

# A pilgrim's way

## *The St James Window (10)*

**This window marks the site of the Chapel of St James. Details in the window help us to identify St James as the left hand figure.**

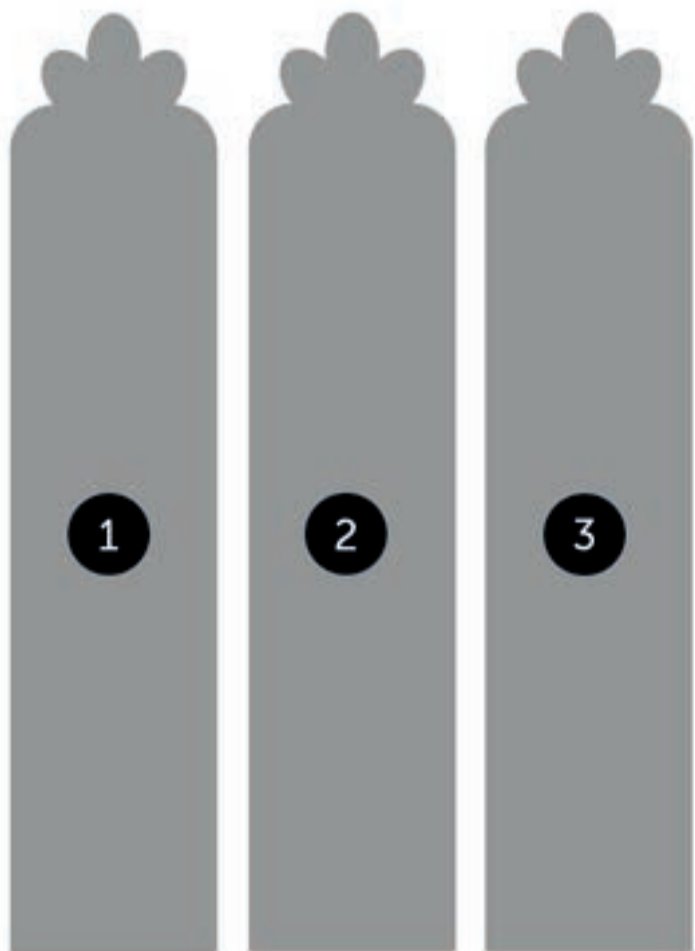
### *What do they mean?*

St James is dressed as a pilgrim to the Santiago shrine at Compostela in Spain. There may have been a shell behind his right foot. Scallop shells were symbols of the Santiago shrine. He carries a staff and Bible, which shows he is a pilgrim.

### *Who was St James?*

He was one of the Twelve Apostles (followers of Jesus). He is said to be buried at the Santiago shrine. 'Santiago' means 'St James' in Spanish. St James's face here may actually be 'the Face Of God' taken from another now lost window. It was painted by John Thornton who made the East Window in York Minster in 1405.

1. St James the Apostle
2. Our Lady (Mary), crowned as the Queen of Heaven and holding the Christ Child (Jesus)
3. A kneeling archbishop, St Denis, wears a long white band (pallium) round his neck, representing the authority given to him by the Pope



# Special survivals

## *The St James Window (10)*

Some of the imagery and text used in this window are unique. Fragmentary pieces from other lost windows were added here in the 1970s.



The archbishops head

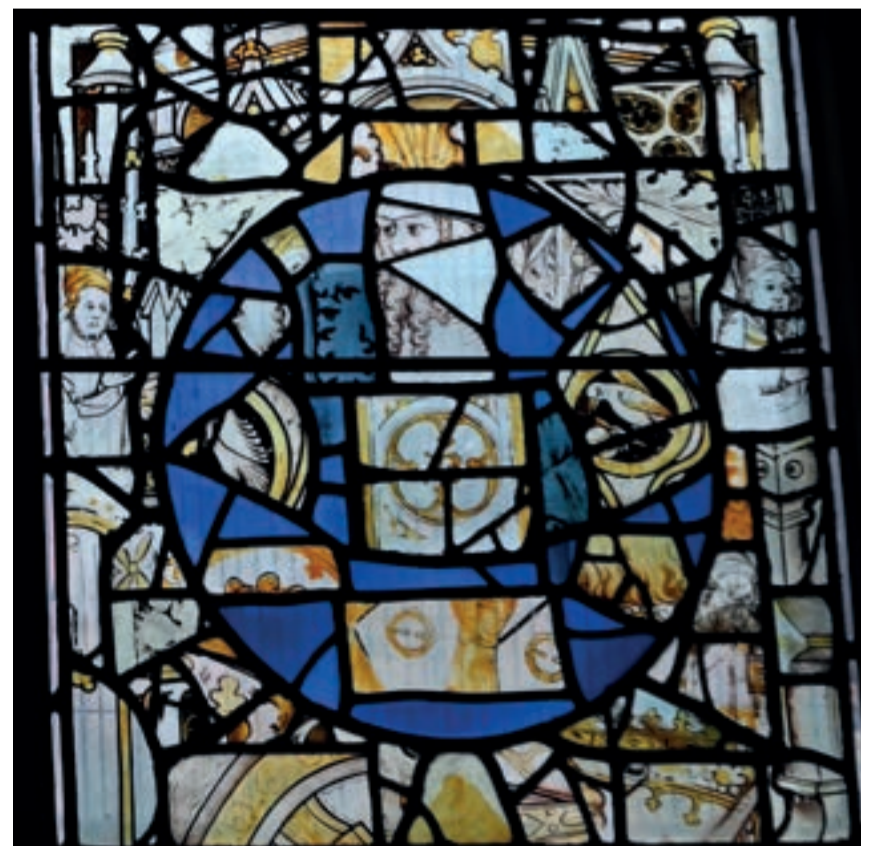
### **What are the words?**

The pieces of Latin text below the figure on the right are part of an 'indulgence'. An indulgence was a way to reduce the amount of punishment for a confessed sin. You could meditate on the message represented in a window or statue, or light a candle there.

This is the only surviving indulgence in any English stained-glass window.

### **Who is the archbishop?**

The archbishop (right hand figure) may be St Denis, Bishop of Paris in the 200s. This image is unique in England. He is saying the Mass, kneeling before Christ and four angels. St Denis holds up the Host, the consecrated bread which represents Christ's body, to offer it to Christ. In the Lessons for the Feast of St Denis, Christ re-presents the Host to St Denis, saying 'This is my Body'.



Close up of the bird

**Look out for...** the bird in the fragments of glass in the middle below Our Lady (Mary).

