

## Trail Answers and Explanatory Notes

The present church, which was built on the site of the original building that dated back to about 1200, was built in 1861 at a cost of nearly £4,000. Some of the old monuments have been incorporated in the new building and are housed mainly in the porch. These include an effigy of Katherine Blount d.1617 mounted high up above the chest and a stoup, the scooped out stone used for holding Holy Water to dip your finger in and cross yourself as you entered the church.

### 1. FONT

**Water** is put in it and there are **8** sides. The font is used at Baptism (Christening) when someone becomes a member of the church.

In medieval times the water used for Holy Baptisms was blessed at Easter and then kept in the Font. The Font had a locked cover to keep the Holy Water clean and prevent it being stolen and used for witchcraft or other rituals. Nowadays fresh water is blessed on the day of the baptism. The Font is traditionally placed near the church entrance to signify entry into the Christian faith by baptism.

### 2. BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

The flower is a **poppy**.

It is the flower worn on Remembrance Sunday because of all the poppies that grew on the battlefields of Flanders in the First World War. The book has the names of the men of Slinfold who died in the Second World War.

### 3. LECTERN

The Lectern holds the **Holy Bible**.

This Lectern is made of brass. Sometimes lecterns are shaped like an eagle with outspread wings because eagles were thought to be the bird that could fly the highest and so nearer to heaven.

### 4. PULPIT

It is raised up so that the preacher can be **seen and heard** when he or she stands here giving a talk to the congregation (people in church) – and also so that he or she can see the congregation.

The animals are a **Lion**, an **Ox**, an **Eagle** and a **Lamb**.

The Evangelists wrote the gospels of the New Testament. They each have a symbol: St Matthew – a winged man (who is not shown here), St Mark – a lion, St Luke – an ox, and St John – an eagle, and here Jesus is depicted with the Lamb.

### 5. ALTAR

It is the focal point of the church where words and actions from the Last Supper form part of the Eucharist (Holy Communion or Mass) that is the main Christian Act of worship. Before the Reformation (mid 16<sup>th</sup> century) the Altar was made of stone; afterwards it was replaced by a wooden table covered with a 'Fair Linen Cloth' as instructed in the Book of Common Prayer.

### 6 REREDOS

They are **eating**. There are **13** of them.

The stone picture is of Jesus and his 12 disciples at the Last Supper. The Bible tells us that this meal took place just before the disciple Judas betrayed Jesus. This led to Jesus' arrest and crucifixion followed by his resurrection. Christians commemorate his resurrection at Easter.

## 7. EAST WINDOW

The windows behind the altar depicts six scenes, three on the right and three on the left of the central panel and the one to be ticked is the **bottom right-hand one** showing St Leonard who worked to free prisoners. The other scenes refer to other stories from the Bible about saints.

## 8. MARRIAGE WINDOW

On the right of the altar is a window in memory of a man and wife's marriage and the inscription finishes '**put asunder** – which is another way of saying separate.

## 9. CHANCEL FLOOR

There are three shapes of tiles used on the floor - **rectangles, squares and triangles**. Together they make up intricate patterns typical of Victorian tile work.

Originally the Chancel was the area reserved for the clergy at the east end of the church and was divided off from the nave by a screen.

## 10. SEATS or BENCHES

**8** people can sit comfortably in the longest seat according to the kneelers.

Properly, pews are boxed in with a door, so these are really benches but everyone calls them pews nowadays.

## 11. THE COMMANDMENTS

Number 8, or in Roman numerals VIII, says '**Thou Shalt Not Steal**'.

According to the Bible, the Ten Commandments were written on tablets of stone and were given by God to the prophet Moses.

## 12. SCREEN

The Screen by the vestry door and the kneelers were all made by ladies of Slinfold and nearly every kneeler has a lamb embroidered on it.

## 13. PARISH CHEST (Porch)

The three locks were for **security**.

The Parish Chest has 3 locks because 3 different people held keys: the priest and the two churchwardens. The chest would have contained the valuables: silver, money and documents belonging to the church and could only be opened when all three people were present.

## 14. SCREEN (Porch)

The wooden screen has **31** names on it. There are 3 with the family name of Knight, 3 Freemans, 2 Farleys and 2 Charmans. Also, on the right of the main door as you enter, is a Roll of Honour which unusually has the names of women as well as men.

## 15. EFFIGY of a LADY

The statue or effigy dates from the 14<sup>th</sup> century so she is some **700** years old. You can see this from her medieval clothes - a long loose gown, tight sleeves, a wimple and veil kerchief. At Easter a bunch of flowers is traditionally put in her hand. She is known as the Lady of Dedisham.