



YOUR NAME

Start the trail at the grey arrow.
Follow the numbers from 1-12.

1 FONT



The font is used to baptise new followers of Jesus Christ with water. It has carved panels around the sides showing the Easter story.

Find the following and tick.

- Crown of thorns
- I H S
- Wooden Cross with spear with sponge
- Coat and 2 Dice

Now draw what is on the lid of the font with its tear drops



2 WEST WINDOW

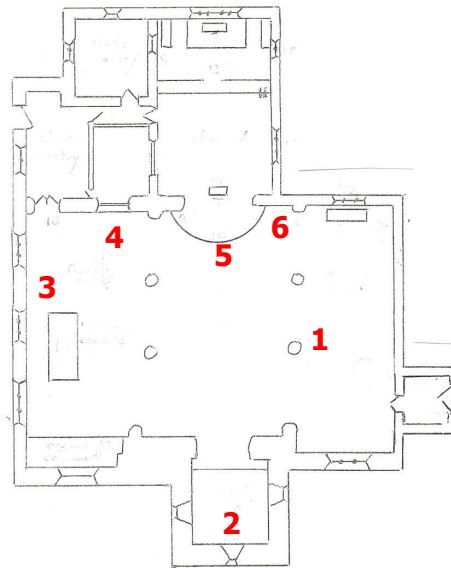
Look through the glass doors to the West Wall.



The saint in this window is Mary Magdalene after whom this church is named.

What is she holding?

EAST



WEST

3 THE LAST SUPPER



1. Who is the figure in the middle?

2. That man has just told his friends that one of them would betray him and that he would be put to death. What do you think they are all feeling?

4 WAR MEMORIAL

Underneath the poppy wreath on the wall is the memorial to those who died in the First World War.

How many men from Albrighton are recorded here?

How many families lost two members?

5 CRUCIFIX



The hanging Crucifix above you shows the body of Jesus.

On the left is

M __ __ __, the M __ TH __ R

OF J __ __ __ __

6 STONE CARVING



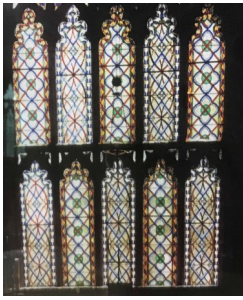
What seems to be coming out of the mouth of this face?

What season is it meant to represent?

- Summer
- Autumn
- Spring
- Winter

Tick the correct answer.

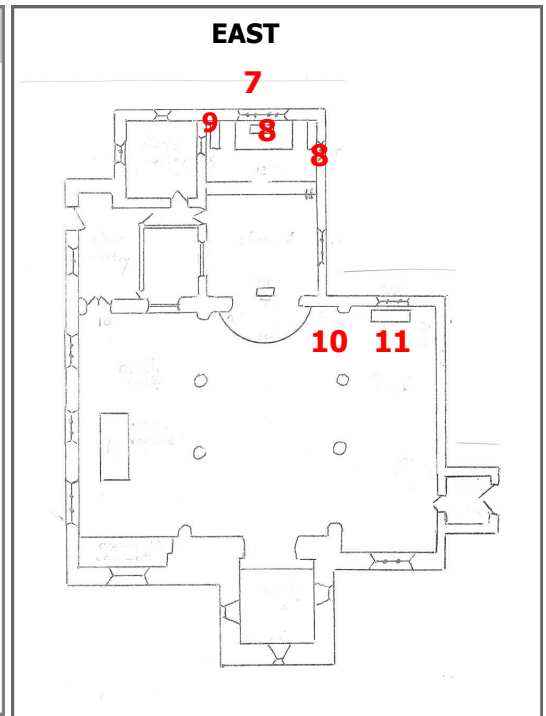
7 EAST WINDOW



Find the following in the Word Search:

- CIRCLE**
- SQUARE**
- RECTANGLE**
- TRIANGLE**
- OVAL**
- DIAMOND**

A	N	E	C	O	V	R	R	N
S	D	L	I	R	A	G	S	D
Q	I	C	Q	R	T	T	N	U
U	C	R	T	A	N	O	D	M
A	T	I	B	V	M	U	G	O
R	E	C	T	A	N	G	L	E
E	R	U	I	L	C	C	A	T
P	K	D	B	A	S	I	V	D
S	U	I	M	I	N	L	O	M
E	L	G	N	A	I	R	T	N



8 ALTAR and SEDILIA



This is the holy table. In front of the altar is a coloured cloth called an altar frontal. What colour is it today?

Find the row of stone seats. Who do you think might have used them?

Priests Children Those helping the priest

Tick the correct answer.

9 TOMB OF SIR JOHN TALBOT

How many children did Sir John and Lady Talbot have?

_____ boys

_____ girls



Find another Talbot buried nearby and mark his resting place with an **X** on your church plan.

What was his name? _____

10 LECTERN

This brass reading desk is in the shape of a bird supported on a column.



The bird is an E _ _ _ _

Its open wings support a book, the

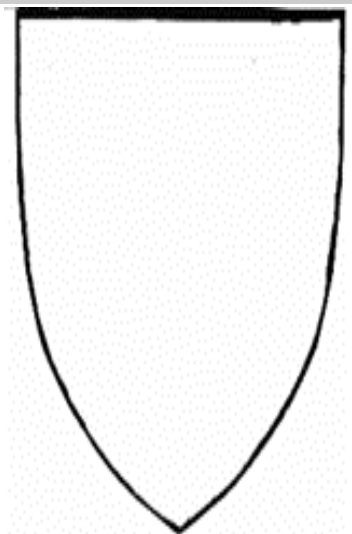
H _ _ _ _ B _ _ _ _

11 STONE COFFIN

Shields (or Coats of Arms) belonging to important Shropshire families were displayed around the edge of this ancient tomb.

Find the display of shields on the window sill.

Choose one you like and decorate the empty shield.



12 BEFORE YOU GO

Thank you for visiting our church. Sit and think about all the people who have visited and worshipped here since the church was first built. Which is your favourite bit of this church?



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

The village of Albrighton has its origins in the late 6th Century. The Manor of Albrighton was given by Roger de Montgomery to Normannus Venator (Norman the Hunter) later passing to the de Pitchfords and the last of the families being the Earls of Shrewsbury. The church interior has undergone many changes over the centuries giving attractive and versatile spiritual support in many ways to a large village community.

1 Font This font has panels with carvings showing the Easter Story, namely the **crown of thorns** which was put on the head of Jesus before he was crucified; **the cross with spear which pierced his side and the sponge** upon which vinegar was offered instead of water. The soldiers who crucified Jesus **gambled** for his **coat/robe**, hence the **dice**. The letters **I H S** were thought to stand for Iesus Hominum Salvator – Jesus Saviour of mankind. Over the centuries other meanings have been given to it, such as the Latin: 'In Hoc Signo' short for 'In Hoc Signo vinces' – in this sign (you will conquer) said to have been the motto of Constantine the Great.



2 West Window Mary Magdalene appears to be holding a **container such as a vase or urn** in her hands. Once Jesus was with his friends and Mary took *"half a litre of a very expensive perfume, poured it on Jesus feet and wiped them with her hair"* (John 12 verse 3). Mary was told off by some of the disciples but Jesus said *"Leave her alone; let her keep the rest for my burial"*. The 7 tear drops on the carving on the font represent the tears she shed knowing what was to happen to him when he next went to Jerusalem. He would be tried, beaten and put to death.

3 The Last Supper 1. The figure in the middle is **Jesus**. This cast iron plaque was very likely produced at the Coalbrookdale Iron Foundry, down the road as such from this church. Jesus chose to share his last meal at the time of Passover with his 12 disciples, before going to the Garden of Gethsemane to pray, knowing he would be betrayed by Judas. During this meal, known as The Last Supper, he blessed the bread and shared wine with these words, *"Do this in remembrance of me"* (Luke 22 verse 19). This is why Christians regularly celebrate Communion or Mass.

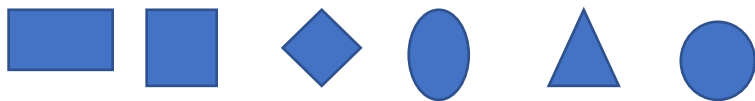
2. If you look carefully you can see the **amazement, surprise** and perhaps **horror** as they ALL deny they could betray him, even though Judas is one of the twelve sitting there.

4 War Memorial The First World War was from 1914 – 1918. **30 men** are remembered here, as coming from Albrighton. **6 families lost two members** - Cartwright, Dyke, Jones, Leadbeater, Pitchford and Shingler.

5 Crucifix On the left is **Mary the Mother of Jesus** who is mentioned in the bible as being at the foot of the cross along with the disciple John when Jesus died. It is important to note the difference between a Crucifix and a Cross. A Crucifix shows the body of Jesus hanging and an empty cross reminds us of the risen Christ.

6 Stone Carving This stone sculpture is known as A Green Man. The face appears to have branches of **leaves** coming out of his mouth. It is an old pagan symbol representing the new growth of **spring**, but in a Christian church it has been adopted to represent the spiritual rebirth that results from deciding to follow Jesus.

7 East Window You will notice that this window is full of "shapes".



A	N	E	C	O	V	R	R	N
S		L						D
Q		C					N	
U		R				O		
A		I			M			
R	E	C	T	A	N	G	L	E
E			I			C	A	
		D					V	
							O	
E	L	G	N	A	I	R	T	N

8 Altar and Sedilia The altar is where the main Christian act of Eucharist (Holy Communion) takes place. There are 4 colours used for altar frontals and they change according to the seasons of the church's year.

White for festivals like Christmas, Easter or saints days.

Purple for Advent (the 4 weeks before Christmas) and Lent (the 40 days before Easter).

Red for Pentecost also called Whitsun (the coming of the Holy Spirit).

Green for all other periods – representing the growth of the Christian faith over centuries.

Sedilia is Latin for seats. They were used by **those helping the priest at communion**. No – the servers didn't have short legs! The floor in this part of the church was raised during recent alterations. The basin is called a piscina and was used for rinsing the communion vessels after the Mass or Communion Service. It has a drain going straight into the ground. Remember, there would have been no running water in early churches.

9 Tomb of Sir John Talbot The main alabaster tomb in the sanctuary is that of Sir John Talbot and his wife, Lady Frances Giffard. Round the edge of their tomb you can see they had **two boys and two girls**. They were ancestors of the Earls of Shrewsbury. The Chancel holds several tombs within its foundations. Some are under the floor and have had recent inscriptions placed in the stone floor in 1993. **Charles Talbot's memorial** stone can be found on the right near the wall as you face the altar. There are 2 tombs on the floor of the Chancel but sometimes chairs are placed over Frances's tomb so any child with keen eyes may also find **Frances's** Tomb as well as Charles's, depending on where the chairs have been stacked.

10 Lectern The bird is an **Eagle** which was believed to be the bird that flew the highest, or the nearest to Heaven. The book is the **Holy Bible**, supported by the eagle's wings to represent the spread of the Christian gospel throughout the world. The eagle is gripping an orb or sphere which represents the whole world.

11 Stone Coffin This tomb is said to be Early English (c 1300). It has been moved many times. In 1853 it was found beneath the south aisle and moved into the churchyard. In 1921 it was moved back into the church and is known as the Pitchford Tomb having the family shield around the side, along with shields of other local families who maintained the church.

