

# OLYMPIC PILGRIMAGE TRAIL “SEEKING GOLD”

## PILGRIMAGE PRAYER

Holy God, you are the source of our life and the goal of journeying. Guide us by your Holy Spirit along the pilgrimage of our lives. Strengthen us when the road is tough, let us not forget you when the path is

smooth; and may we share your love with companions along the way. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Nicholas Holtam,  
Bishop of Salisbury

ST. MARTIN ON  
WALLS,  
WAREHAM

St Martin's also contains a life size effigy of Lawrence of Arabia, in full Arab dress. Lawrence is wearing a headdress and holding camel whips, two books - the Greek Anthology of Verse & the Oxford Book of English Verse - and a dagger given to him by Prince Faisal.

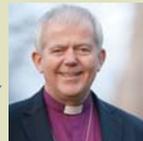
Eric Kennington, who was the official war artist for the First and Second World Wars, carved it out of Purbeck marble and Portland stone between 1936 and 1939.

*Reflect on the lives of those who travel in faith, offering themselves to help others. And as you prepare to leave, take a moment to reflect that God is with us always, to the end of time.*

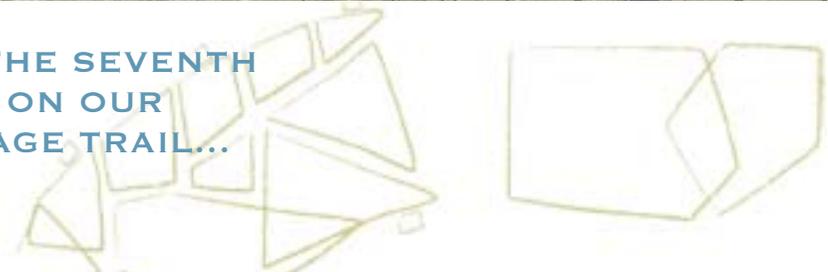


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NICHOLAS HOLTAM, BISHOP OF SALISBURY



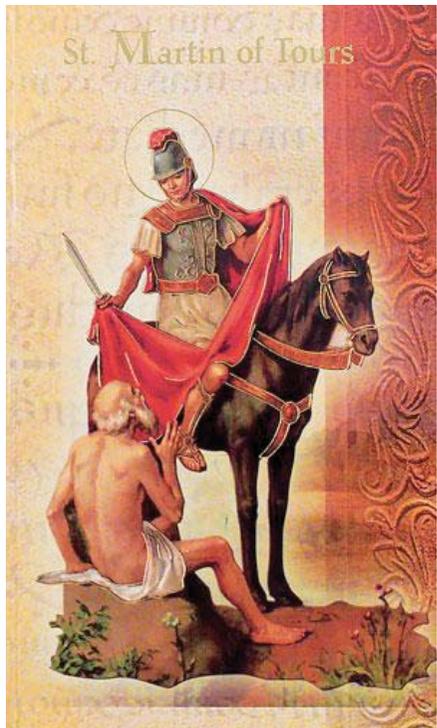
THIS IS THE SEVENTH  
CHURCH ON OUR  
PILGRIMAGE TRAIL...



**St Martin on the Walls, Wareham** is the oldest Saxon church in Dorset: its Saxon wall paintings are some of the most complete anywhere in the world. It is now an ancient monument of historical interest, as well as a functioning, worshipping community, part of the Parish of Wareham.



On the North wall of the chancel are 12<sup>th</sup> Century frescos, made with crushed stone pushed into wet plaster so that the colours would not fade. St Martin was a Roman soldier in France in the mid 4<sup>th</sup> Century. One rainy night he met a beggar at the walls of Amiens. Cutting his robe in two, he gave half to the beggar. In the night he had a dream of Jesus Christ wearing the half cloak. As a result he converted to Christianity, left the army, and spent his life spreading the Gospel in rural France, eventually becoming Bishop of Tours.



***“It is exasperating to be called so persistently when the last thing we want to do is get up and go, but God elects to keep on haunting us like some holy ghost”*** (T.J. Carlisle)

St Aldhelm founded a Church in the 7<sup>th</sup>C. which King Cnut destroyed in 1015. Our Church was built in 1030: the tall, narrow nave, chancel with its 12<sup>th</sup>C frescos of St Martin on horseback, wall-arcading in the N.W. Aisle, a tiny window, and traces of a door, are all Saxon.

***As you think about St Martin’s kindness, give thanks for all those who have shown kindness in your life.***

Look around you to find the place where, on one of the walls, a number of red stars have been painted. They are thought to represent some of the numbers of plague deaths in the 17<sup>th</sup> Century :

***Pause here to pray for people you have loved, and who have died - and give thanks for their lives, and all that they have meant to you.***

Like most very early churches, the focus was the altar round which the mass was celebrated. The altar forms a large part of this Church, and is the centre point for celebrating Holy Communion.

***Reflect on the words of the Psalm: “O taste and see, how gracious the Lord is. Blessed are they who trust in him.”***