13. THE VOTIVE SHIP

The model of a ship, which depicts the schooner Christine of Halmstad, was donated in 1972 by the shipping family Kollberg. Votive means "donated because of a promise (vota)" as thanks for saving from impending danger. Such a gift could also be a memorial gift.



14. THE COLOURED ROSE WINDOWS

The two coloured rose windows in the church's crossarm are made by Erik Olson, Halmstadgruppen. The northern window depicts Bishop Nicholaus with Mary and the child. On the south side, the window which depicts the Lamb and the four creatures; a summary of the Book of Revelation, The End Times. Together, the colored windows of the church make up a compilation of the Bible's history of salvation: from the Old Testament's Advent (in the northern sideship) to the Completion of Time in the Lord Jesus (in the ambulatorium) and, finally, the end of time (the south rose window).

15. THE CHAPELS In the north-west corner of the church, Gagge's chapel is situated. Here the Danish nobleman Claus Gagge and his family lie to rest. Gagge, who died in 1634, was, among other things, landlord of Arlösa estate, just east of Halmstad. The chapel is separated from the rest of the church by a Renaissance-style sculpted railing. In the southwest corner of the church Ranck's chapel is situated. Here the Swedish nobleman and major, general Sven Ranck and his family, lie to rest. Ranck, who died in 1684, was also governor of Halland. The chapel is separated from the rest of the church by a baroque-style sculpted railing. On the site above Ranck's chapel, field marshal Carl Henrik Wrangel and his wife lie to rest in two marble sarcophagi. Wrangel, who died in 1755, was a soldier in the army of Charles XII. The chandelier in the chapel was donated in 1873 by Brita Christina Ljungberg, widow of merchant Petter Ljungberg.



16. THE BAPTISM AND WEDDING CHAPEL

This chapel is located above Gagge's chapel and has its entrance from the church porch. The baptismal font, signed Erik Olson, is from 1972 and consists of forged copper with red and blue glass indents and a bowl made of blue glass. The altar piece from 1952, which consists of parts from a previous, larger altar piece that once adorned the church's high altar, was probably carried out around 1600 by Hans van Steenwinkel, the elder. The organ was built by Nils Hammarberg, Göteborg, and was in place in 1960. The painted window by artist Einar Forseth was put up in 1953. Its main motif is "Jesus blesses the children", inset in Halmstad environment with a background depicting the church, the town hall, the half-timbered house "Tre Hjärtan", and the castle. The chandelier in the chapel was donated in 1873 by widow Brita Christina Ljungberg.

17. THE CHURCH PORCH In the porch, the church bell, the oldest preserved piece in the church, is put up. It was moulded in Halmstad in 1667 and weighs around 500 kg.

18. THE GRAVE-SLABS In connection with the restoration 1938-1941, 58 different burial slabs were found, of which 15 were from the Middle Ages. The different grave-slabs are situated in the porch, the ambulatorium and the lawn. Some are made up of only fragments and are placed in the storage room of the church tower.

19. THE LANTERNS

During the renovation in 1988, the church was provided with new lanterns outside the main entrance. They were manufactured around 1950 after an older original and were previously placed outside the old, now demolished, house, which used to be the Masonic Lodge.

Photos marked * are made by photographer IAN Schemper, other photos are made by Anita Bergman. Original Swedish text: Peter Lundqvist. Translation: Carina Wahlstedt Janson.







St. Nikolai Church





Photo IAN Schemper

The city of Halmstad was moved closer to the coast in the 1320s. The building of The Nikolai Church, however, was not begun until early 1400s and was finished in the 1460s. The church is named after St Nicholas, the saint of seafarers, and was restored on several occasions, among others during the periods 1757-1760, 1869-1872, and 1938-1941.





1. THE HIGH ALTAR

The altar piece is a gift from Count Jöran Sperling in memory of his first wife, Ingeborg Lilliehöök in 1675. They both lie to rest in a brick tomb under the altar. The paintings were made by Johann Heinrich Wedekind in 1716. On the back of the altar piece there is a painting, Series Pastorum, with all the names of the vicars of St. Nicholas Church from the Middle Ages to present days.

2. THE PULPIT

The pulpit is a gift from Mayor Albrekt Pedersön Mackum, who died in1634. The Bible text citation written in Danish recalls the Danish era in the history of Halland.

3. THE BAPTISMAL FONT

The baptismal font, made of grey-green granite, is a gift from Hans Plöne in 1479. The middle part of the font made of ore was added in 1587 through Mayor Hans Markorssen.

4. THE ICONS

The St. Nicholas icon, south of the high altar, was inaugurated at the reopening following the renovation in 1988. The Mary icon, on the corresponding north side, was inaugurated in the summer 2001. Artist: Bengt-Olof Kälde.

5. THE ALTAR SANCTUARY ORGAN

The organ in the altar sanctuary was built in 1977-1978 by Åkerman & Lund with Knut Kaliff as architect and tuner. The organ, which has 19 voices, links to the sound ideal of the late 18th century.

6. THE ORGAN LOFT The organ was built in 2002-2003 by Pels & van Leeuwen from Holland. The organ is symphonic in french-romantic style with 54 voices and 3714 pipes. It is tuned by Peter van Rumpt. Its façade was created in 1941 by Ivar Tengbom.

7. THE CHANDELIERS Chandelier No. 1, viewed from the high altar, was a gift from Mayor Albert Pedersen Machum through his widow Thale Hansdater Grims in 1635. Chandelier No. 2 is a gift from Mayor Peder Ebbesön's widow Anne Erickhsdater. Chandelier No. 3 was a gift from merchant Frederich Albertsen Machum and his wife Elisabeth Andersdater in 1638.





8. ST. ANDREW'S CHAPEL

This chapel, where the church's candle holder is located, was added in 2012 and is designed for individual prayer and devotion. The altar composition was made in 1965 from drawings by Erik Olson, Halmstadgruppen. The two forged images in the railing represent Advent of Christ: the birth and the first Christmas, and the return at the last judgment. The five marks of Christ's wounds are represented in the cross placed in the middle.



9. S:T ERIK'S CHAPEL

This chapel, which seats 36 people, was also added in 2012 and is designed for services of a smaller format. The altar piece was made in 1872 by mirror manufacturer Isac August Andersson, Halmstad, and constituted, until 1938, the high altar of the church. All is still intact, except for the altar table, where only the front is preserved.

10. THE MARY CHAPEL

The Mary Chapel consists of a portable altar table. The six chairs were manufactured in the 1940s from a drawing by Professor Ivar Tengbom, Stockholm. Before 1869, the clogged door in the wall led to the medieval vestry of the church. The wooden sculpture depicts the apostle John with his attribute, the eagle.

11. THE RAILING

The forged railing around the high altar is constructed from a drawing by Ivar Tengbom. The theme of the images of the railing, seen from south to north, is the Bible's salvation story.

12. THE WINDOW PAINTINGS IN THE AMBULATORIUM

The eight coloured windows were added between the years 1955 and 1978. Artist: Einar Forseth, Stockholm. They represent (from north to south)

- 1. The Mary Window: Virgin Mary's Annunciation
- 2. Jesus the teacher, the Beatitudes
- 3. Jesus the crucified
- 4. Crucified Christ —
- The window of symbols.
- 5. The Resurrected Christ— The window of symbols
- 6. The Resurrected Lord
- 7. Jesus the healer: Our Lord's Prayer.
- 8. Christ as the Lord of History -World Mission.







