

# St John the Baptist

## Letton

Letton  
Hereford  
HR3 6DH

We are a small though enthusiastic congregation that meets for services twice a month, usually a communion service on the first Sunday of the month and a service of the Word on the third Sunday. Our fundraising activities, particularly our summer teas, are enjoyed by locals and visitors alike. The church has a side chapel which can be turned into a community space when needed. The origins of the church date back before Norman times, and the unique interior of the church, with its dressed stonework and attractive windows, provides a wonderful atmosphere for quiet prayer or worship. An annual tradition that has recently been revived is the Guinea Service, at which a guest speaker is invited to give a sermon and the congregation votes to decide whether the preacher has earned the Guinea.



You will find Letton recorded as having a priest in the Domesday Book, and therefore probably a church. There are architectural hints that a church on this site dates back to the 7th century when Letton was still within Wales. It is possible that Letton Church, together with other churches on the River Wye are linked historically to the important monastery at Llantwit Major, and to St. Dyfed who was one of their known missionaries and has local associations.

Since a Roman road that ran past the south of the church was replaced by a toll road, the church is an island of peace and tranquility now being well away from the busy A438. The church serves a small community, which seems unlikely to increase in number as we lie on a flood plain.

Letton Church is a Grade One listed building and well worth a visit. We have a 12th century door and a mediaeval sun dial on the south wall that would have been visible from the Roman Road. There is some locally made seating that dates back to the time when the altar was moved to the chancel and the congregation sat around it. Most other mediaeval tombs and fittings were destroyed during the Tudor period. We have three bells, one of which goes back to Edward the 2nd and Queen Philippa.



Visitors are always welcome to services, summer teas or just to sit in the churchyard and listen to the birds. We are an ideal venue for a small wedding. We welcome children and young people to all our services, and we have disability access (if you are able to negotiate a square meter of cobbles in your chair.) Parking is available and the church is open at all times for private prayer or meditation.