

YOUR NAME

Start the trail at the grey arrow
Follow the numbers from 1-14.

1 FONT

Go to 1 on the plan.

Look at the carvings around the sides of the Font. Find the carving of the three nails.

Draw the three nails in the box



7 MOSAIC FLOOR

In this Chapel there is a beautiful tiled floor. It has patterns on it and is made up of tiny pieces.

Draw one of the tiles you like best.



2 PILLAR CARVING

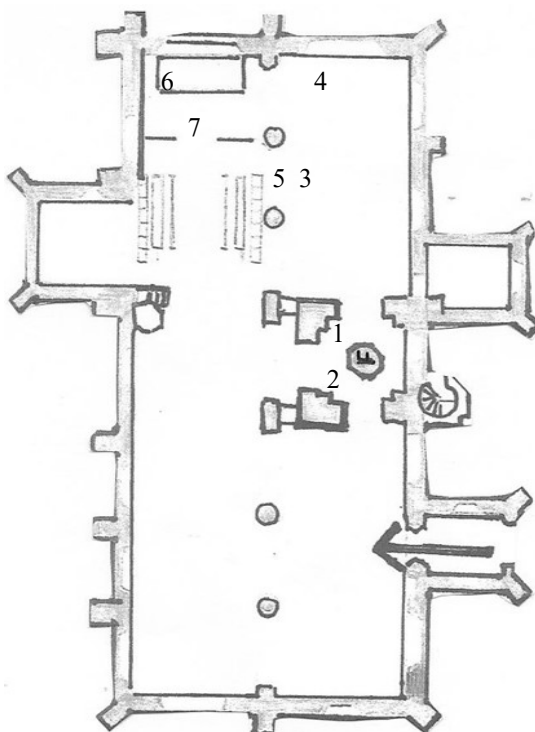
Look to your left.

Above your head at the top of the pillar is a carving of an animal. Write down the name of the animal.



Now look at other columns nearby and see if you can find other animals or birds. You will need to look very carefully.

EAST



WEST

6 STAINED GLASS

Stand in front of the Altar (a Holy Table) at the end of the South Chapel. Look up at the stained glass window.

What is happening to Jesus?

Count the number of people looking up at him. Write the number in the box.



3 COMMUNION TABLE

You are in the Chapel of St Michael and St George. In front of you is a high wooden table which was once used for Holy Communion. Look for a date on the table and write it here

4 STATUES



In the Chapel look at the statue of a Knight in armour holding the flag with the red cross. Who do you think he is?

5 POOR BOX

This is a very old box. It has three locks and a slot for the money in.

Who was the money for?



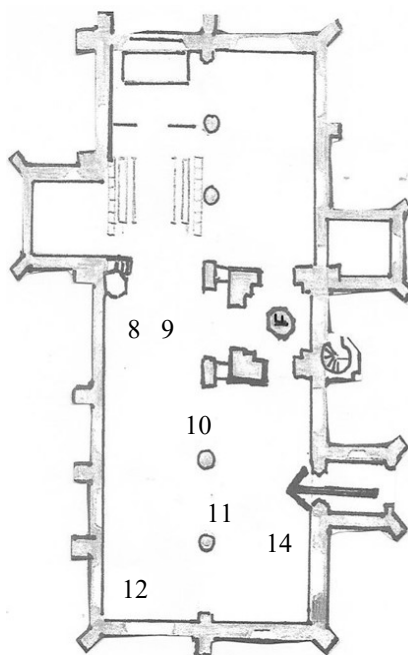
8 PULPIT

The congregation listens to a sermon (talk) about Jesus and Christianity.

Who delivers the sermon from the pulpit?



EAST

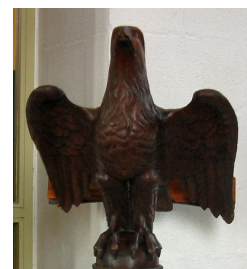


9 LECTERN

Next to the Pulpit is the Lectern. It is a bookstand which holds a special book. What is the name of the book?

H _ _ _ B _ _ _

The Lectern is built in the shape of a bird. Write the name of the bird.



10 WALL PAINTINGS

Look up at the pillar with the three paintings. They are very old, nearly 700 years old. Why did people need to paint bible stories on the walls of churches?

Because most people couldn't R _ _ _

They are two Saints and one King
Which one is the King?

Circle: TOP MIDDLE BOTTOM

11 GLASS FRONTED BOX

In this box there are finds from the Battle of Alton fought on 13th December 1643.

The circular white pieces of lead shot were found in the churchyard. Look closely at the grey circular piece. What do you think it is?



12 ALTON CIVIL WAR BOARD

On the wall at the back of the church is the story of the Battle of Alton. Find the picture of the pulpit. Who died in the pulpit?

Circle the side he was fighting for.

Royalist or Parliamentarian

13 ENDPIECE

Thank you for completing our Trail of Discovery. We hope you have enjoyed it and learnt a lot about St Lawrence Church.

Take a few moments to think about your experience and write down what you enjoyed most.

14 CHURCH DOOR

This is the end of the Trail.

On your way out through the Church Door, look for the bullet holes and count as many as you can find. Put the number of bullet holes in the box.

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



Welcome to St Lawrence Church.

The Church is an Anglican Parish Church in Alton, Hampshire. It is a Grade 1 listed building and is notable for the range of its architecture and for being the site of the concluding action of the Battle of Alton during the English Civil War. The oldest part of the Church is Norman and dates from the 11th century. All four of its early Norman arches can still to be seen. In the 15th century the Church was extended, a new Nave and Chancel were built and further restoration and additions followed to the present day when a very modern and beautiful award winning glass pod was designed to conceal the new Church facilities. The designs on the screen illustrate the history of the town.

1 FONT

The nails were used to nail Jesus to the cross when he was crucified. The Font holds the holy water used for christening new members of the Church. This font is Victorian and is situated under the tower. The Reverend O.A Hodgson, Vicar of St Lawrence Church in 1867, carved the decorations.



2 PILLAR CARVING



The carving on top of the pillar is thought to be a **wolf** eating a bone. The carvings at the top of the pillars are very rare. They date from about 1070. In those days most people couldn't read or write so the Church would be decorated with paintings and carvings to tell the Bible stories as well as decorating the Church. Other carvings at the top of the pillars are said to represent a cockerel, pelican, two donkeys with their feet in the air and a demon.

3 COMMUNION TABLE

The date of the Communion Table is **1680**. The Communion Table, or Altar is the focus of Christian worship. The congregation took Communion at this sturdy table in the seventeenth century.

4 STATUES

The statue wearing armour and holding the flag is **St George**.

St George is the Patron Saint of England and the animal at his feet is the dragon. The other statue is St Michael. They were carved in wood by Mr Southwick who also carved figures in Liverpool Cathedral. The statues, like stained glass windows, served to remind the medieval congregation of the importance of heroic Christian figures. They were presented to the Church in 1927.



5 POOR BOX



The money was used for **poor people**. This is an Elizabethan poor box nearly four hundred years old. Kind people put money in the slot to help poor people. It has three locks. The keys were held by the Vicar and two Churchwardens who distributed the money to people in need so they could buy food and other essentials. Each parish was required to provide for its poor with a law which became known as The Poor Law. The Hampshire Record Office in Winchester has records of the money which was distributed in Hampshire, including the Parish of St Lawrence in Alton and the names of the families who received it. Today we have food banks which provide the same service.

6 STAINED GLASS WINDOW

Jesus is **ascending** or **going up** to Heaven and there are **eleven** people below Jesus. The 1870 window shows the Ascension. The Ascension in Christian belief is the ascent of Jesus Christ into heaven on the 40th day after his Resurrection (Easter being the first day). The stained glass window shows the disciples or followers of Jesus looking up as he ascends up to heaven.

7 MOSAIC FLOOR

There are two different patterns of flowers and two different cubed shapes to choose from. Mosaic tiles have been used for hundreds of years to decorate the interiors of churches, palaces and important buildings. The mosaics are made of small, flat, square pieces of stone and glass of many different colours. Skilled craftsmen made the mosaics to decorate the floors and walls of churches and palaces and you may have seen others if you have visited a Roman Villa.

8 PULPIT



The **Vicar** delivers sermons from the pulpit. This fine wooden pulpit dates from the seventeenth century. The sermon (talk) is an important part of a service. Raising the vicar higher than the congregation made it easier for him to be seen and heard.

9 LECTERN

It is built in the shape of an **eagle**. The **Holy Bible** rests on the lectern. The lectern is a bookstand in wood or brass to hold the large Holy Bible from which the lessons are read. Sometimes it is shaped like an eagle with outspread wings, because eagles are thought to be the birds that can fly the highest and so nearest to the heavens. The lectern was carved in the 1860s during the restoration of the church.



10 WALL PAINTINGS



Most people couldn't **read**

The king is the **middle** painting.

These three important paintings date from the early 15th century.

- The top painting is believed to show St Cornelius, who died in AD 253 and was a contemporary of St Lawrence.
- The middle painting could possibly be King Henry 1st (1113-1135) who was alive when the nave was built, or Edward the Confessor, whose Queen Edith held the Manor of Alton.
- The last painting is thought to be Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury who was murdered in the Cathedral in 1170. He is venerated as a saint and a martyr. He is wearing the red cloak and holding the mitre. Alton is on the Pilgrims Way between Winchester and Canterbury and so there may have been a connection with Thomas a Becket.

11 GLASS FRONTED BOX

The grey circular piece is a **button**.

These objects were found in the church yard. The white circular pieces were lead shot which have become corroded over time and date from the Battle of Alton. The battle took place in the church yard. The grey button was also found in the church yard and could have come from a soldier's uniform fighting in this famous battle in 1643.



12 ALTON CIVIL WAR BOARD

Colonel Boles died in the Pulpit. He was the Commander of the **Royalist** Troops. The Royalists troops were under attack by the Parliamentarians, led by Sir William Waller. Colonel Boles and his men were outnumbered and they took refuge in the church. Although they barricaded the Church doors, the Parliamentarians burst in and Colonel Boles was killed, reputedly in the pulpit.

13 ENDPiece

14 CHURCH DOOR

The number of **bullet holes** in the front door will vary.

You have finished the Trail. We hope you enjoyed it

