



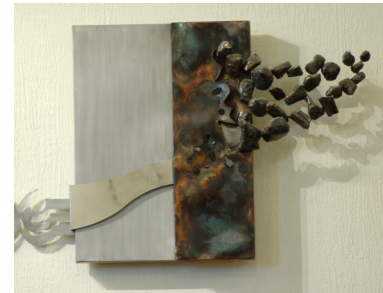
Panel 4
 The Dove / Spirit released and taking its message of Hope, the message of Peace, the message of the Holy Spirit which transcends the anguish of the thorns
 The shell in homage to John Wesley



Panel 3
 Calvary
 From Christ's baptism to the Cross and the triumph of his resurrection



Panel 2
 Contemplation
 The wilderness, exile, and preparation.
 God sustaining his people in a barren land



Panel 1
 Old Testament Creation:
 From Darkness to Light
 Water motif—with sea dividing

Media: Mild steel, Stainless steel, Brass

Linking all the panels is the water motif. The bonding of baptism. Common to all panels is the path—The Way.



Panel 5
 The Pelican piercing its breast to feed its young provides a symbol of sacrifice. This image to be extended so that the blood descends into the Chalice
 The wheat to symbolise the bread
 The ram in the thorns—sacrifice
 The fish the symbol of early Christians
 The nails the suffering, the passion, the Trinity
 The flames—Pentecost. Also can signify the torments of hell also the flame of sacred love.



Design for Wall Sculpture in metal
 By
 Noel Black
 N.D.D. A.T.D. D.L.C.A.
 1989

Design Considerations

Although I consider it important that the sculpture makes an impact on entering the church it is equally important that it leads the eye to the table and Cross. It is therefore designed to read from left to right.

Designed to relate visually to the wall, the windows and the curves over the communion table. The curve of the Pelican to echo these features.

Height from the floor ensures that the panels do not encroach on the side aisle. The sculpture must harmonise with the proportions and style of the building yet retain its own individuality and be of today and tomorrow.

Symbolism

Four panels of similar size and symbolise the original four chapels. With a larger panel representing the newly formed Church.

All five panels are joined by a water motif - the bonding through baptism. Each panel to impart its own symbolic idea.

Noel Black

This sculpture was originally designed for our Church as it was in the 1977 refurbishment with the Cross and communion table against the north wall.



The Architect for our 2007 refurbishment Mr Sebastian Rowe held this in mind as he reinstated the Georgian influences in the building.

Though this places the Cross and table at the start of the sculpture the link between the two is visually maintained. The three plaster curves above the original table have been replaced by a new triptych in english oak, again with the same dominant curve.

We are pleased to be able to share this sculpture with you today.

Many people have looked and wondered at this amazing artwork. It tells the story of the Bible so simply. From Genesis and the creation, The escape through the Red Sea. The wilderness. The story of God's Son. And finally the birth of his Church. Some relate to individual points others view the whole panorama.

As a sculpture it does what its creator intended. On the surface it is a magnificent piece of artwork, viewed more deeply it is an icon. A window into the world of God's people. From of old and our common roots with both Muslim and Jew to the specific Christian story of God's redemption.

What the piece does not show is that final act, when all the world is restored and Christ returns. But that is yet to be, and we look to the Spirit to take us beyond that which is known to what is to come.

A work of art with that alone which the artist puts into it, is but half of itself; it attains its full stature by what time and people make of it. Naum Gabo