

Will of John Jones 1511

In the name of God, Amen.

On the 12th day of May in the year of our Lord 1511, I, John Jones of Shrawley, sound in mind and of good memory, make my testament in this manner.

I will that my body be buried in the chapel of Blessed Mary within the churchyard of Shrawley, opposite the parish church.

Also I bequeath to the confraternity of St Katherine of Blessed Mary, for the morning service, 12d.

Also I bequeath to the high altar of the confraternity of the parish of Shrawley aforesaid, for ten obits, 12d.

Also I bequeath for new vestments and a new cope, 21s.

Also I bequeath for the building (or repair) of the bell-tower of Martley, 6s 8d.

Also I will that one chaplain shall celebrate in the said chapel of Blessed Mary of Shrawley for my soul and for the souls of all the faithful departed, for one whole year, and shall receive and have for his stipend 100 shillings.

Also I bequeath to the wardens or proctors of the said church and chapel all that my tenement in Shrawley called Hurtillhouse,

to the following intent, that they shall celebrate ten obits and ten masses in the said chapel of Shrawley for my soul and for the souls of my ancestors, yearly and forever, as an annual charge upon the executors, wardens, and feoffees of the said Hurtillhouse for the time being.

And that the said wardens or proctors, from the rents of a certain tenement of theirs, shall yearly pay for the said anniversary 3s 4d from the rents of the said tenement.

And for the repair and upkeep of the said chapel of Blessed Mary, 3s 4d shall be paid yearly from the aforesaid rents.

The residue of all my goods not bequeathed above, my own debts and funeral expenses being paid, I give and bequeath to Aline my wife, John my son, and Thomas Jones my brother, whom I ordain, make, and appoint my true executors, that they may well and faithfully execute and fulfil my testament and last will in all things.

I appoint Philip to have the oversight of this my last will, as appears.

Witnesses: Sir Humphrey, curate there; John at Wood; John Mill; with various other witnesses present.

Translated from Latin. Translator's comments:

I think from this he had been Church Warden, or maybe warden of the wooden chapel of the Blessed Mary. Certainly, he seems more concerned with his soul than his family. Later in Elizabeth's reign his emolument for the chapel would have been confiscated and its maintenance halted. By the time Habingdon saw it (he died 1647) it was abandoned and derelict. At that time Shrawley Church was not dedicated to St Mary.