

THE SAINT LEGER CHURCH

The origin of the Saint Leger church goes back to the 12th century, and its foundation may be linked to the Masevaux Abbey, owner of goods in Rixheim, which was put under the patronage of Saint Leger.

In the Middle-Age, the building was part of a strengthened place, including the cemetery surrounded by a fortified wall and the bell-tower, with loopholes. In the 16th century the church was redesigned as shows the second storey of the bell-tower.

In 1781, since the church had become too small and in bad condition, works were done by the architect François-Antoine Zeller. The choir and the nave were rebuilt and the bell-tower

raised again. The renovated building was inaugurated on September 22nd, 1786 by the bishop from Bâle, Joseph de Roggenbach.

In 1895, the industrial entrepreneur Ivan Zuber, donated a new clock which remained in function until 1969 where it has been replaced by an electrical mechanism.



The mission cross of 1905 reminds that during the first three Sundays of Careme of this year, the redemptorist fathers of the Riedisheim convent, came to launch a mission of faith reviving in the parish.

Indulgences were issued specially, namely 7 years and 280 days for anyone who prays 7 Ave Maria in front of this cross.

Under the 1905 plate, lays another entry, an extract from the Jeremie's Book of Lamentations. The cross is therefore older than 1905 and it could be the cross of the old cemetery that previously surrounded the church.



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