

The Abbey's Life and Witness Today

Westminster Abbey enshrines a great deal of English history and cannot be fully appreciated without reference to its past. This leaflet provides a bare outline and a full range of guidebooks is available in the Abbey bookshops.

But this building also houses a living community today — men and women who, in many different ways, are seeking to employ their gifts to the glory of God and for the building of a better world.

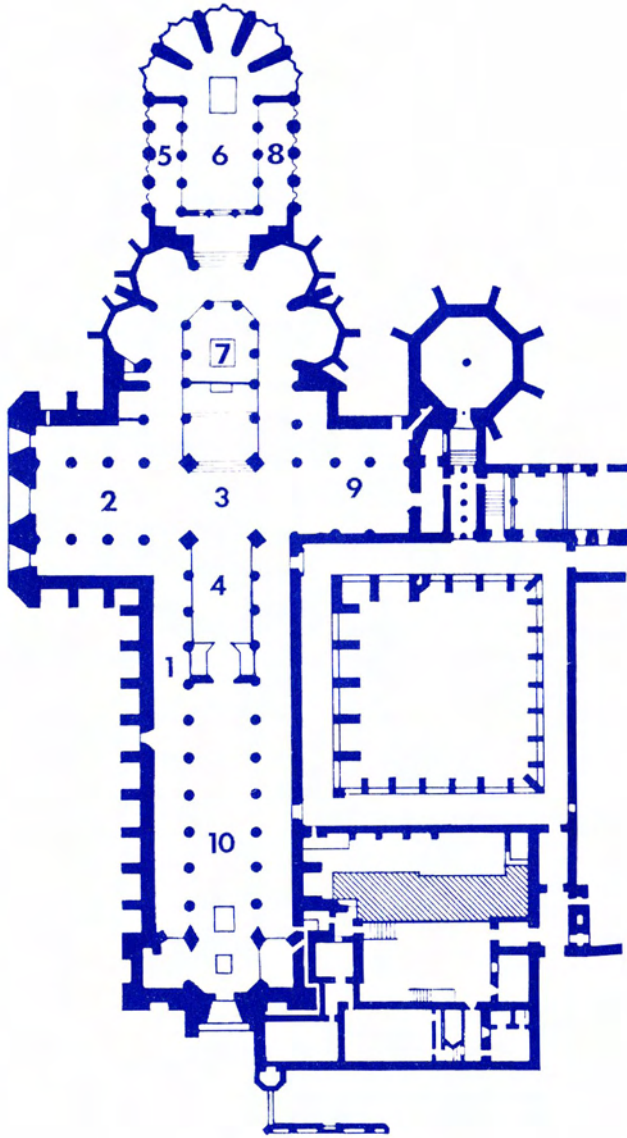
Worship and prayer remain the primary function of the Abbey community. An extensive ministry of preaching and teaching, within the Abbey itself and in the wider world, is centred here. Concern for society and for individuals has taken on a new importance in the complex world of the 20th century, and the welcoming of 3½ million visitors from all parts of the world every year presents a new challenge to the Abbey tradition of hospitality.

A priest is available to visitors and others in the Abbey for the greater part of every day and he is pleased to speak to those who approach him. Every hour he conducts a brief act of prayer for the world and its needs; you are invited to share in this.

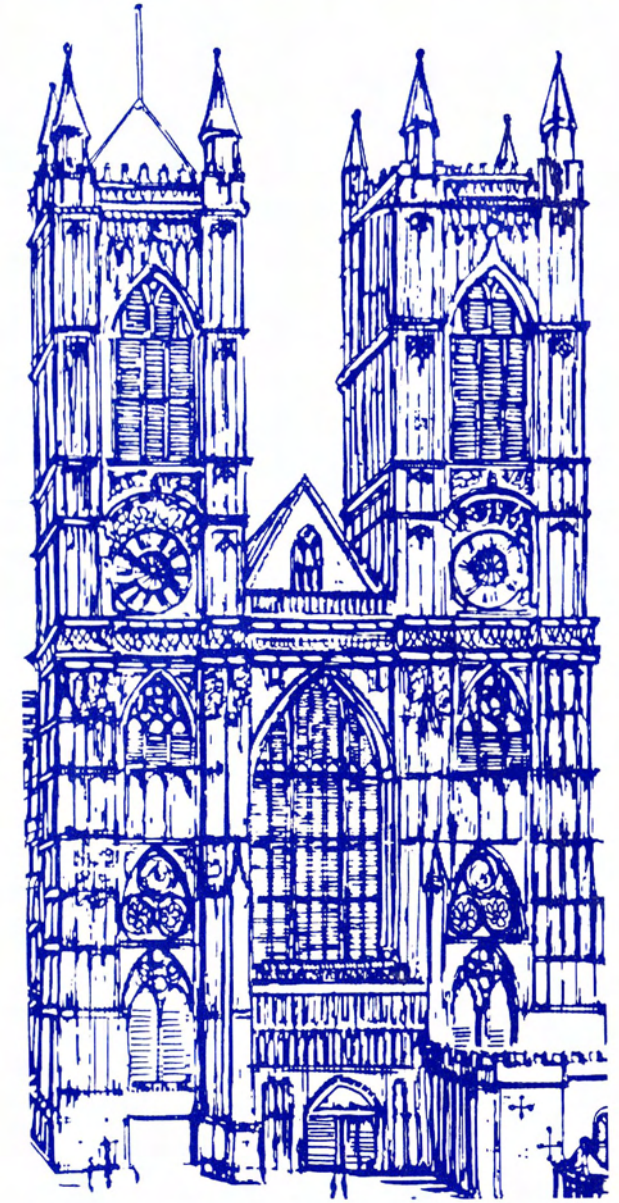
Westminster Abbey — perhaps the best known and most loved building in the English-speaking world — receives no financial assistance from the state and is, therefore, dependent upon admission fees and gifts for the expenses of its everyday work and the maintenance of its vast and ancient fabric.

Most of our visitors can spend only a short time in the Abbey, but those who are able to share in our worship and prayer make a most valuable contribution to the historic witness of this great church.

We hope that you will leave the Abbey refreshed and inspired and one day return.



Westminster Abbey



WELCOME



