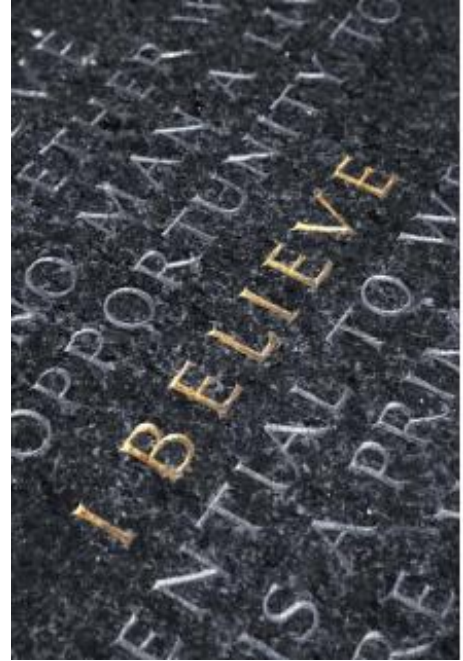


# Memorial Tablets in Churches

“A special privilege reserved for exceptional cases.”

A faculty is always necessary for the purpose of placing memorial tablets in Churches and according to a well established rule, observed by succession of Chancellors in this diocese and elsewhere, the granting of such a faculty is to be regarded as a special privilege reserved for exceptional cases.



Evidence would normally be required that the person has given outstanding service to the Church and/or the community as a whole, and even then the granting of permission would not follow as a matter of course.

Consideration would have to be given to the character of the Church, the design of the proposed memorial, the availability of suitable wall-space, etc.; on such matters the Chancellor would take particular note of the recommendation of the Diocesan Advisory Committee for the Care of Churches.

The strictness with which the court's discretion is exercised may sometimes, in the short-term view, appear excessive; but it is the Chancellors duty to protect the interests of future generations.

If faculties were freely granted, albeit in deserving cases, the walls of a church might in the course of years become crowded with tablets to the detriment of the Church's appearance.

It is happily true in many parishes that each generation sees examples of devoted and commendable service by churchwardens and others which clearly deserves to be kept in remembrance.

Memorials in the form of windows and other items are not uncommon. We would ask:

1. Is the memorial something which the church wants, not something which a donor wishes to give? (Statement of Need)
2. Is the memorial something which will glorify God, beautify his church, proclaim his gospel or be of other benefit, not something which focuses on an individual?