The Pricke of Conscience is a poem on the Last Days once attributed to Richard Rolle, now ascribed to an anonymous fourteenth-century author. In the early fifteenth century copies of the poem were known to have been in the possession of important members of the Yorkshire laity, including Alice Bolton who gave windows to All Saints, North Street, York.

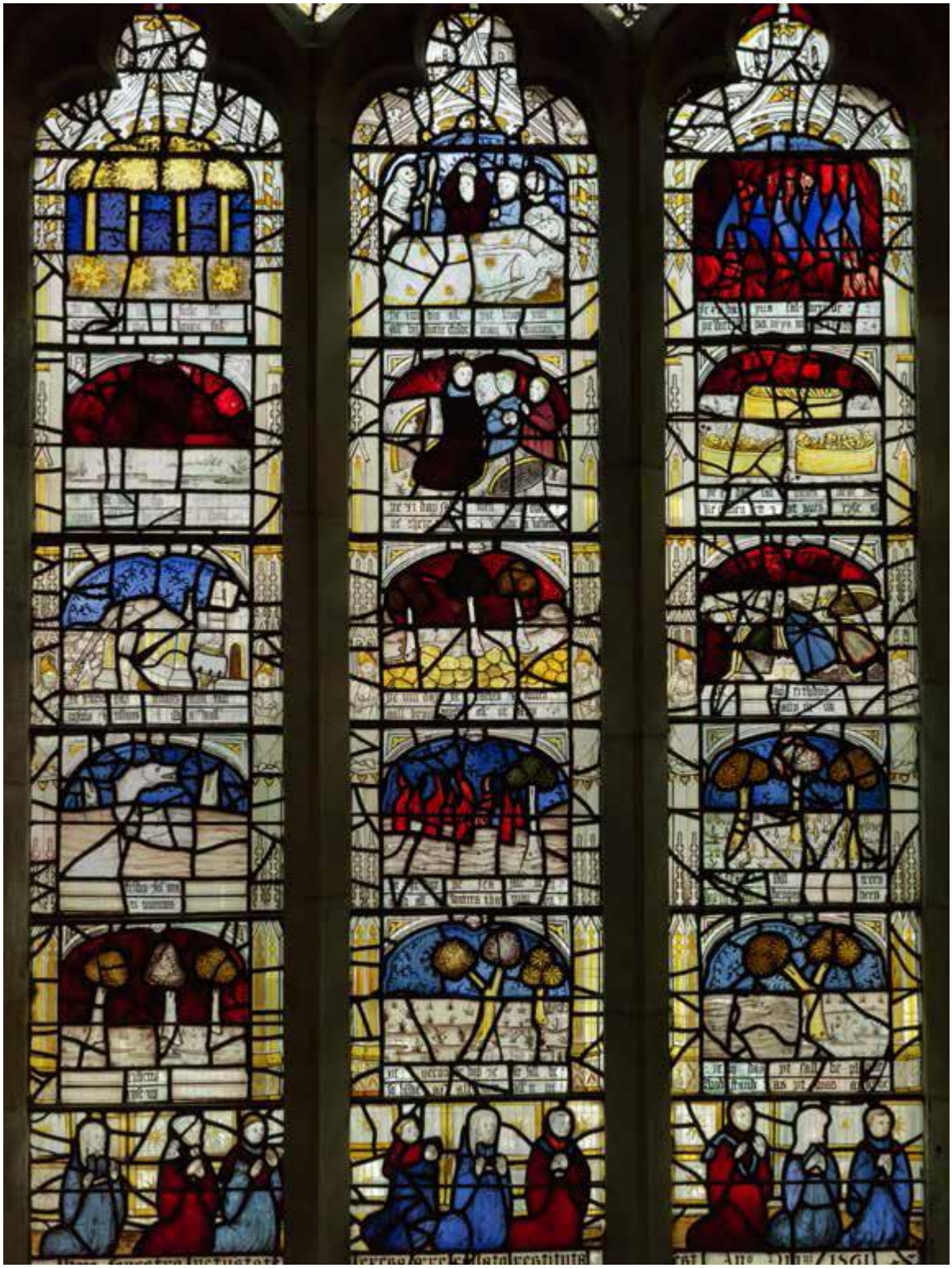
A window on the theme of the poem (the Book of Revelations from the Bible) at All Saints is dated c. 1410. An image of the window is provided below the text.

See for the text, *The Pricke of Conscience (Stimulus Conscientiae), A Northumbrian Poem by Richard Rolle de Hampole* ed. Richard Morris. A. Asher and Co.: Berlin, 1863.

There must originally have been an inscription in each segment of the window: some are missing now. Inscriptions on the windows invariably condense lines of the poem. These inscriptions can be seen if you visit: http://college.holycross.edu/projects/kempe/parish/pricke.htm where you will find an original version of the text.

In the format below:

A provides the number of the window panel at All Saints, North Street
B provides the line number of the original poem
C provides the original text
D provides a translation into Modern English and is reproduced from All Saints, North St., York Publications, with thanks.

A	B	C	D
1	4759-4763	The se sal ryse, als the bukes says Abouten the heght of ilka mountayne Fully fourty cubyttes certayne And in his stede even upstande Als an hegte hille dus on the lande.	The sea shall rise, as the book says, About as much as a mountain's height (That's forty cubits tall all right) And so the sea will rise and stand Just like a hill does on the land.
2	4764-4765	The secunde day, the se sal be swa law That unnethes men sal it knaw.	The **second day** the sea will fall So low that people will see under all
3	4766-4769	The thred day, the se sal seme playn And stand even in his cours again, Also it stode first at the bygynnyng With-outen mare rysng or fallyng.	The **third day**, the sea will seem plain And act as it normally does again Just like it did first, there at the start No more rising or falling of every part
4	4770-4775	The fierth day, sal swilk a wonder be The mast wondreful fisshes of the se Sal com to-gyder and mak swilk romyng That it sal be hydus til mans heryng Bot what that romiyng sal signify, Na man whit, bot God almyghty.	The **fourth day** there will wonder be: The most crazy fishes of the sea Shall come together and make such a din Hideous to hear when they begin But what they mean by all their cries No-one but God will ever surmise
5	4776-4779	The fift day, the se sal brynne And alle watters als thai sal rynne; And that sal last fra the son rysing Till the tyme of the son doun gangyng.	On the **fifth day** the sea will burn And other waters run and turn And this will last from the sun's rise Until the sun sets in the skies.
6	4780-4780	The sext day, sal spryng a blody dewe On grisse and tres, alss it sal shewe.	On the **sixth day** will form a bloody dew On grass and tree, all plain to view
7	4782-4783	The sevend day begynns doun sal falle And grete castels, and tour with-alle.	The **seventh day**, strong buildings will fall Along with great castles, then towers tall.
8		The eght day, hard roches and stanes Sal strik togyder, alle attanes. An ilkan of tham sal other doun cast And ilkan agayn other hortel fast Swa that ilka stan, on diverse wyse, Sal sonder other in thre partyse.	The **eighth day**, hard stones and rock By themselves will crash and knock. And one shall smash the other past Then that one bounce and hurtle fast Then other stones, differently Will shatter each other in pieces three.

9	4790-4793	The neghend day, gret erthedyn dal be, Generaly in ilka contré And swa gret erthdyn als sal be than Was never hard, sythen the world bygan.	The **ninth day** there will be an earthquake, And all the country wide will shake A bigger quake there never was than This one now, since the world began.
10	4794-4797	The tend day thar-aftir to neven The erthe sal be made playn and even, For hilles and vales sal turned be In-til playn, and made even to se.	The **tenth day** (to give it its name) The earth shall be made flat and plain, For hills and valleys shall turned be Onto a large plain, and made smooth to see.
11	4798-4801	The ellevend day men sal com out Of caves, and holes and wend about, Als wode men that ne witt can; And nane sal spek til other than.	The **eleventh day**, people will come out Of caves and holes, and wander about Like madmen do, who've lost their mind And no-one will speak to the people they find.
12	4804-4807	The thredend day sal dede men banes Be sett to-gyder, and ryse al attanes, And aboven on thair graves stand; This sal byfalle in ilka land.	The **twelfth day** after, the stars and all The planets in the high heavens shall fall
NB: In the window at All Saints North Street, York, the 12th and 13th days are interchanged from the order in Rolle's poem			
13	4802-4803	The twelfte day aftir, the sternes alle And the signes fra the heven sal falle.	The **thirteenth day** shall dead people's bones Be put back together, and then rise all alone And each above their own grave stand; And this shall happen all over the land
14	4808-4811	The fourtend day, al that lyves than Sal dighe, childe man and woman; For thai shalle with tham rys ogayn That byfor war dede, outher til ioy or payn.	The **fourteenth day** shall all living then Die: children, women, men For they will with thenm rise again Who were then dead – to joy or pain.
15	4812-4815	The fiftend day thos sal betyde, Alle the world sal bryn on ilke syde, And the erthe whar we now duelle, Until the utter end of all helle.	The **fifteenth day**, this shall transpire: All the world will burn in fire – Yes, all the earth where now we dwell – Until the final death of Hell.
Concluding lines from the original.	4816-4824	Thus tells Jerome their tokens fifteen, As he in the books of Hebrews had seen, But for all the tokens that men shall see, That shall no man certain be What time Christ shall come to the doom, So suddenly He down shall come, For as befel in Noah and Lot's days, So shall He come, for Luke in the Gospel says *Et sicut factum est in diebus Noe, ita erit in illis diebus*