

St Deinst Church Children's Guide  
CHILDREN'S ANIMAL HUNT

Can you find the following animals and birds in the church?

How many can you spot?

Dove .....

Dragon .....

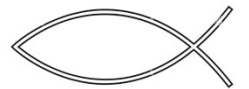
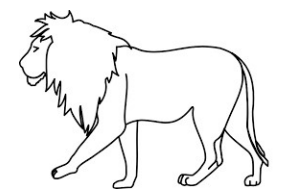
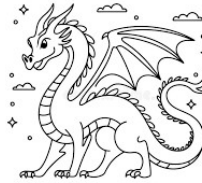
Fish .....

Griffin .....

Lion .....

Pegasus .....

Phoenix .....

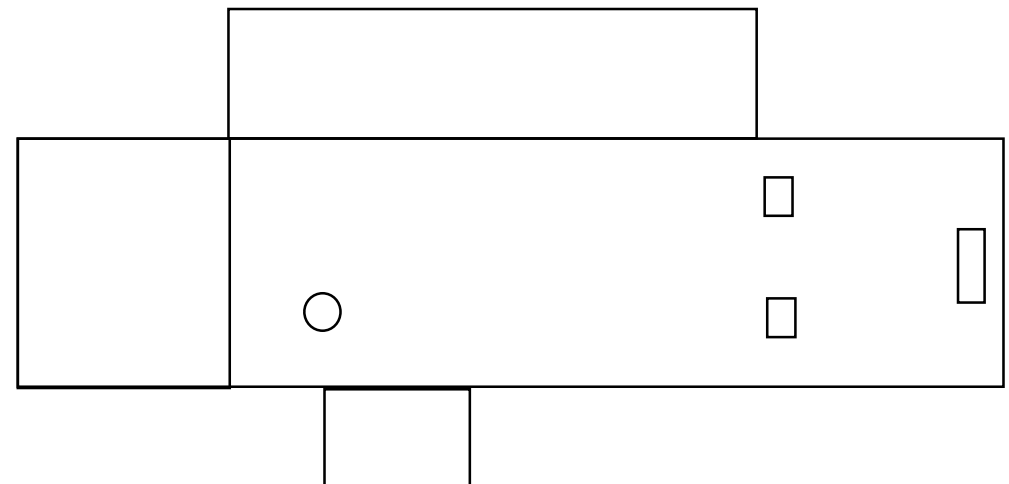


Do you know which of these animals and birds are real and which are not?

Stand with your back to the doorway where you came in. You will see the font to your left. Those wanting to join the church are **baptised** here with a sprinkle of water, and a cross made from oil drawn on their forehead. The font used here is 700 years old.

Turn to your right and walk as far as the archway. At the archway is where two people who want to be together make promises to each other. This is called a **marriage**. The couple often invite their friends and family to watch and to share in their happiness.

Walk through the archway and stand in front of the altar step. This is where a person who has died is fondly remembered by their family and friends. It is called a **funeral**. The songs and readings let everyone know how special that person was to them. The person is then buried in the churchyard with a gravestone to remember them by.



People visit the church for other reasons too: -  
To think in a place of quiet and peace  
To be together with others at special times such as  
Christmas  
To look at this very old building and to wonder how it was  
built nearly 1,000 years ago.



Some people, called campanologists, visit the church to ring the bells. The rope hanging down and a wheel up above in the belfry help them to swing the bell nearly all the way around, making a sound that can be heard by all who live nearby. There are six bells here that can be rung in different orders eg. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 or 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, or even 1, 3, 5, 2, 4, 6. Each time the rope is pulled the bell can follow any of the other bells to make different tunes ring out.

The weight of each bell relates to the weight of an animal: -

Bell 1 = Lion

Bell 4 = Tiger

Bell 2 = Black bear

Bell 5 = Crocodile

Bell 3 = Grey seal

Bell 6 = Polar bear

Once you are 11 years old you can begin to learn bellringing

The **dove** is a symbol of love, peace, and of baptism. Noah sent out a dove during the Flood. It came back carrying an olive branch which showed there was some dry land and therefore hope.

The **dragon** is a symbol of fear and evil. Long-tailed comets seen in the night sky may have given people imagination to invent the dragon. Fighting an evil dragon tests strength of mind and faith.

The **fish** is a symbol of faith; a belief in God. The bigger the fish the greater the faith. People with strong faith are less likely to do things that are bad.

The **griffin** is a symbol of the fight against greed. The griffin, a huge creature, lives in a land full of gold and gems which it protects by killing any who dare to come near.

The **lion** is the symbol for St. Mark who walked everywhere telling people about God and Jesus. A lion roars and in his own way so too did St. Mark. The lion, just like Jesus, is kingly.

**Pegasus** is goodhearted, gentle, and always eager to help. It is able to do everything it sets its mind to and has power over water. It was thought to carry a person's soul up to heaven.

The **phoenix** is a symbol of being born again and then living in paradise. It uses cinnamon and frankincense to build its nest and likes to live alone. As large as an eagle, it has gold around its neck, purple feathers on its body with a red and blue tail.

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