



The origins of the church go back a very long way, as attested by the name of its patron saint: Saint Landelin. Living in the 7th century, this curious character converted after leading a life of robbery. After becoming a hermit, his reputation attracted many companions, leading him to found the abbeys of Lobbes (Belgium) and Crespin.

In 1236, the first chapel was built by Nicolas Roussiau, knight and lord of Quérénaing. It became a parish church and underwent several modifications.

In its current state, the building has a nave and choir built in the 16th century in Gothic style. Built of sandstone, it has retained its pointed-arched windows and its Porte du Paradis. The nave is shaped like the hull of a ship. The panelled vaults are supported by arched beams decorated with sculpted figures, rediscovered during successive restoration operations.

Of undoubted architectural interest, the hurricane of 1876 compromised its classification as a Historic Monument.

A visit to the church in Quérénaing combines a true retrospective of local history with its spiritual roots, and shows the determination of the local people to preserve, enhance and pass on this meaningful shared heritage.

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Saint-Landelin Church

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A church: a landmark in the landscape, a common reference point for the inhabitants, a space open to all.

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Liturgical basins (7)

In a niche in the choir are two shell-shaped basins. These were used by the priest to wash his hands when handling and purifying offerings, which may have been in kind. Today, this practice continues symbolically in the gesture of the washbasin, where the priest wets only his fingertips.



The In Paradisum door (4)



On the north side is the site of the door, known as the *In Paradisum* door, leading to the cemetery that surrounded the church until 1903.

The *In Paradisum* is one of the Gregorian antiphons sung at the end of the funeral ceremony, when the coffin of the deceased is accompanied in procession from the church to the

cemetery. This is why it is also known as the 'Gate of the Dead'.

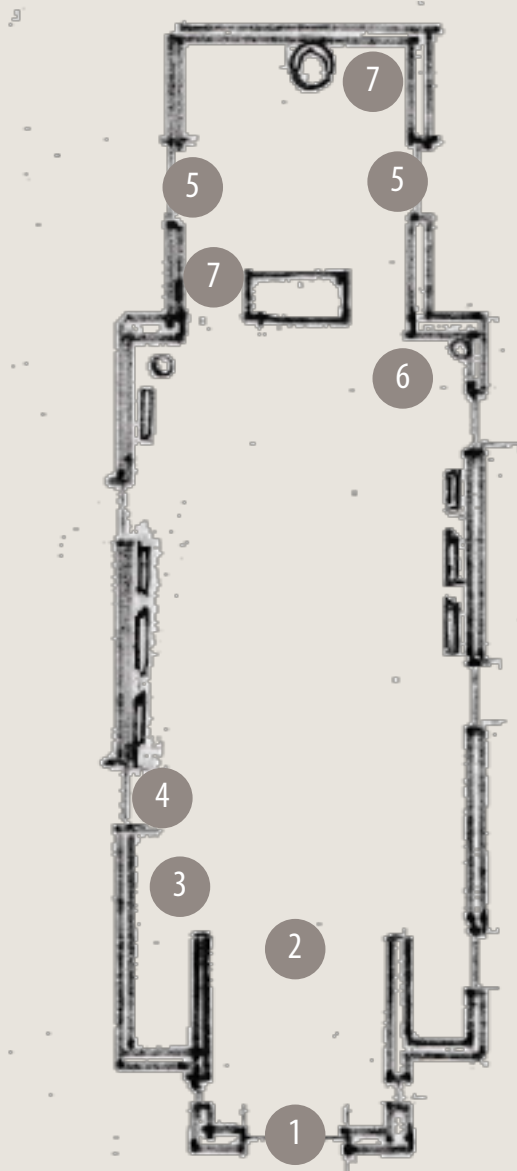
The baptismal font (3)

This baptistery is made from a single piece of cut sandstone. The octagonal basin, inscribed with the date 1569, rests on a 6-sided column and an 8-sided foot. This ensemble has been protected as a Historic Monument since 1986.

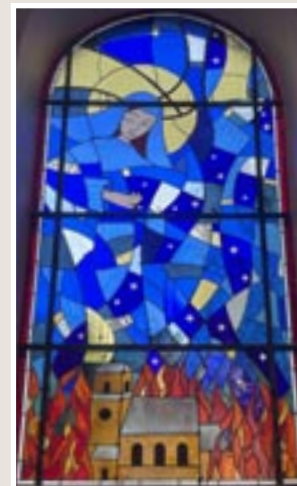


The stained glass windows (1-2-5)

All the stained glass windows (nave and choir) were installed in the church in 2024. They were created by stained glass artist Marie Payen. Above the entrance door (1), the church's patron saint, Saint Landelin, welcomes visitors with open arms. On the other hand, the exit is accompanied by a stained glass window inviting visitors to follow in the footsteps of pilgrims to Santiago de Compostela, as the church is on the route to Santiago de Compostela (2).



In the choir (5), the first stained glass window, predominantly blue, depicts the Virgin Mary above a burning village.



She accompanies 20 stars towards the sky, in reference to the inhabitants of the village of Quérénaing murdered during the massacre of 25 August 1914. Only one star is different. Blue on a yellow background, it refers to the sole survivor of the massacre.

The stained glass window opposite is the parable of the sower. This very large figure occupies almost the entire surface and is set against warm colours reminiscent of harvest wheat and barley.

The statue of the Virgin and Child (6)

This polychrome wooden statue dates from the 18th or 19th century. Protected as a Historic Monument since 1986, this Virgin and Child embodies the link between the divine world and humanity.

