
St Mary's Church

LYDIARD TREGOZE

Stories and Selfies

KS1 & KS2



Welcome to St Mary's.

This has been a site of worship for nearly 1000 years.
The building you see today is 800 years old making this
an ancient Medieval church.

Imagine all the people who have been here in
that time and all their stories.

Let's go and meet one of them.

1 Introducing Sir John ...

This church is full of selfies from about 300 to 400 years ago! - made mostly by Sir John St.John (see his picture on the front cover).

Did you know?

The St.John name is pronounced 'Sinjun'.

Activity

Think why he might have wanted to make these 'selfies'.
Tick the best 3 reasons.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> to be remembered through history | <input type="checkbox"/> to make the church more colourful |
| <input type="checkbox"/> to show how holy he was | <input type="checkbox"/> to show people his family was rich and important |
| <input type="checkbox"/> because he was bored | <input type="checkbox"/> to show how good a catch his family was for marrying |

2 Hairs and graces

Look at the wooden heads in the roof. They must have been important people at one time but sadly they are now forgotten. Some great hairstyles though!

Activity

Tick when you spot these three...



Design a hairstyle for one of the heads...



Think and talk...

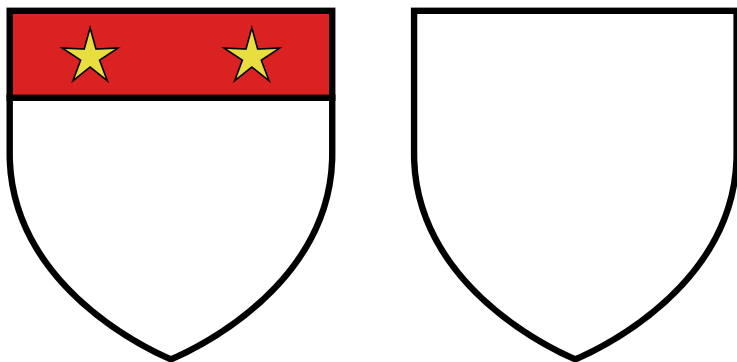
Two of the heads have been restored to what they once looked like. Which ones do you think they are and why?

3 One big family selfie

By the altar there are painted panels that show the St. John family tree.

Activity

This is the St. John family's coat of arms:



Copy this - or design your own here

Did you know?

Coats of arms were first designed because in battles you needed to be able to spot who was on which side. Like football kits today.

Think and talk...

Why do you think Sir John had his family tree painted on BIG panels?

4 Top man

Find Sir John's own tomb.
Look at its size and decoration.
Do you think he wanted people to take notice of him?!

Did you know?

Sir John was married twice. His first wife was Anne (on his right) and when she died he married Margaret (on his left).

Activity

Imagine looking down from above to draw a bird's eye view of John, Anne and Margaret. Add their names.

Draw...



Write...

Write down 5 words to describe this monument....

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Think and talk...

Look at the smaller figures around the base - who might they be?

5 Keeping up appearances

Above the door is a monument showing Sir Giles Mompesson and his wife Katherine who was Sir John's sister.

Did you know?

Giles was in fact very greedy. You wouldn't think it from the monument. How looks can deceive!

Activity

What do you think this monument shows us about the character of Giles?

Circle which ones you think:

decent

wealthy

important

clever

honourable

holy

noble

6 Nicholas and Elizabeth

Look at the tomb by the side windows.

Spot the falcon, the symbol for the St. John family – another sort of selfie.

Did you know?

This tomb is of Nicholas and Elizabeth St. John, the grandparents of Sir John.

Activity

Colour in the falcon back at school.



Think and talk...

What animal would you choose for you – why?

Activity

Look around the whole of the church and count how many falcons you can see. There are at least 8 to find. But perhaps you can spot more?

7 Golden boy

Look at the monument of the soldier which we call the Golden Cavalier. It is of Edward St. John and was built by his father, Sir John.

Activity

Stand in the same pose as Edward, get the tilt of the head, the arms, the feet in the same position.

Now do a pose which represents you. How will you stand, what you might pretend to hold? How do you want to portray yourself? Perhaps get someone to take a photo.

Think and talk...

What do you think Sir John thought of his son? Why?

Did you know?

Edward died 400 years ago in battle. He was a captain in the king's army as part of the English Civil War between King Charles I and parliament.



8 Surprising sayings

On the wall at the back of the church is a diamond-shaped funeral panel to remember Frederick St. John, 2nd Viscount Bolingbroke, the great-great grandson of Sir John.

Did you know?

The Latin phrase Nil Admirari means 'Be surprised by nothing.'

Activity

What saying would be your household motto? It might be a phrase you hear being said a lot, something funny, something wise or just what sums your household up.

Write it here....

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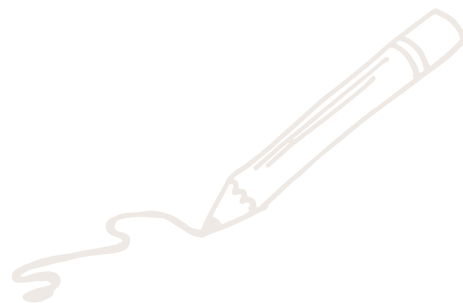
Think and talk...

...about all these St.John selfies. What do you feel they want us to think of them as a family?

Selfies are interesting but they only tell part of the story....

And finally...

Draw something you can see in the church which you like.



Write down three things you have learnt...

- 1
- 2
- 3

Write down three questions you have...

- 1
- 2
- 3



Do come back and visit this special place again one day.

Bring your family and friends, take your own selfies and build your own story.

For further schools trails leaflets, and to make any school appointments you can contact us here:

volunteers@stmaryslydiardtregoze.org.uk
or www.stmaryslydiardtregoze.org.uk/contact