church's registers recording Charlotte's marriage to Arthur Bell Nicholls, the last of a number of curates who assisted in Patrick's ministry.

10. Brontë or American Window

This window was donated by Thomas Hockley, an American admirer of Charlotte Brontë.

11. The Incumbents' Board

The list of clergy who served at Haworth Church is located in the south nave aisle. Notable clergy include the royalist Reverend J. Collier, who had two periods of service, interrupted by two Puritans during Cromwell's commonwealth, William Grimshaw 1742-63, and Patrick Brontë 1820-61, the longest serving incumbent.

12. Wall Painting on the Vestry Wall

Of the many fine wall paintings that have survived, this is the clearest to see and is a representation of Palm Sunday, with Jesus riding a donkey into the city of Jerusalem.

13. The Taylor Window

The church is blessed with many magnificent stained glass windows, but one of the outstanding examples is the west window (or Taylor Window, as it is known) by Belgian manufacturer Jen-Baptist Capronnier. It was paid for by the generous donations of Mr G.S. Taylor of Stanbury, whose family kept close connections with the church over the years. Members of the Taylor family can be seen depicted in the roundels on the third row from the top. Most of the other stained glass windows in the church are in memory of local families.