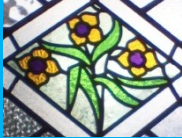
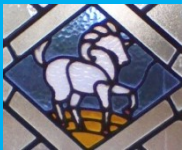


The next three groups of windows are about Jesus. In contrast to the old sacrifices, he showed us that the only really effective sacrifice that we can make is to live our lives in the service of God and his whole creation, including all with whom we share this world.

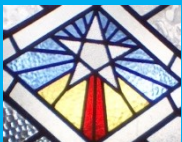
The Infant Jesus



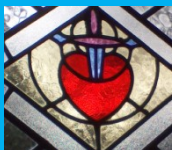
a) These flowers represent **lilies** which signify **purity and holiness**. Thus they are symbols of the Virgin Mary, Jesus' mother, and her beautiful response to the angel's announcement to her, the **Annunciation**, that she would be the mother of God's son. (Luke 1:34-38)



b) The mythical **unicorn** here symbolises the **virginity of Mary**, Jesus mother, because in ancient legends only a virgin could see a unicorn. These days **Jesus Divinity**, through God being his only father, is emphasised more than his lack of a human father. However, this should not diminish our admiration and respect for Mary's gracious purity and obedience.



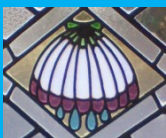
c) From as long ago as the return of the Jewish people from Egypt to the Promised Land prophets have associated the appearance of a **bright star** with God's making known his presence in Israel. (Numbers 24:17) So this window marks **Jesus' birth – the Nativity**.



d) At the **Presentation** of the baby Jesus in the Temple the devout Simeon foretold that Mary's soul would suffer as if **pierced by a sword** and Jesus life would cause many to examine the thoughts of their **innermost hearts**. (Luke 2:34-35)



e) The **star** also led the wise men (astrologers from the East, in Matthew 2) to come and worship Jesus. Matthew pointed out that Jesus, though fulfilling ancient Jewish prophecies, was also sent for the people of all nations. In the earlier window the star shone down on Bethlehem; here the star's rays shine in all directions. The Church's word **Epiphany** means 'showing forth'.



f) A **scallop shell** is often still used for the water of Baptism and is one of the most ancient of Christian symbols. Jesus own baptism (Mark 1) marked the beginning of his ministry.