

St Mary's Church, Pune

This is the oldest established Church in Pune or its neighborhood. Church was built by Lieut. Nash of the East India Company's Engineers. The interior of the Church is 97 feet long from the west door of the Church step, and the transept 88 feet from north to south. The width of the nave is 15 feet and the transept 35 feet. The top of the spire is 103 feet from the ground. The Church accommodates over 1000 worshipers. The bell in the tower at present replaced the original one and was brought from St. Georges Church, Kaira Church.

The Church, the foundations of which were laid in June 1821, was consecrated by Bishop Heber in 1825. Being the oldest and most representative Church of Pune, St. Mary's naturally contains a great many memorials of 'sages who wrote and warriors who bled'. The stones and brasses commemorate many noble names.

Beneath this stone are the remains of Sir Robert Grant, Knight Grand Cross of the Order of Guelphs of Hanover, one of Her Majesty's Most Honorable Privy Councilor's and Governor of Bombay. He died at Dapore on 9th of July 1838, in the 60th year of his age.

Sir. R. Grant, the founder of the Grant Medical College, was known amongst many other gifts he possessed, as a hymn writer. Some of his hymns are well known today. "Saviour when in dust to Thee" and "O worship the King, all glorious above" are well known Church Hymns.

The stained glass window over the Communion table, was erected by Colonel Nasmyth, a superintendent of the Trigonometrically Survey. The Window was designed by the late Mr. R.G. Oxenham, Director of Public Instruction. The north side gives the annunciation of the Virgin and Moses at the Burning Bush. The middle window portrays Our Lord in Majesty whilst beneath is Moses in prayer over Amalek. The Baptistry window, to the memory of Brigadier- General Sewell, represents Noah's sacrifice, the Israelites crossing the Red Sea and the Circumcision and Baptism.

The Lectern, which dates from 1870, was executed by a native boy under the superintendence of Colonel Finch, from designs by a London firm. The Altar Cross was presented by a lady in memory of her brother.