

UNLOCK THE SECRETS OF THE CATHEDRAL...



SAINT
PATRICK'S
CATHEDRAL
DUBLIN

FAMILY ACTIVITY PACK



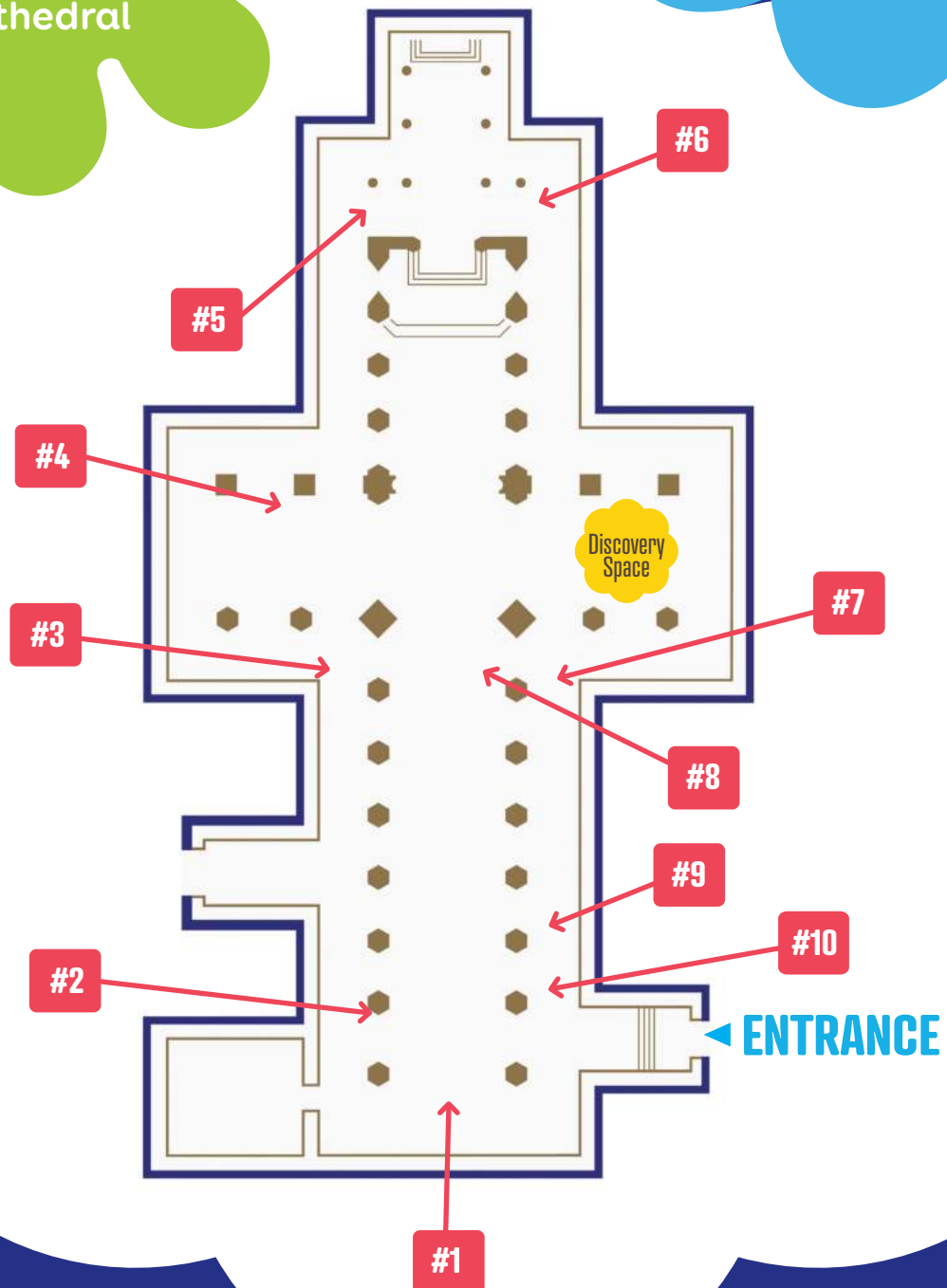
You're very welcome to
Saint Patrick's Cathedral!
Look out for me as you
make your way around.

FIND OUT MORE....

www.stpatrickscathedral.ie

MAP of the CATHEDRAL

See can you
complete the
10 activities
as you explore
Saint Patrick's
Cathedral



WINDOWS

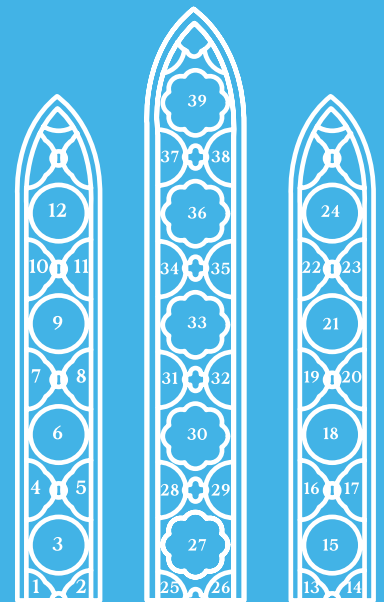
on the life of

SAINT PATRICK

FIND THE THREE HUGE STAINED-GLASS WINDOWS ABOVE THE SHOP. THEY SHOW 39 IMPORTANT EVENTS IN SAINT PATRICK'S LIFE.

We know him as Patrick but when he was born in Wales his name was Maewyn. When he was 16 he was captured by pirates, made a slave and brought to Ireland. He escaped, and went home where he trained to become a priest. Later, he returned to Ireland to teach people about Christianity.

Years after he died, Maewyn became a Saint and his name changed to Patrick, meaning 'Father'.



This drawing shows you how to read a stained-glass window. Follow the numbers from bottom to top starting on the left and finishing with the centre panel.

ACTIVITY #1

Here are two parts of Saint Patrick's story from the west window. Can you tell part 2 in words?



PART 1

Maewyn is cruelly taken from his home and family by raiders. They put him on a boat that will take him to Ireland.



PART 2...



I was famous for telling stories – I used words, not glass!

ACTIVITY #1



Write a short story to go along with the second panel of the window.



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THE CHURCH

in the

RIVER



SAINT PATRICK CHANGED IRELAND. FOR CENTURIES, PEOPLE TOLD STORIES OF WHAT HE DID AND WHERE HE WENT. THEY SAID HE CAME TO THIS SPOT.

So, **500 years** afterwards, one of the very first churches in Ireland was built here. It was a small, wooden church on an island in the River Poddle.



ACTIVITY #2

The wooden church was VERY different from this one.
Draw what you think it could have looked like.



If you want to see what Dublin was like at this time, visit **Dublinia**, and discover the stories of the city in Viking times.

ACTIVITY #2



The wooden church was **VERY** different from this one. Draw what you think it could have looked like.



BUILDING a medieval CATHEDRAL

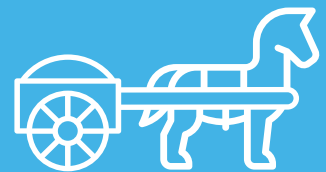


The Cathedral, like most buildings of its time, is built in the Gothic style. Notre Dame in Paris and Westminster Abbey in London are around the same age as the Cathedral.

AFTER A WHILE, THE PEOPLE OF DUBLIN DECIDED THEY NEEDED MORE THAN A WOODEN CHURCH TO REMEMBER SAINT PATRICK AND GLORIFY GOD. **THEY WANTED A MIGHTY CATHEDRAL BUILT IN STONE.**

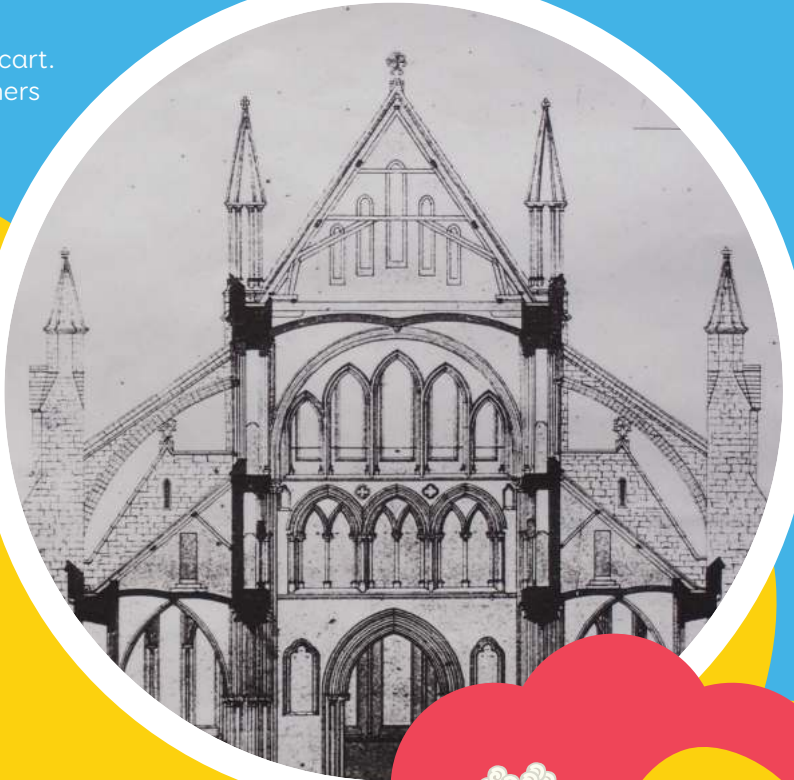
Can you imagine what an enormous task that was in 1220?

The stone and wood was delivered by horse and cart. Every piece of stone had to be carved with hammers and chisels. It would have taken many people and a long time.



ACTIVITY #3

Have a go at matching the pictures opposite to the name of these Gothic architectural features.



The building was around 500 years old when I became Dean.

ACTIVITY #3



Match the picture to the name of these Gothic architectural features.

How many of these can you spot?



CAPITALS

(Decorative stone at the top of the columns)



STAINED GLASS

POINTED ARCHES

(Used for windows or walls)



RIB VAULTS

(Self-supporting arches in the ceiling or roof)

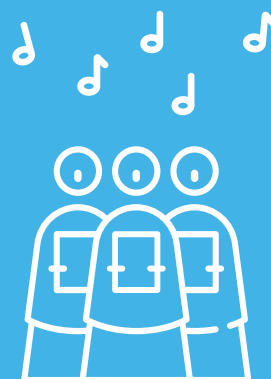
FLYING BUTTRESS

(A stone structure put up against walls to help make them stronger)

MUSIC

and the life of the

CATHEDRAL



Our daily cycle of worship is made up of a morning service (Matins) and an evening service (Evensong). This has been happening here for the last 600 years.

EVERY DAY AT THE CATHEDRAL BEGINS AND ENDS IN MUSIC FROM THE ORGAN AND CHOIR. THIS IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF HOW PEOPLE WORSHIP GOD HERE.

The choir includes children and adult singers. The children attend a choir school across the street.



ACTIVITY #4

Naoise, a Cathedral Chorister, tells us what it's like to sing the services:

“

It gets you very nervous but after...you realise that it was actually really good and you feel really proud of yourself. It's a lot of people, but you just have to concentrate and block everybody out and keep singing.

”

**Do you think you would like to be a Chorister?
Why or why not?**



I invite you to return during a service to hear the full splendour of this Cathedral.

ACTIVITY #4



Do you think you
would like to be a
Chorister?
Why or why not?



“

”

The Lady Chapel



In the Eucharist everyone shares bread and wine, just like Jesus did with his followers on the night before he died.

A CHAPEL IS A SMALL SPACE INSIDE A CHURCH FOR PRAYERS AND SERVICES. THIS CHAPEL HAS ITS OWN ALTAR WHERE A VERY IMPORTANT THANKSGIVING SERVICE CALLED THE EUCHARIST TAKES PLACE.

At other times, this is a place for private prayer.



ACTIVITY #5

This chapel feels rather different from the rest of the Cathedral. It has been restored very recently so the stonework is much newer than elsewhere. Also it faces east so the sunlight hits the stained glass windows differently.

Colour in the stained glass window

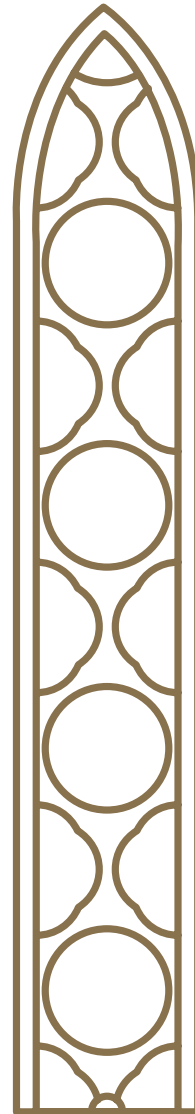
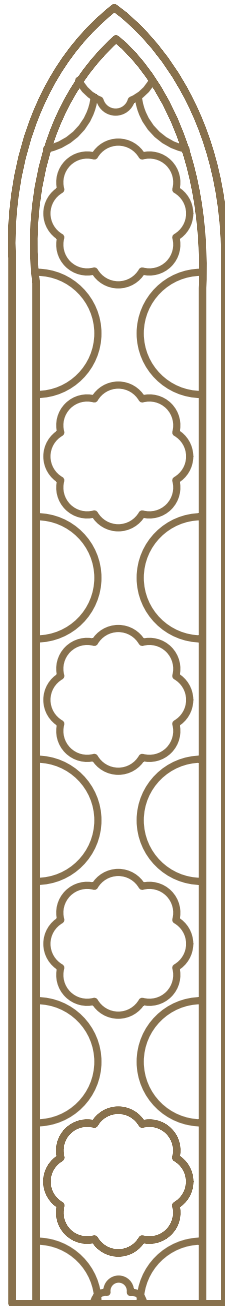


Look out for the table I used to celebrate the Eucharist. It's close to where you came in.

ACTIVITY #5



Colour in
the stained
glass
window



SERVICES in the LADY CHAPEL



These ceremonial objects are stored behind the little wooden door just behind the altar.

THE VERGER PREPARES THE CHAPEL AND ALTAR FOR THE EUCHARIST. THEY SET OUT SOME OF THE CATHEDRAL'S CEREMONIAL SILVERWARE, SPECIAL LINENS AND ORNATE FABRICS.

You may spot a Verger during your visit. When they are preparing the Cathedral for services, they wear a long purple robe called a cassock. At other times, they will be dressed in the normal Cathedral uniform.



ACTIVITY #6

Set up for service.

The picture shows you what the altar looks like once the verger has set it for service.

Can you label the objects opposite?



There are more secrets to uncover in the Discovery Space. I recommend you take a look.

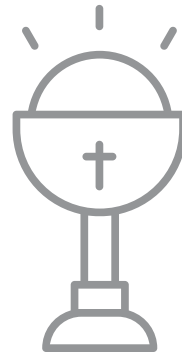
ACTIVITY #6



Can you
label the
objects in
the picture?

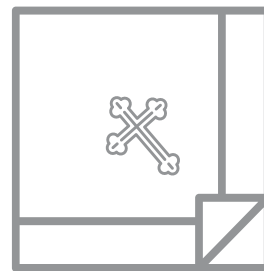
ALTAR FRONTAL

(a special cloth
that goes over
the altar)



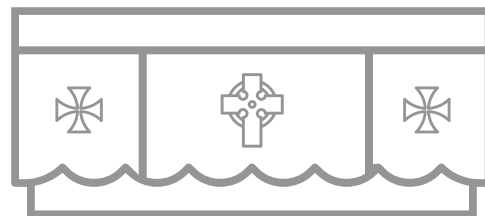
CHALICE

(a cup used
during the
Eucharist)



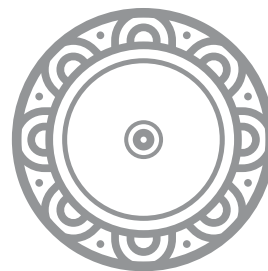
PATEN

(a plate that
holds the
bread)



VEIL

(a piece of fabric
used to cover
the paten and
chalice)



CARING for the CATHEDRAL



Some hidden parts of the building have other marks on the stone - graffiti left behind by bell-ringers who worked here long ago. Obviously, this is not allowed now!

KEEPING THIS ANCIENT CATHEDRAL IN GOOD CONDITION TAKES A LOT OF WORK. IT HAS BEEN ALTERED AND REPAIRED MANY TIMES IN ITS **800 YEAR LIFE.**

Look carefully at the stonework for clues about people who have worked here in the past.

- If you look carefully you can find many kinds of decorative stonework. Some of these were part of the original building. Others were made about 150 years ago when there was a massive restoration project in the Cathedral.
- Look for differences in colour in the stonework. Darker patches are often caused by candle smoke. There are lighter patches where a specialist team has repaired or cleaned the stonework.

ACTIVITY #7

Touch one of the columns or a stone wall with your hand.



Use all your senses to describe the building.



Have you worked out who I am yet? I am part of the past of this great building. You will find out my name soon.

ACTIVITY #7



Touch one of the columns or a stone wall with your hand.



This old cathedral looks...

It feels like...

I can smell...

I can hear...



SERMONS

from the

PULPIT



Different preachers deliver the sermon each week. They come from all over Ireland.

The Dean is the most senior member of the clergy at the Cathedral.

EVERY SUNDAY A PREACHER STANDS IN THIS PULPIT AND DELIVERS A SERMON. THE SERMON IS BASED ON A READING FROM THE BIBLE. IT IS DESIGNED TO MAKE THE LISTENING CONGREGATION THINK ABOUT WHAT IT MEANS FOR THE WAY THEY LIVE THEIR LIVES.

“

Hello!

I hope you are enjoying your visit to Saint Patrick's Cathedral. It's very interesting to hear the story about the Cathedral, and about the people who were here hundreds of years ago. My name is William Morton. For the last five years I have been what's called Dean of the Cathedral. That means that I am one of the clergy, or priests, who helps with the services here and with the day to day running of the Cathedral.

My wife Rosemary and I live in the Deanery close-by. We have three grown up sons, two of whom are working, and the other is still a student. We have also a rather lively labrador called Duke who you may hear barking as you leave the cathedral!

I wish you well with your studies at school, and later on at college and university, and I hope that you will come back again soon and bring your relations and friends to Saint Patrick's Cathedral.

Enjoy the rest of your visit!
Bye for now!

The Very Revd William W. Morton,
Dean of Saint Patrick's Cathedral.



”

ACTIVITY #8

Complete the word-search. The words are all connected to services at the Cathedral.



The Deanery was my home too. I lived there 300 years ago.

ACTIVITY #8



Can you find these words. They are all connected to services at the Cathedral.

E	I	U	C	Y	P	P	V	E	R	G	E	R
P	U	D	Y	E	A	N	Y	C	W	C	C	F
U	M	C	E	K	P	I	T	H	A	L	L	O
L	E	D	H	A	P	U	L	P	I	T	E	G
P	N	Z	P	A	N	G	Y	N	L	R	R	A
C	L	B	R	Y	R	A	I	S	A	G	G	M
L	E	D	O	U	F	I	R	M	D	Y	Y	I
V	C	S	H	C	L	T	S	E	R	M	O	N
S	E	G	A	L	I	T	E	T	M	I	R	A
T	E	S	P	M	A	N	E	A	V	N	I	G
M	C	A	S	S	O	C	K	S	L	I	L	N
V	E	R	G	E	A	P	I	E	T	E	A	R
S	E	S	E	U	C	H	C	A	A	O	G	M



VERGER

DEAN

CLERGY

PULPIT

SERMON

CASSOCK

EUCCHARIST



MONUMENTS and MEMORIALS



Memorials often use symbols and images of the person's life or work to show who the person was, what they did and how the family wanted them to be remembered.

THIS CATHEDRAL CONTAINS MANY MONUMENTS AND MEMORIALS TO PEOPLE WHO HAVE DIED. THEY HELP FUTURE GENERATIONS REMEMBER THEM.

THERE ARE MANY DIFFERENT TYPES OF MONUMENTS HERE.



Can you see?

Two monuments that show people? These are dedicated to Irish Presidents.



A plaque with inscriptions?



A memorial stained-glass window?

The brass and the window are in memory of Sir John Stevenson, a composer and organist.

ACTIVITY #9

Design a monument for you or someone close to you.

What symbols could represent the best or most unusual things about them?

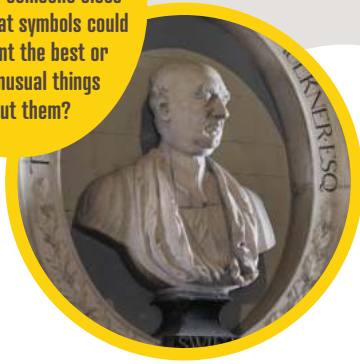


I am pleased to say there is a splendid memorial plaque to me in the Cathedral.

ACTIVITY #9



Design a monument
for you or someone close
to you. What symbols could
represent the best or
most unusual things
about them?



JONATHAN SWIFT, an extraordinary DEAN



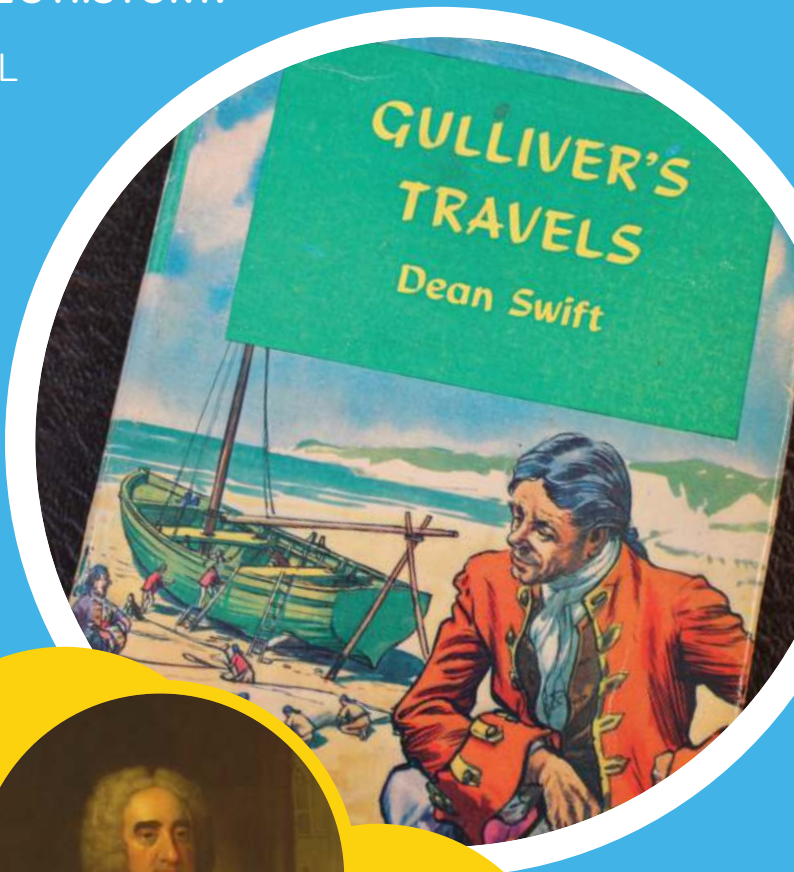
Jonathan Swift is buried under the gold plaque near the Cathedral entrance.

JONATHAN SWIFT WAS ONE OF THE MOST FAMOUS PEOPLE IN THE CATHEDRAL'S HISTORY.

SWIFT WAS DEAN OF THE CATHEDRAL FROM 1713-1745.

He wrote many books and papers during that time. Gulliver's Travels, his most famous book, is the most popular Irish book of all time and is still read all around the world.

Swift was not always popular. His writing often criticised and made fun of powerful people. He pointed out the unfairness in Irish society at the time and championed the rights of poor and downtrodden people.



ACTIVITY #10

What do you think Swift would be writing about if he were alive today?

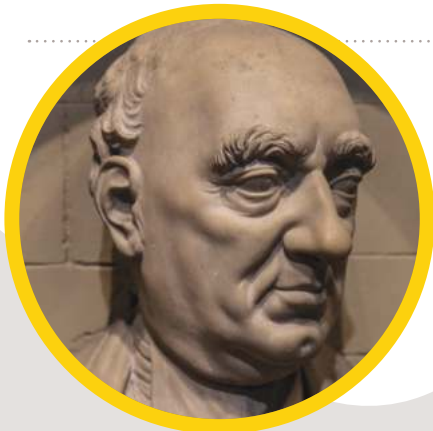


Farewell. I hope you enjoyed your visit to this great and inspirational Cathedral.

ACTIVITY #10



What do you think
I would write
about the world
today?



FIND OUT MORE....

www.stpatrickscathedral.ie