

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BURGHILL, HEREFORD HR4 7SG

Trail for children

(and accompanying adults)

YOUR NAME

Start the trail at the grey arrow Follow the numbers from 1-11.

1 FONT

The font is over 900 years old. A font is where baptisms (christenings) take place. Baptism is the way people become members of the church - the way in - so the font is usually near the entrance door to show that the person is at the beginning of their spiritual journey in the Christian Church.

Find the font on the plan of the church and mark it with an **F**. What is the font made from?



2 BAPTISTRY WINDOW

At the top of the window is a bird. Underline the name of the bird.

Robin

Dove

Blackbird



3 BENEFACTORS' BOARD

S__ _ L__ _

How much each year did Mrs Ann Martin give to be spent on bread for the poor people of this parish?

5 QUILT

At the time of the new millennium people wanted to celebrate all the activities which took place in the village at that time. Each group sewed a square.

What year was this quilt made?

Tick the place in the box where you can find each of these groups in the quilt.

Cricket Club		
Burghill County Primary School		
Yoga		
Burghill		
Church Choir		

EAST St John the Baptist's Chapel **WEST**

7 SCREEN

Originally the screen would have been part of a larger one dividing the Nave of the church from the Chancel. The screen was made over 600 years ago and was later restored in Victorian times.

Look for the date when the screen was restored and write it here.

4 PILLARS

Find the pillars on the plan in the north and south aisles.

Are they the same shape? ___

Which aisle has the rounded or cylindrical pillars?

Which aisle has the octagonal prism pillars?

6 PULPIT

The pulpit is used by the priest to give sermons or talks.



How many sides does the pulpit

have?

What shape is it?

h__x__g__n__l

8 ROBERT MASTERS

Open the rail and enter the altar area. Find the memorial plaques for Robert Masters, who died in 1619.

Here lyeth the bodye of Robert
Masters gent. late lord of this
manovr who travelled with
Thomas Cavendish Esqr. to
Virginia and afterwards abovte the
globe of ye whole world.

The smallest brass plaque shows a globe of the world.

Why do you think a globe has been chosen to remember him?



NAVE NAVE SOUTH AISLE SOUTH AISLE

EAST

9 REREDOS

Behind the altar is the carved, wooden reredos made by local craftsmen in 1887.

The large figures show the 4 men who wrote the first Gospels in the New Testament of the Bible.

Matthew is holding a **B** ___ __ __

Mark is holding a book with a

F __ _ _ on it.

Luke holds a **S**

John holds a **C** __ _ , known as a chalice.

10 TOMB

Sir John and Lady Milbourne were rich people who lived in Tillington Court over 600 years ago. They were so important in Burghill that originally their tomb stood in the middle of the Chancel.

Talk about what clothes they are wearing.

Why do you think this tomb is so damaged?

11 TILES

The floor tiles were made locally by Godwin and Hewitt.



Copy your favourite pattern here.

When you leave the church you may like to pass by the carving of the bishop on the south wall at the front of the church. Parts of this carving are over 600 years old and we know it is a Bishop as he is wearing a mitre on his head. He may be placed here to face Llanthony Abbey in the Black Mountains. Hundreds of years ago Llanthony Abbey was in charge of Burghill Church. You may like to visit the abbey another day.

Yew trees are often found in churchyards marking a sacred site. Before a church was built a preacher often preached under a Yew tree. It was a sign of death, rebirth and immortality because branches touching the ground take root and sprout again. Yew trees are poisonous, so by planting them in enclosed churchyards cattle were safe from eating the berries. Yew wood is traditionally used for making longbows. By planting Yew trees in churchyards there was always wood available to make bows for use in battle.

You may like to walk to the top of the churchyard, sit on the bench for a moment and think about the 2 very different areas of the graveyard. Notice the neat rows of gravestones nearer to the church and the wilder area where you are sitting. Not far from this church once stood the Hereford County & City Lunatic Asylum, built in 1871. Later, from 1948, it was known as St Mary's Hospital, which was the start of the National Health Service, and was where people with a mental illness lived out their lives. Over the years when the hospital existed about 2,000 people died and are now buried in unmarked graves in the wild area close to where you are sitting. The hospital was built originally for the ordinary people who needed help and care when they found life difficult.

The care they had gave peace and security for these

people and their families.

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, BURGHILL, HR4 7SG



Trail Answers and Explanatory Notes for Parents and Teachers

Children's Answers are in Bold. Further information is for interest and discussion.

Welcome Burghill church stands on an elevated site overlooking the village and the many Yew trees in the churchyard are some of the finest in the country. William Wordsworth and Edward Elgar are known to have visited the church and we hope that you will enjoy the church as much as they did.

1. FONT

This font is made from carved **stone**, **lead and wood**. The stone stem of the font showing Jesus and his 12 disciples is the oldest part and has been damaged over the years. (The disciples are again remembered in the 12 yew trees that lined your approach to the church.) The lead bowl is one of only 2 lead bowls within the diocese, the other being in Aston Ingham. Water is put into the bowl when a person is christened and, at baptism, water from the font is sprinkled on the forehead to signify the washing away of a person's sins.

2. BAPTISTRY WINDOW

The bird is a **dove**. The dove represents the Holy Spirit flowing down to a person at baptism. As you follow the trail notice the other stained glass windows, all of which have been paid for by families to remember their loved ones.

3. BENEFACTORS' BOARDS

Ann Martin gave £5 a year to be spent on bread. Benefactors have always been important. On this board you can see benefactors giving money for food and education and on the matching board on the right of the door they are paying to fence the churchyard. In recent times benefactors continue to give money to help look after our church and preserve it for future generations.

4. PILLARS

No, the pillars are not the same shape. The rounded or cylindrical pillars are in the **north** aisle. They are the oldest in the church and were built over 800 years ago. The octagonal prism pillars are in the **south** aisle and were built over 700 years ago.

5. QUILT

CC		The quilt was made in the year 2000 to celebrate the start of the new Millennium. It shows how proud local people were of all the activities taking place in Burghill in the					
	Υ	year.					
		CC = Cricket Club Y= Yoga					
		C = Choir S = School					
		Notice the kneeling cushions (hassocks)					
	С	which have also been stitched by people					
S		to celebrate the Millennium.					
		to colobiate the Pilliethillath.					

6. PULPIT

The pulpit has **6 sides.** (One side is a doorway.) It is **hexagonal.** The pulpit is over 300 years old. Originally a much taller pulpit stood here. It was very high so that the priest could be seen and heard by the people in the congregation.

7. SCREEN

The rear of the screen, where the date is shown, was carved in **1897**. The screen was restored in 1897 to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria. The front of the screen, facing the Nave, was carved over 600 years ago.

8. ROBERT MASTERS

A globe has been chosen because it shows a map of the world which Robert Masters sailed right round!

When Elizabeth 1 was Queen, over 400 years ago, people did not know much about the world so brave sailors sailed from England to discover new lands, and also to collect riches (which were stolen by the sailors). They raided treasures such as gold, silver and precious materials. The Queen was given their treasures as gifts, so she was very happy and often rewarded the sailors. Robert Masters joined one of these adventure ships in 1595 and the ship turned out to be only the 2nd ship ever to sail, or circumnavigate, right round the whole world. Just think how important Robert would have felt when he returned to Burghill and what stories he would have to tell of his adventures!

9. REREDOS



Matthew is holding a **Bible**;

Mark holds a book with a **fish** on it, the fish being the Christian symbol;

Luke holds a **scrol**l with Greek writing showing it is St Luke's gospel;

John holds a **cup** with a serpent inside relating to an old legend.

These are all items which reflect the story of each man within the Gospels.



Luke John

Matthew Mark

10. TOMB

The defacing was most probably done at the time of the Civil War, nearly 400 years ago when Oliver Cromwell's soldiers damaged a lot of church property. The damage to the font could also have been done at this time. Sir John, who died after the battle of Pilleth, is wearing the armour he would have worn in battle. His wife wears a close fitting, long gown with a cloak and head dress showing how rich they were.

11. TILES

Godwin and Hewitt were inspired by medieval tile designs and these became very popular in Victorian times. In the 1840's William Godwin started a tile making factory in Lugwardine, which is about 2 miles from Hereford. A second factory was opened in the 1850's at Withington. William and his brother, Henry, began making the encaustic tiles you can see here in Burghill Church, also in Hereford Cathedral, All Saints Church and Tewkesbury Abbey. The tiles were modelled on medieval tiles and were very popular at the time because of the Gothic (Medieval) Revival in architecture which was taking place. Local red clay was used to make the main part of the tile while finer, light coloured clay was inlaid to form the pattern. A set of tiles could take 3 weeks to complete.

As you leave... look for the Bishop's head... and many yew trees.







We hope you have enjoyed visiting St Mary the Virgin and that you will visit us again another day.