

The Parish Church of Brighton until 1873, still the Mother Church and 'the only church in central Brighton of ancient interest'. This church is dedicated to St Nicholas, the patron saint of sailors and fishermen.

The earliest known reference to a church in Brighthelmstone, the old name for Brighton, comes from William the Conqueror's great census, the Domesday Book, written about 1085. On the wall of the south aisle is a list of vicars dating back to 1091. The greatest treasure is the ancient font, carved from a single block of Caen stone in circa 1150, showing scenes from both the bible and the legend of St Nicholas. The side chapel, now the Lady Chapel, dates from the early years of the 16th Century and may originally have been a chantry chapel. The Chancel and West walls are adorned with Victorian wall paintings, these and the 14th century screen were lovingly restored in 2009. The church contains a number of magnificent examples of the work of the famous locally-born stained glass window artist Charles Eamer Kempe (1837-1907), and tours of his work are available (see below).

Opening Times

Friday 13 September: 1pm-3pm	Also open for Mass at 12 noon
Saturday 14 September: 10am-5pm	Mass at 12 noon Michaelmas Fair and Dog Show in churchyard from 2pm-4pm Hangleton Youth Band and many stalls and refreshments – including cream teas!
Sunday 15 September: 1pm-3pm	Also Parish Eucharist at 10.30am followed by coffee and conversation
Friday 20 September: 1pm-3pm	Also open for Mass at 12 noon
Saturday 21 September: 10am-5pm	Mass at 12 noon 45 minute guided tours of the Kempe windows at 12.30pm and 13.30pm
Sunday 22 September: 1pm-3pm	Also Parish Eucharist at 10.30am followed by coffee and conversation