

## FACT SHEET No 139

CHRISTOPHER WHALL (1849-1924) has his work on the east side of that same chapel. Whall began his career as a not very successful painter. He designed but did not make the glass for the Roman Catholic Church in Ely Place, London. He was so unhappy with the way his designs were carried out that he learned the processes of glass painting and leadwork. Influenced by the freer styles which had been introduced by William Morris he reacted against high Victorian taste and produced original work. He became a teacher and propagator of the Arts and Crafts movement, and lectured at the Central School of Arts and Crafts and at the Royal College of Art.

**Christopher Whitworth Whall** (1849-1924) was an English [stained glass](#) artist who worked from 1897 into the 20th century. He was an important member of the [Arts and Crafts Movement](#), who became a leading designer of stained glass. His most important work is the glass for the Lady Chapel in [Gloucester Cathedral](#) and for the south transept in [Canterbury Cathedral](#). Eight characteristic windows, conveniently accessible to the public in London, can be found at [Holy Trinity Sloane Street](#). Whall was also influential as a teacher, taking stained glass classes at the Central School of Art, and later at the [Royal College of Art](#) in London, where students were encouraged to relate design to architecture. Walter Crane, writing in his memoirs, describes a masque for which Whall wrote a Song of Triumph and designed demon costumes.

Some of the work of Christopher Whall can be found at the [William Morris Gallery](#). Christopher collaborated with [William Morris](#) on many design projects.

His pupils and colleagues included his daughter [Veronica Whall](#) (1887-1967), [Louis Davis](#) (1860-1941), [Margaret Chilton](#) (1875-1963), [Karl Parsons](#) (1884-1934), and [Paul Woodroffe](#) (1875-1954).

Christopher Whitworth Whall (1849-1924) [added from FS 191]

Christopher Whall was the son of a clergyman and began his artistic career as a rather unsuccessful painter. He did some designs for glass, but was appalled by the way in which they were transcribed, so he set out to learn the craft.

He worked as an English stained glass artist from 1897 into the 20th century. He was an important member of the Arts and Crafts Movement, and became a distinguished designer of stained glass. His most important work is the glass for the Lady Chapel in Gloucester Cathedral and for the south transept in Canterbury Cathedral. Eight characteristic windows, conveniently accessible to the public in London, can be found at Holy Trinity, Sloane Street.

More important perhaps than the extensive series of windows which he produced until his death in 1924 was his vital role as a teacher and propagator of the Arts and Crafts Movement gospel. He took stained glass classes at the Central School of Art, and later at the Royal College of Art in London, where students were encouraged to relate design to architecture. He trained a large number of **outstanding artists and craftsmen** and his book "Stained Glass Work", published in 1905, remained a standard work until late in the century.