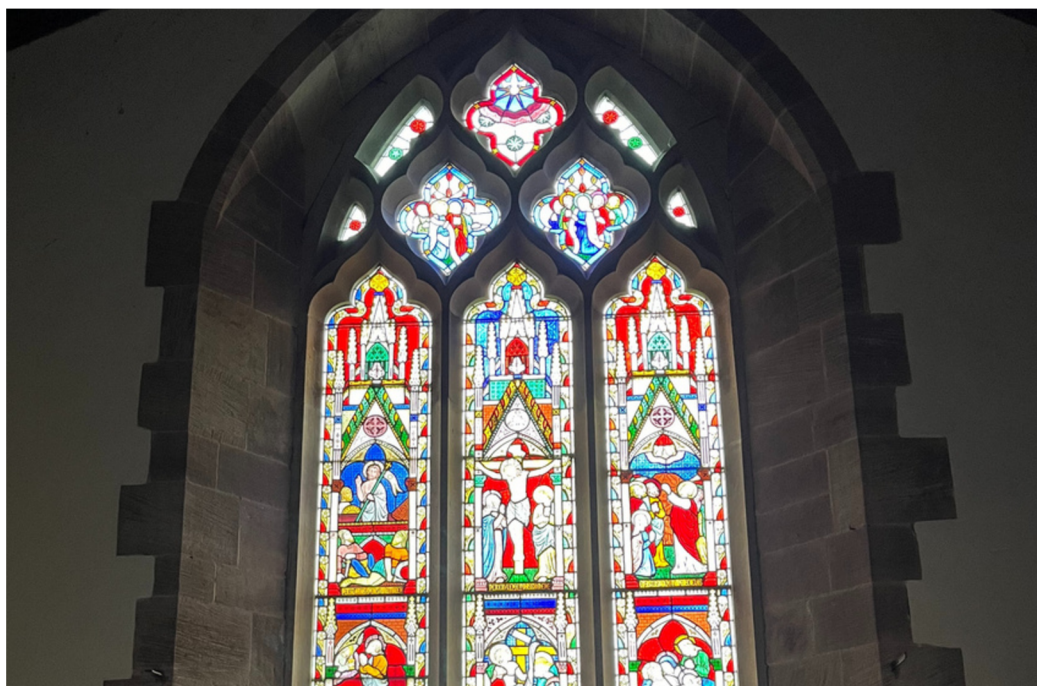




— Diocese of —
Hereford

Proclaiming Christ + Growing Disciples



Ledbury and surrounding areas

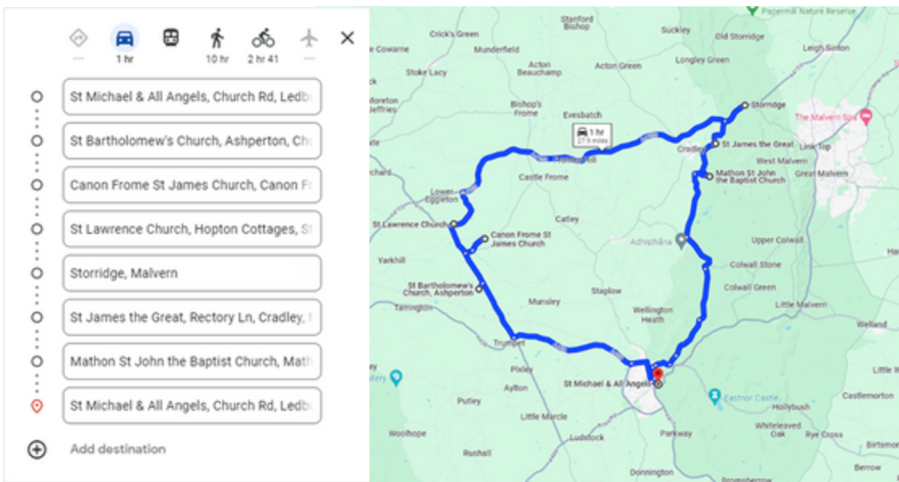
The Preedy Trail

www.hereford.anglican.org

About the trail

Directions

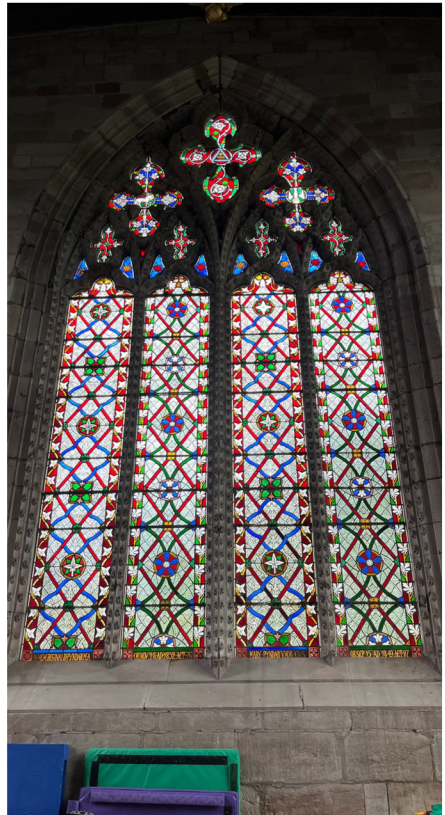
We have curated a trail of the seven Ledbury area churches with features designed and made by Frederick Preedy. The suggested route starts and ends in Ledbury, where you will find plenty of restaurants and coffee shops to fuel you on your church crawl. These churches range from the grand Ledbury St Michael and All Angels to the small, rural church of St John the Baptist in Mathon, demonstrating the range of churches that commissioned work by Frederick Preedy.



This booklet's information was sourced from Historic England, Pevsner's Guide to Herefordshire Historic Buildings, and the websites of individual churches.

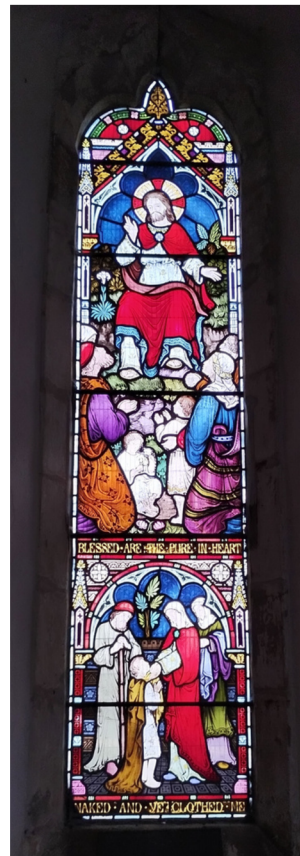
Ledbury - St Michael and All Angels

This grade I listed building was originally built in the 12th century but has been subject to alterations ever since. The first stop on this trail is home to a great selection of stained glass with information available inside the church. The windows of the Chapter House date from 1857, and art historian Nikolaus Pevsner attributed the north and northwest windows here to Frederick Preedy. However, the church themselves understand that these windows were done by one George Roberts. English Heritage offers no opinion on the artist of these windows. There are stylistic differences between these windows and those elsewhere that are confirmed to be by Preedy, so we'll leave it up to you to decide!



Ashperton - St Bartholomew

This grade II* listed building was first built in the 14th century, incorporating an existing 13th century arch, suggesting that there may have been a church at the site from at least the 13th century. The church was restored in 1840. Preedy was responsible for two of the three windows in the chancel. The east window and the chancel northwest window dated from 1880 and depict major scenes from the life of Christ including the Nativity, the Crucifixion, and the Easter scene (the angels at the tomb of Christ).



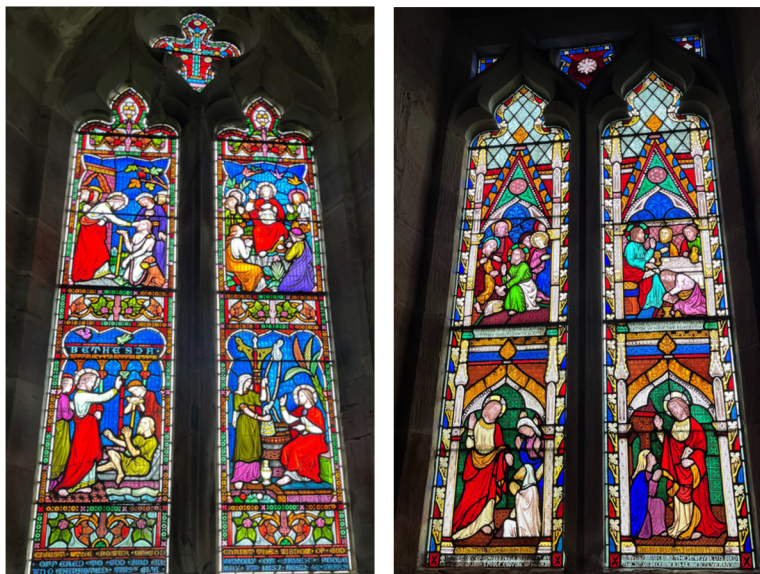
Canon Frome - St James

This is a grade II listed building. The west tower was built in 1680, and the remainder was built in 1860 by G.F. Bodley. This church is home to two Preedy windows dating from 1873-1874. These windows are on either side of the altar. The left-hand window depicts the life and death of St James, the saint to whom the church is dedicated. The right-hand window shows St John the Baptist and a priest standing before a large church, and it is thought that this window depicts the 1870 refounding of Capel-Y-Ffin, a monastery near Llanthony, Powys.



Stretton Grandison - St Lawrence

This grade I listed building has been rebuilt several times since its original construction in the 12th century. Most recently, Preedy restored the chancel in the mid-19th century, in 1852-1853. This involved restoring the roof, east window tracery, tiles, and the painted reredos (decoration behind the altar). Preedy was also responsible for the stained glass in the east window, nave south window, and chancel south window.



The large east window shows scenes from the life of Christ. The south nave wall window depicts Christ healing the blind at Bethesda and Christ teaching, dating from 1865. Preedy also painted angels, which can be seen on the altar. This was rediscovered in 2006 after being hidden behind a wooden screen since 1912.



Storridge - St John the Evangelist

This church is grade II listed. It was the first complete church designed by Frederick Preedy and was built in 1855-1856. He also designed the font cover, the pulpit and the east window. This window shows the Crucifixion. The font cover has clearly been designed to replicate the look of a church spire, right down to the details of an apex cross and spire light windows. Storridge is one of just 20 complete churches nationwide by Preedy, and the east window is considered one of the best examples of his window designs. This church is not usually unlocked, but the churchwardens would be happy to open the church by appointment.



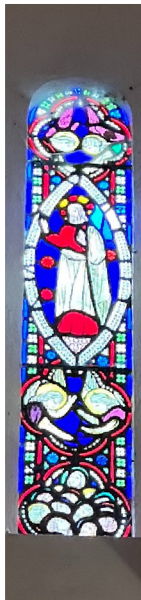
Cradley - St James the Great

This is a grade II* listed building dating from at least the 12th century, with a tower dated to c.1200, which was made taller in the 15th century. The church was partly restored in 1868 by G.G. Scott and further restored and expanded by A.E. Perkins in 1869. It is thought that the east window is possibly by Frederick Preedy, however, it is possible to see stylistic differences between this window and the others included in this trail. This window depicts the resurrection of Christ and was created in remembrance of Thomas Webb, a renowned glassmaker who died at Cradley in 1869. Due to these stylistic differences, some art historians believe that this window was, in fact, done by Hardman & Co of Birmingham and, therefore, is not a Preedy window.



Mathon - St John the Baptist

This is a grade II* listed building dating from the late 11th century with some 14th and 19th century alterations. Pevsner states that these 19th century alterations were undertaken by Preedy in 1849 and 1862-1863. Pevsner's guide attributes the east window to Preedy and the north chancel windows to one Alexander Gibbs. However, the original Preedy Trail attributes the north chancel windows to Preedy. The left panel shows Melchizedek blessing Abram, and the right panel depicts the sharing of the bread and wine at the last supper. Today, we are likely to be more familiar with the story of the Last Supper than that of Melchizedek and Abram. The bread and wine windows are more stylistically similar to the other examples of Preedy's windows on this trail than the east windows are. In addition to the windows, the octagonal font can also be attributed to Preedy, and this dates to c.1866.



The Preedy Trail

The Preedy Trail across Hereford Diocese

We have also created trails starting in Bromyard, Ross-On-Wye, and Much Wenlock. Details of these can be found by visiting our website: www.hereford.anglican.org/preedy-trail or scanning the QR Code



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