

According to tradition, the chapel of Locoal-Camors would be the last hermitage of Saint Goal where he ended his life.

**The building as it stands today is the result of a reconstruction carried out around 1820.** Of the original chapel, only the carved western door is left, presumably dated from the XV<sup>th</sup> century.

The chapel has undergone many changes. The current western façade shows at least two alterations: the construction of a stone pinnacle above the original doorway and the elevation of the nave made during the reconstruction of the transept and choir.

**The chapel shelters a wealth of statues.**

In the choir above the door to the sacristy, **a polychrome wood carved statue of Saint Goal** dated from the XVIII<sup>th</sup> century.

To his left, **a polychrome wood statue of St John the Evangelist** from the XVII<sup>th</sup> century and to his right a similar made of the Virgin and Child from the XVIII<sup>th</sup> century.

On the north wall of the choir, the polychrome wood statue of Saint Armel is from the XVI<sup>th</sup> century. Saint Armel wearing a gothic chasuble keeps the dragon trapped in his stole.

Facing St Armel is Sainte Apolline, hands tied with a rope. This statue dates from the XVIII<sup>th</sup> century.

Near the door of the south transept, there is **an amazing granite holy water font carved with two heads, dated from the XV<sup>th</sup> century.**

Inside the sacristy, there is a rare piece of furniture from the beginning of the 17th century : a cabinet with an engraved door where one can read: **"FAICT FAIRE PAR LOUY LEBOUHEC TRESOLIER POUR SAINT GUDAL 1600 LANNEE DU GRAND YVER"** (Made by Louy Lebouhec, Treasurer of Saint Goal, in 1600, the year of the great winter).

There are few cabinets from this period and this one is probably one of the oldest in the Morbihan region. Its engraving is an important historical record of a harsh and deadly winter.

According to Didier Cattiaut, cabinetmaker in Locoal-Camors, this cabinet was meant to store things inside the sacristy, hence its small size.

The lack of finish confirms the idea that this furniture was made for a practical purpose rather than decorative. For some unknown reason, the front of the cabinet has been used to close a niche. Like most of the furniture in Morbihan, this cabinet is made of chestnut.

**Saint Goal was born around 590 in Britain.** He would have been educated by monks in a monastery founded by Saint Cado. He became a monk in this abbey before being appointed Abbot of the famous Abbey around 620.

**In 627, Saint Malo, Bishop of Armorica came to fetch him to make him his successor.** After much hesitation, he finally accepted. But after some time, he chose to retire with other priests in Guer, before moving with twelve of his monks on an island of the Etel River that will be first renamed "the island of Goal" than "Locoal". There, he built a monastery and a church to welcome his disciples.

As crowds started invading his retirement place, the holy monk left with 7 other monks to settle in the forest of Camors where he built a new monastery in Locoal-Camors where he died in 640.