

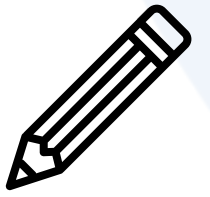
# A Pilgrim's Trip to Durham

## Information Sheet on Pilgrims, Pilgrimage and St Cuthbert



During the Medieval period, pilgrims travelled long distances to places of religious or spiritual significance in order to accomplish a moral purpose. This act is defined as a pilgrimage, and County Durham along with its Cathedral, are important pilgrim destinations due to their connection to St. Cuthbert and St. Aidan. There is a shrine to St. Cuthbert in Durham Cathedral that many pilgrims from all over the world have travelled to in order to pay their respects to the saint. St Cuthbert is seen as a very important Saint. During his life, he was a monk and bishop who was rumoured to have the power to perform healing miracles. He was made the Saint of Lindisfarne, so when he died in 687 AD he was buried there on the holy island. Eleven years later, the monks of Lindisfarne found that St. Cuthbert's body was the same as when it was buried. Instead of decaying and rotting, his body was still in perfect condition. Later, in 793 AD, the Vikings invaded so the monks had to move St. Cuthbert's body to keep it safe. After seven years of the monks wandering, his body was reburied in Chester-le-Street, until the Vikings invaded again. After many years and different locations, St Cuthbert's body was finally laid to rest in Durham and a shrine was created for him in 1104. As mentioned above, pilgrims travelled to see his body, and they bought pilgrim badges that were sold at the shrine. The pilgrim badges depicted a design similar to St Cuthbert's cross (like the one in the corner of this page), which was an item found in his coffin when he died. This cross eventually became a symbol of County Durham. After a pilgrimage was completed, it is thought that many pilgrims deliberately threw their pilgrim badge into the river to make sure they had a safe journey home. Although, there were also cases where they took it home to keep as a souvenir. To this day many Christians still make the pilgrimage to St Cuthbert's Shrine to show their religious and moral beliefs.

# A Pilgrim's Trip to Durham



You have been asked to create a storyboard after hearing about a pilgrim's journey. The story will be about a pilgrim's travels to Durham when visiting the shrine of St Cuthbert. Try to draw what happens at each stage of this story in the matching box. Then describe what you have drawn and write it down underneath the box.

Your storyboard should include the following:

- Box 1 - A Pilgrim leaving their home to start their pilgrimage journey to Durham.
- Box 2 - The Pilgrim arriving at Durham.
- Box 3 - The Pilgrim inside Durham Cathedral and visiting St Cuthbert's Shrine.
- Box 4 - A Pilgrim purchasing a pilgrim badge and/or a St Cuthbert's Cross.
- Box 5 - A Pilgrim throwing a badge and/or cross from Elvet Bridge into the River Wear below.
- Box 6 - A Pilgrim journeying home after a successful pilgrimage.



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