# **PILGRIMAGE SITES**



St Stephen's Chapel

# **ST MARY'S PARISH CHURCH**

Ottery St Mary

#### **BACKGROUND:**

This magnificent church was a familiar and cherished place for Patteson, and here he preached from its high pulpit. His mother's vast family home of Chanter's House (then Heath's Court), where she was brought up, stands in the lee of the church to the west. To the north of the churchyard you can see the Manor House where Patteson lived with his uncle while he went to the local 'Kings School' until he was 11 when he became a student at Eton.

### (Please note that these are private houses)

### TO SEE:



At the west end of the Dorset Aisle, facing the Chanter's House, is the Apostle's Window, designed in memory of Frances, Patteson's mother. She died when Patteson was still a schoolboy.

Give yourself time to properly explore the church, with its deep history of those who, mainly because of their privilege, have etched their own faith and times on its design and memorials – much of its Victorian renovation funded by the Coleridge side of Patteson's family.

Short histories of the church are available in an assortment of different languages. There is even one translated into Melanesian Pidgin – the language which all the islanders share!

#### TO DO:

Go to the side chapel on the South East end of the church – St Stephen's Chapel. There you will see a frontal inspired by the connection with Patteson and Melanesia. It is sited in St Stephens Chapel, so that next to the martyrdom of Stephen, Patteson is remembered, and more recently seven brothers of the Melanesian Brotherhood, (a religious community whose founder was inspired by Patteson). In 2003 these Brothers gave their lives in their efforts to bring peace during the civil unrest in the Solomon Islands.

#### **TO PRAY:**

Almighty God, by whose grace so many who have gone before us in the Way, kindled by a burning and a shining light in their service of others.

May the same spirit of vulnerability and love burn in us,that we may ever walk before you, in openness and joy to the end of our lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

#### TO WALK ON:

As you walk through the Devon town of Ottery, and come to the Land of Canaan, you will walk beside the poem written by Patteson's great uncle, Samuel Taylor Coleridge, carved in stone. Though remembered primarily for his poetry, a large proportion of his writings were about the nature of God and living the Christian life. So as you walk on, here are some of his words to mull on...

"Christianity is not a theory or speculation, but a life; not a philosophy of life, but a life and a living process".

Coleridge might have been describing his great nephew's life....

#### DISTANCE 2.2 miles / 3.5 km

TIME



Ottery St Mary to Patteson's Cross



OS: SY 09853 95584

Latitude/Longitude: 50°45'10"N , 003°16'45"W

What3Words: unsettled.foiled.masts

Address: St Mary's, The College, Ottery St Mary, East Devon, EX11 1DQ **OS:** SY 09568 97645

**Latitude/Longitude:** 50°46'17"N . 003°17'02"W

What3Words: vocals.ears.poorly

Address: Patteson's Cross, B3177, Gosford, Ottery St Mary, Devon, EX14 3AZ

### Directions

From the church walk down the hill and turn right onto a narrow passageway, Saddler's Lane. At the end turn right and walk past Sainsbury's Supermarket.

At the T-Junction cross the road into the Land of Canaan park – walking past Coleridge's poetry stones.

At the far side of the Land of Canaan, you can glimpse on the other side of the valley the present site of the King's School, where Patteson was a pupil. Today one of the four pupil school houses is called Patteson.

At the leat (artificial stream) turn right taking the footpath out to Canaan Way road. At the road turn left.

There is no footpath along this road, so take care and walk in single file.

Follow this road across the river bridges, and just before the entrance to Cadhay House, take the footpath on the right across the fields.

. Take care as there may be animals in the fields. These fields can become very wet.

Follow the footpath over a wooden bridge until you reach Gosford Lane. Turn right and follow the road to a T-Junction. Turn left onto Gosford Road and walk to the memorial.

There are no footpaths along these roads, so take care and walk in single file

