

Description of the Reredos from the *Irish Ecclesiastical Gazette* 31st July 1896 (RCB Library)

The reredos is made of bath stone and measures 5 ft 7½ inches long and is nearly 4 ft high. It reaches from the top of the Holy Table to the string course under the chancel windows. It rests on a red marble retable, and consists of five arched recesses with six moulded bases, ¾ columns and carved capitals. The five panels in the recesses are carved in bath stone, the first or northern subject being the rose and the southern one the lily of the valley from the Old Testament Song of Solomon ii 1. In the centre of these two panels the Alpha and Omega from the New Testament Revelations xxiii 13 are carved in raised letters. In the panels next these the subjects are corn (John vi 41) and the vine (S John XV 1) symbolising the Bread and Wine of the Holy Communion 'Except ye eat my flesh and drink my blood ye have no life in you'.

In the centre the chief panel is the passion flower, symbolising Our Lord's Death with the first three letters of Jesus in Greek characters brought out in gold mosaics. Above the arches of the Reredos is a rope moulding over which appears a sunk panel containing, in gold mosaics, the words of the Ter Sanctus 'Holy, Holy Holy'.

Underneath all is a footpace 3½ inches high, bordered by a curb of red marble, the space being filled in with encaustic tiles. The work, which has been much admired, was carried out (from designs supplied by a member of the congregation) by Messrs Earp & Hobbs of Manchester and London.