

**YOUR NAME**

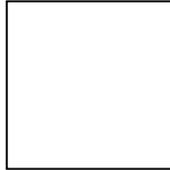
Start the trail at the grey arrow. Follow the numbers from 1-14  
As you go around count the number of skulls you see on the memorials.

## 1. CHURCH

What faith is followed in a church? Is it:

- a) Islam b) Christianity c) Judaism d) Hinduism

Draw a circle around the answer you have chosen



What is the main symbol of Christianity?  
Draw it in the box.

## 2. CHANCELLOR'S CHAIR

Who sits in this seat at formal university services?

\_\_\_\_\_

There is a plaque above it – what is on the plaque?

\_\_\_\_\_



## 3. FONT

A font holds water for a special use – do you know what it is for?

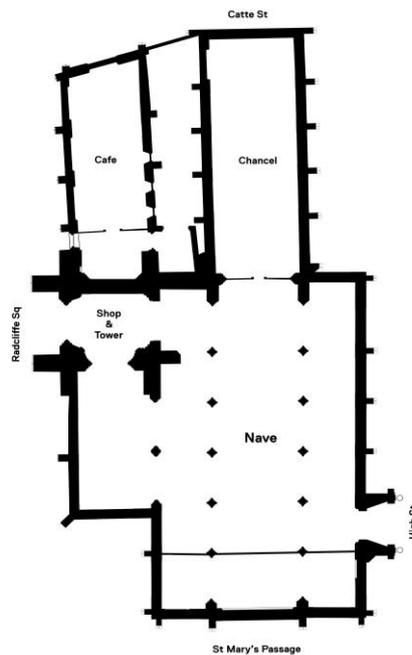
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How many sides does this font have?

\_\_\_\_\_



**EAST**



**WEST**

## 4. THE CHANCELLOR'S COURT

Can you find this chair? Oxford University judged legal cases that involved students here. According to the tapestry, how much was Nicholas Haight fined for insulting a tailor in 1462? And how else was he punished?



## 5. ADAM DE BROME MEMORIAL

Can you find this tomb? It is of Adam de Brome who became Rector of this church in 1320. Can you work out in what year he died?



## 6. PILLAR

This pillar was cut into in 1556 and a platform put on it. Which Martyr was made to stand on it so that congregation could see him clearly on the day he was executed?



## 7. MARTYR'S PLAQUE

According to this plaque, in which year were most Oxford people executed for their religious beliefs?



## 8. ALTAR

What colour cloth covers the altar today?

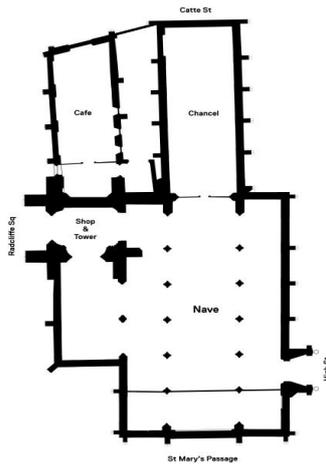
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The Altar is always at the east end of a church. Why?

\_\_\_\_\_



## EAST



## 9. ST. FRIDESWIDE

Looking at the stone carvings of people behind the altar, can you see a woman carrying a model of a church? What is her significance to Oxford?

P\_\_\_\_\_ SAINT



## 10. SKULLS

Can you find this skull on the south side of the Nave? What is the name of the person on the memorial?

\_\_\_\_\_

How many other skulls can you find in this church?

\_\_\_\_\_



## 11. PULPIT

What is a pulpit for?

\_\_\_\_\_

How many steps are there in the pulpit?

\_\_\_\_\_

Why is it so high?

\_\_\_\_\_



## 12. WEST WINDOW

Go up the stairs to the Gallery and look at the stained glass window. There are two men on each of the left and right edges. Going from L to R, which creatures can you see with the four men?

1. A N \_ \_ L
2. L \_ \_ N
3. O \_
4. E \_ \_ L E



## 13. THE GANDHI BOSS

Following the window to the righthand side, look up at the Boss of Mahatma Gandhi. Can you see it? On what part of the building are bosses like this found?

\_\_\_\_\_

Gandhi believed in non-violence and led a peaceful campaign to make the British give up ruling his country. Which country was that?

\_\_\_\_\_



## 14. WELL DONE!

You have finished the Trail. Before you go, sit quietly near the back of the Church. What did you like best in the church and why?

\_\_\_\_\_

Write two words that best describe the Church.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_



## TRAIL ANSWERS AND EXPLANATORY NOTES

Standing in the very centre of Oxford, the University Church is the spiritual heart of the oldest University in Britain. It has been the scene of some of the most dramatic events in English religious history, from the trials of the Protestant martyrs to the launch of the Oxford Movement. Today it continues as vibrant as ever.

### 1. CHURCH

**Christianity.** Churches are places where followers of the Christian faith come together to worship. The main symbol of a Christianity is a **Cross**.

### 2 CHANCELLOR'S CHAIR

**A Chancellor** is the ceremonial head of a college or university. He or she is usually a distinguished individual, from academia or public life and does not hold any other University office. The Chancellor presides at major ceremonies. **The Vice-Chancellor** is the chief executive of the University.

**The University Crest, or Coat of Arms,** depicts an open book with the inscription Dominus Illuminatio Mea (The Lord is my light), surrounded by three golden crowns. The coat of arms has been in existence since around 1400, varying in appearance over the centuries.

### 3. FONT

**A font** is a large bowl, usually stone with a lead lining, at which **people are baptised** with water as a Sign that they have become a Christian and a member of the worldwide church. This font has **8 sides**.

### 4. THE CHANCELLOR'S COURT

#### **20 Shillings and Imprisonment**

The tapestry is nailed to the back of the bench. You may need to flip it over to be able to see the answer. There used to be two separate legal systems which existed side by side: one for 'Gown' (university students) and another for 'Town'. For centuries there was friction between Gown and Town and in 1355 there were two days of rioting between the students and the townspeople that left nearly 100 people dead.

### 5. ADAM DE BROME MEMORIAL

#### **MCCCXXXII = 1332 (bonus points for 16 June)**

Adam de Brome also founded a College in 1324 which he named after St. Mary, like this Church,. He called his College The House of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Oxford, and it is opposite this church on the other side of the High Street. It is now called Oriel College.

### 6. PILLAR

**Thomas Cranmer.** Thomas Cranmer was the Archbishop who, by helping Henry VIII make England a Protestant country, made it possible for Henry to divorce his first wife, Catherine of Aragon, in 1533. When Mary, who was the daughter of Henry and Catherine, became Queen in 1553 she wanted everyone to be Catholic, and Cranmer was tried for treason and heresy because of his Protestant views. In 1556 he was brought to St. Mary's from prison so that he could tell the congregation that he recanted – that is to say, tell them that he was no longer a Protestant. The platform was raised so that he could be seen during his interrogation from the pulpit by the handpicked group of senior academics headed by the then Master of Balliol College. Cranmer was a Cambridge man and was interrogated in Oxford where there would be men of equal intelligence and learning to try him. Oxford was also a monarchist university so Mary knew she would get a sympathetic reaction. But he refused to recant and was taken to nearby Broad Street where he was burnt at the stake.

If you want to see where this happened, there is an inlaid cross in the road outside Balliol College to mark the spot. As Archbishop of Canterbury, Cranmer had helped to write the Book of Common Prayer.

## 7. THE MARTYRS' PLAQUE

**1589. 4 men were executed.** In the 1530s, Henry VIII decided that the country should worship God in accordance with Protestant, not Catholic, beliefs. This plaque names people associated with Oxford who were killed because they worshipped in a way that their King or Queen had banned. This plaque is notable because it lists the dead of both sides without distinguishing the Protestant martyrs from the Catholics.

## 8. ALTAR

**There are four principal Liturgical colours which are used for altar cloths:** Purple or dark blue for Advent (the beginning of the church year), Lent and for funerals; White or gold for Easter and Eastertide (the period after Easter), Christmas tide and Epiphany and Epiphany tide; Red for Saints Days; and Green, the most common colour, used during what's known as 'Ordinary Time', which is after Trinity Sunday until the first Sunday in Advent. Altars traditionally face East because it states in the Bible that for the Second Coming **"the Son of Man will come from the East"** (Matthew 24.27).

## 9. ST. FRIDESWIDE

**Patron Saint:** St. Frideswide is said to have been a Saxon princess who lived in the area around Oxford in the 800s AD. She became a Christian nun and founded the St. Frideswide Priory. She devoted her life to good works and Christian worship. The model of a church she is carrying is that of the priory she founded. There is a shrine to her and a stained glass window telling her story in Christ Church Cathedral.

## 10. SKULLS

**Gulielmus Doble.** The primary reason skulls appear on memorials both inside and outside a church is as a Memento Mori, to remind us of our own mortality. Skulls are a symbol of death and 'memento mori' translates as "Remember you must die". We have counted **10** skulls in the church.

## 11. PULPIT

**The preacher delivers a sermon or talk from the pulpit** to all the people who have come to worship in the church that day There are **9 steps** up to the pulpit. **It is raised so that the preacher can be seen and heard easily by the congregation.** Pulpits are made from any building material, e.g. wood, stone or metal and are highly decorated,

## 12. THE WEST WINDOW

The four figures at the bottom of the window are the four writers of the four gospels in the New Testament of the Bible. They are Matthew, Mark, Luke and John and they each have their own symbol or attribute: **an Angel for St. Matthew, a Lion for St. Mark, an Ox for St. Luke, and an Eagle for St. John.** The window also shows the Tree of Jesse. This is a picture map of all the people Jesus was descended from. The Tree rises from Jesse of Bethlehem, the father of King David and the first ancestor of Jesus. It is like a family tree for Jesus. The window was designed by a stained glass artist of the 19<sup>th</sup> century called Charles Kempe.

## 13. THE GANDHI BOSS

**Bosses are on the ceiling..** Mahatma Gandhi believed in non-violence and led a peaceful and successful campaign to make the British give up ruling his country and give back its Independence. The country is **India.**

