

Coventry Cathedral Resourced Teacher-led Tour

If you are interested in booking a 'Resource Box' then read on...

The Resource Box will be available for your school on arrival at the Cathedral. Contained within it will be all the resources your children need and all the information your staff and support staff will need to help you guide the children around; this includes information about the building itself and also practical details about toilets, first aid, and services.

Resource Boxes are available for Key Stage 1 – 4 on a variety of curriculum areas including RE, History and Art. Please see the booking pack for more information.

Below is a sample of what it may contain and activity sheets

Resource Box Contents

Children's Activity Sheets

Staff 'crib sheet'

Paper

Staff Information sheet (containing practical information about the Cathedral)

Extension Activity



COVENTRY CATHEDRAL
PLACE OF WORSHIP
ACTIVITY SHEET

After the bombing of the Cathedral in 1940 a competition to design Coventry's new Cathedral was announced. The design had to be both practical and inspiring.

A Cathedral is a Christian place of worship so Basil Spence—who won the competition - had to include all the things Christians would need.

Use the map and questions below to discover these important aspects. For each object take time to look at it.

What is its purpose? What does it look like? Is it symbolic? Think about its position in the building.

1. **The Font.** A simple boulder from Bethlehem, with the shape of a shell carved to hold water. The shell is the symbol of a pilgrim, the water symbolises purity, cleansing, re-birth or refreshment. The font is near the entrance as Baptism represents the beginning of a Christian's journey towards God.

The colours in the window above represent: light, or God's love and power, radiating out into the world containing both good and evil.

Do you see it this way or does it give you a different message?

2. **The Czech Cross** The Czech Cross; A crucifix (cross with Jesus on it) sent out of Czechoslovakia to protect it when the Russians invaded.

What do you think a Christian would think about while praying in front of a crucifix. How would this differ from a Cross?

3. **Stained glass Windows** In medieval times when common people could not read, these windows would retell the stories of the Bible. Each of these windows tells a different story.

What images can you make out?

4. **Lectern** Symbolically, the Eagle on the lectern carries the word of God (the Bible) out to the people.

Why is this platform raised up?

Look carefully at the Baptistry window.
What colours can you see?

Think about how these colours make you
feel. **What feelings go with what colours?**



Where did the large rock come from that is in front of the Baptistry
window?

Why is this town important? What happened there?

Find the Chapel of Unity in the New Cathedral.

Look at the bird in the centre of the floor. This bird is a sign of
peace.

**Make a sketch of this bird and try to write a short poem of prayer
about being friends.**

Go up the steps to the ruined Cathedral.

4. There are Roman numerals written in the bronze of the effigy of Bishop Yeatman-Biggs (pictured here).



a) Copy down the numerals.

MCM means 1900
Each X means 10
Each I means 1

b) What year do they represent?

Continue to the Chapel of Christ the Servant (or Chapel of Industry)

31. a) Use a 'Heel to toe' method to measure the circumference of the platform in your 'feet'

b) If circumference is approximately 3 times bigger than the diameter, estimate the diameter of the platform in your 'feet'
