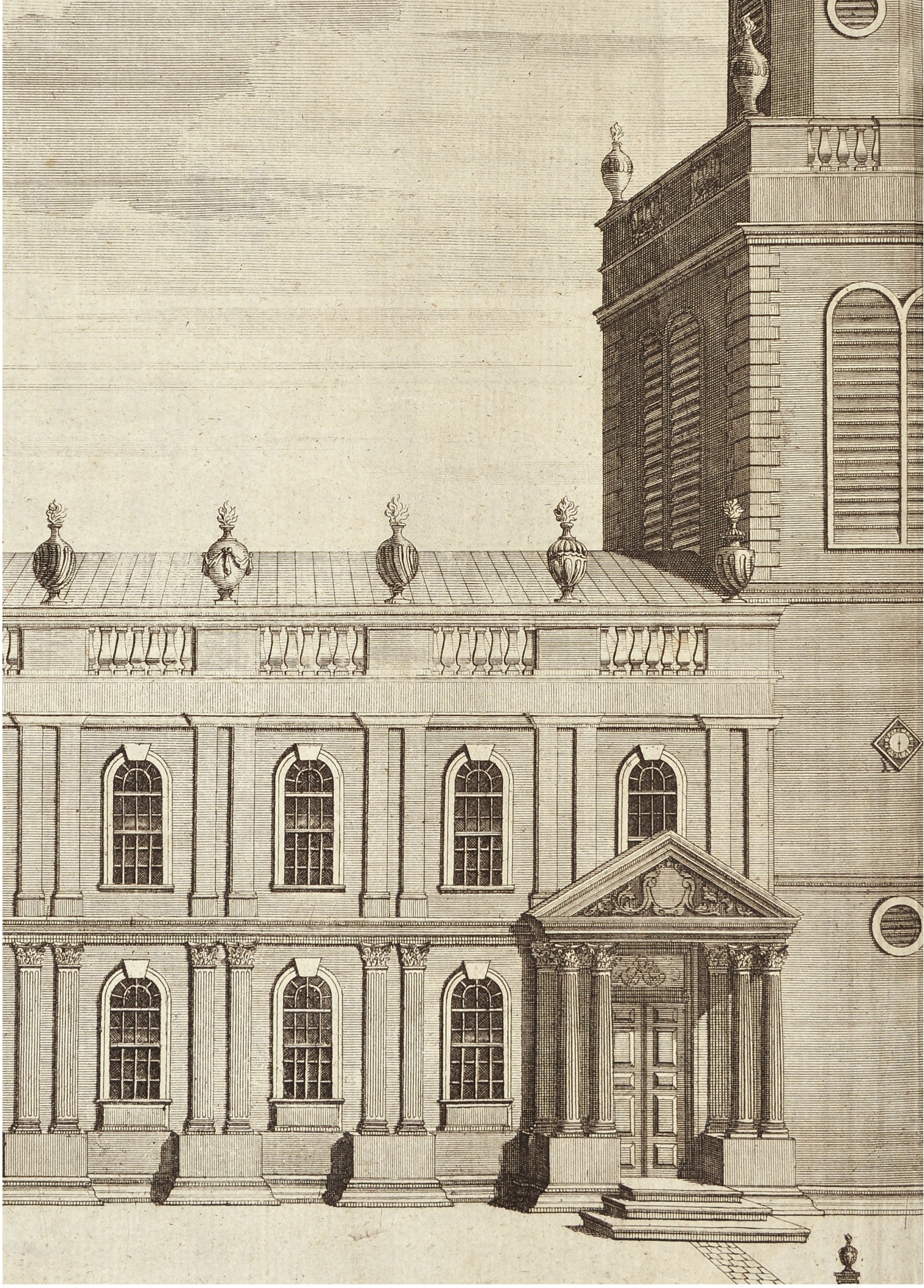


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News from St Ann's Founder's Special Edition



308 Years Old

It's been a busy three centuries: We helped create the conditions for Manchester to become the world's first industrial city. All around us our ancestors put up new churches and then pulled them down. We have been bombed by the Nazis and the IRA and more recently affected by Islamist terrorism. Through it all St Ann's has continued to serve all Mancunians - and no less so than today.

An astonishing act of generosity

Our church was built by the Lord of the Manor Lady Ann Bland - who was a member of the Mosley family. She employed a Derbyshire architect named John Barker who had clearly seen the Wren and Hawksmoor churches in London. St Ann's was the first of three churches built to Barker's designs, the others being St Alkmund's in Whitchurch and St Modwen's in Burton-upon-Trent. Arising in what was then the sleepy old town of Manchester the handsome new church made a big impression in July 1712.

Lady Ann's husband Sir John guided a Bill through Parliament to allow the church and the Square to go up but the entire cost of the building was borne by Lady Ann herself. The stone even came from her quarry in Collyhurst.

More wonderful stewardship

In 1840 Miss Eleanor Atherton provided a rentcharge from a piece of land where the Bridgewater Hall now stands to build up the stipend of the minister of St John's Church in Deansgate to £200 per annum. When she died in 1870 she left £5,000 in her will on top of that. Her uncle, maybe inspired by the generosity of Lady Ann, had built St John's Church and the Byrom family owned land around what is now Deansgate and St John's Gardens. Atherton Street was named after her.

St John's was pulled down in 1930 and the income from the Charity of Miss Eleanora Atherton was then applied to supporting St Ann's. We have been the beneficiaries ever since. After St John's closed the church and churchyard were made into gardens, now the responsibility of the City Council. The trustees erected a cross in memory of the church and the thousands of parishioners buried there.

The trust created by Miss Atherton has recently ceased to be an independent charity. Its assets have been transferred to the PCC and will continue to support St Ann's into the future.

Today, the stewardship of the church's finances and all our opportunities are our shared responsibility - but vision and generosity are needed as much as they ever were,



This Sunday's Services

This Sunday we celebrate Dedication: St Ann's Church was consecrated on July 17th 1712.
9.00 am Holy Communion in church
10.45 am Service on Zoom

You can access the Zoom service by following this [link](#). The meeting ID: 986 0689 4196.

You can also call in by 'phone. If you would like to do this please contact William - contact details below.

A Collect for Dedication Sunday:

*God of holiness and love,
you have set us in the city
as a sign of your kingdom:
build us by your Spirit
to be a living temple
where you dwell among your people,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.*

Midweek

The church is open from 11.00 am to 3.00 pm every day from Tuesday to Saturday.

Holy Communion in Church

There are lunchtime celebrations of Holy Communion at 12.15 pm on Tuesday and Thursday.

Join us for Zoom Compline

You are welcome to join in Night Prayer, traditionally called Compline. This lasts around 15 minutes and is taking place from Tuesday to Friday by Zoom at 9.00 pm. If you would like to do this please contact Sydwel (see below).

Streaming of Services - the Future

One thing we have learned during lockdown is how helpful the streaming of services can be. We think that it will be important in the future as well. **Do you have a video camera you can donate?** We need a camera with a microphone. If you think you have something which you think might fit the bill please contact William - see below.

Keep in touch

You can contact Nigel on 0161 235 5206 or by email on rector@stannsmanchester.com. Sydwel is on 07404 265463 or at curate@stannsmanchester.com. You can contact Church Manager William on the Church's number 0161 834 0239 (and leave a message) or by email at manager@stannsmanchester.com.

Please pray

At the start of this week we celebrate Dedication and next Sunday we mark St Ann's Day: Our prayer is for the life of our own community - our fellowship, mission and our hopes for the future.



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