

Brasses 4

G.



On the south wall of the **Chancel**, beside the altar rail is the brass of a priest wearing Eucharistic vestments and holding a chalice, on the top of which is a wafer. There was originally an engraved cross on it. The translation of the inscription reads :

*“Here rests Sir John Heynys
priest sometime vicar of Monkton who
died ninth October A.D. 1523”*

There was a tradition at this date of calling the priest ‘sir’. The use of title ‘Reverend’ was in use in the 15th C, but most people (including Shakespeare) referred to the clergy as ‘Sir’, derived from the French word ‘Seigneur’ (Father) out of respect. This term was often also used for one’s own father.

The words “*on whos soul may Jesu have mercy*” were removed from the end of the inscriptions, as was the cross on the wafer, at the time of the Reformation, c. 1540, because they were deemed “popish”.