

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

St. Mark's was designed by George Gilbert Scott Junior, the son of the famous architect George Gilbert Scott, who designed the Albert Memorial (1862-3), St Pancras Station (1865) and many other buildings. He was the father of Giles Gilbert Scott, the architect of Liverpool Cathedral and designer of the red telephone box.

It was built in 1879 to cater for a growing population in the area, and was built on the site of an orchard gifted by Lady Bertie-Percy, with money left by Lady Wheler and more donated by her family.

1 FONT

It has 8 sides – an octagon. **A large wooden tower or spire** is above.

It is suspended from the roof by chains. People no longer use this font. When it was used, the wooden spire was lifted out of the way. You may still be able to see the wooden cover to the font itself.

At baptisms, fonts are filled with water, which is blessed, and used to make the sign of the cross on the forehead of the child. This font is made of alabaster and marble, with carved angels and lions.

2 SCREEN

There are **grapes**. The Bible has many references to wine and grapes, often used in stories to illustrate what God gives his people. On the sash is the word **ALLELUIA**, which means God be praised.

The screen was moved here from its previous position at the chancel steps, where it traditionally separated the people from the priests and choir. The name 'rood screen' comes from an old English word for a cross, which would have always topped the structure.

3 WAR MEMORIAL

1914-1918

4 different families lost more than one son. This was World War I, when altogether there were around 20,000,000 deaths, half of which were soldiers. On the worst day of fighting, 20,000 British soldiers died and twice that number were injured.

4 LECTERN

An **eagle**. There are three small **lions**. A lectern is a bookstand made from wood or brass to hold the large Holy Bible or the Lectionary 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 eagle is often standing on a sphere which represents the world.

5 ORGAN

You can see **27** pipes altogether. There are others out of sight.

No. They differ in length and diameter. The longer the pipe, the lower the note; the shorter the pipe, the higher the note. This organ is a replica of the one in Ely Cathedral.

6 CHANCEL STEPS

They are holding **musical instruments**. One is a viol and the other is a harp. A viol is a period instrument, similar to a cello, which was particularly popular from the sixteenth to the eighteenth century.



7 EAST WINDOW

He was crucified. The most important Christian symbol is the cross, because Jesus sacrificed his life, dying nailed to a cross. The letters **INRI** stand for Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews, in Latin. The notice was put up to mock Jesus and his followers.



8 REREDOS

The men each carry **a book**.

These four figures are the four Evangelists, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. The New Testament has a gospel written by each of them. Each of the four saints has his own symbol. You will have seen the lion associated with St. Mark in many places in this church. St. Matthew's symbol is a man, usually winged, St. John's is an eagle and St. Luke's is an ox, again usually winged.

9 COMMANDMENTS BOARD

8 is **VIII**. The Romans made up their numbers by using combinations of I, V, X, L, C, D and M.

Commandment VIII says **Thou shalt not steal**. Today we might say "You must not steal". The story tells how God spoke to Moses on the top of Mount Sinai and revealed these commandments. The rules are found in the Old Testament and are also followed by Jews.

10 RESURRECTION WINDOW

Jesus is shown having risen from the dead. This is the Easter story told in the New Testament. Christians believe that although he was put to death on the cross on Good Friday, Jesus was resurrected on Easter Sunday.

The soldiers are sleeping. They were supposed to be guarding the site but have not seen that the tomb is empty.



11 PULPIT

So that the speaker can be seen and heard.

Many pulpits are beautifully decorated. They are usually made of stone or wood. In Victorian times preachers sometimes gave very long sermons to their congregations. **The number changes!** This used to be a hymn board showing what was to be sung. It is now used to show what page of the Bible is currently being read.

12 ARCHES

Arch style a. All the windows in this church have pointed or lancet windows. This is the Neo-Gothic style, very popular in Victorian times, which was thought to help direct attention upwards, looking towards heaven.

Yes – there is an ogee arch over a doorway very close to the font. Ogee arches have two linked curves which come to a point at the top.



13 SOUTH DOORWAY

The date carved is **1879**. In 1875 the new parish of New Milverton was formed and a large sum of money given by two brothers to build the church and vicarage. The money had been left to them by their sister, Lady Wheler, for the express purpose of building a new place of worship.



14 I SPY

- ihc is a Christogram. It represents the name of Jesus in Greek. This is more usually written as ihs.
- St. George is the patron saint of England. He is shown as a mediaeval knight, slaying a dragon.
- The little brass lion on the lectern is here because the church is dedicated to St. Mark.
- This unusual chair is one of two highly stylised chairs for the clergy, placed close to the altar.
- This is Ruth. Her story is in the Old Testament. She left her own country to travel with her mother-in-law Naomi, after they had both lost their husbands in a famine. There is corn around her.
- A final lion, in the very bottom corner of this window, is now in the kitchen, but used to be seen more easily!