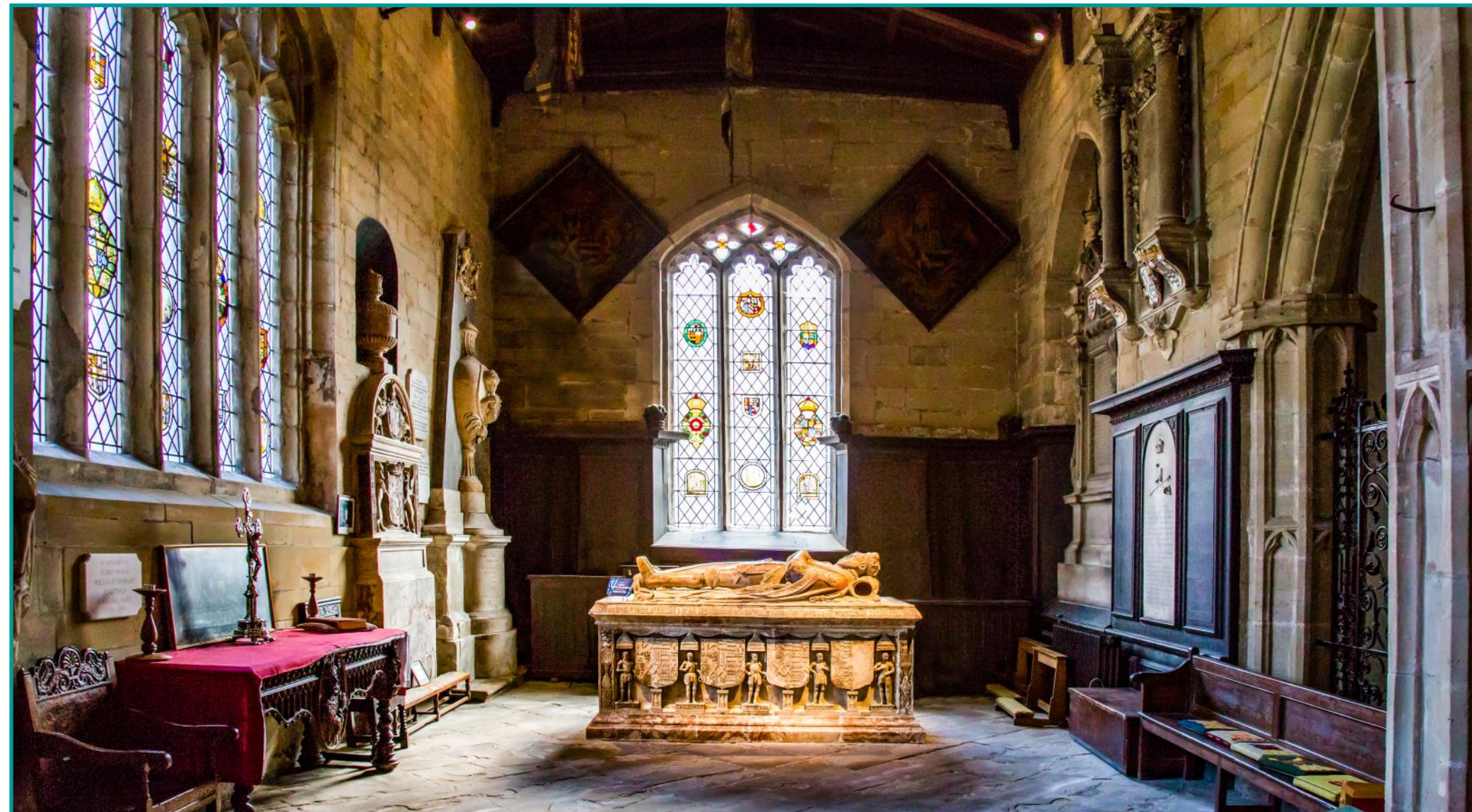


Hello Heritage...

The Hastings Family Chapel and Royal Connections at St Helen's



The Hastings Chapel, with magnificent Table Tomb at its centre.

The Hastings Tomb, carved from local alabaster by Richard Parker of Burton on Trent in the mid 16th Century, is the centrepiece of the Hastings Chapel. Around the tomb are eleven delicately carved figures - the 5 daughters and 6 sons of the main subjects. The tomb's corner pilasters carry an exquisite candelabra design. Three vaults beneath the Chapel form the last resting place of members of the Hastings family and the Chapel itself is filled with family memorials.

Important figures of the early Protestant movement are remembered here. Elizabeth Stanley, once third in line of succession to the English throne, was buried here in 1633. More recent family members Moorea Black, a 20th Century socialite, and Margaret Lane, a well known writer, are remembered here too. Many stories are told in this lovely chapel. To find out more, go to our website: www.sthelensashby.net.



Henry Hastings, the 3rd Earl of Huntingdon, erected the tomb to his parents, Francis (1514-1561) and Catherine (1511-1576). Catherine was born Catherine Pole, great grand-daughter to George Duke of Clarence.



Catherine's great-grandfather, the Duke of Clarence, who allegedly drowned in a vat of malmsey wine, was brother to English kings Edward IV and Richard III.



An archive image from the mid 20th Century, showing a visitor inspecting coffins in the closed vaults beneath the Hastings Chapel.

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