

Children's Quiz (and Adults too...)

First - The Answers to Quiz Number 1

(1) Which three books of the Bible are named after women?

Ruth, Judith and Esther.

(2) In the Bible, according to Acts chapter 20, how did St Paul nearly bore someone to death?

He preached a long sermon until late in the night. A man sitting in a window to listen fell asleep and fell through the window to the ground below.

(3) Padre Pio (St Pio of Pietrelcina) and St Francis of Assisi both suffered from stigmata. What are stigmata?

Stigmata are a set of wounds, like Jesus's nail holes, which miraculously appear on a person's hands and feet.

(4) Who is the earliest recorded saint in England?

St Alban, who was martyred in the Roman city of Verulamium. The modern city of St Albans stands on the same site and is named after him. (Some people might argue that St Joseph of Arimathea was earlier, but the story about him visiting Glastonbury is an unreliable legend, whereas the martyrdom of St Alban is recognized as a real historical event).

(5) Which English saint from the Middle Ages had a pet swan?

St Hugh of Lincoln.

(6) Over the door of the church in Hunsbury there is a sign in Latin saying 'Domus Dei et Porta Caeli'. What does that mean?

'The house of God and the gate of Heaven'.

(7) And where in the Bible do the words 'Domus Dei et Porta Caeli' come from?

Genesis 28:17, at the end of the story of Jacob's Ladder.

(8) The Church of the Holy Sepulchre, in central Northampton, is named after the original Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem. What is the 'Holy Sepulchre'?

A sepulchre is a tomb, and the Holy Sepulchre was the tomb in which Jesus was placed after the crucifixion. The original church of the Holy Sepulchre stands in Jerusalem, on the site of Jesus' tomb.

(9) Several places in Northampton are named after St Thomas Becket, including Thomas Becket School and Becket's Park. Why is St Thomas so closely associated with the town?

St Thomas, an Archbishop of Canterbury in the 12th century, had a long-running argument with King Henry II who wanted to limit the independence of the church. One of the main confrontations between the two men happened in Northampton Castle and ended with St Thomas having to escape from the town and run away into exile. (Northampton Castle used to stand where the Northampton railway station now is but almost no trace of it survives).

(10) In an emergency, if a priest is not available to baptize someone, who else is allowed to perform the baptism?

Absolutely anyone at all, including a non-Christian, can perform a valid baptism if they do it in the correct way with the intention to do what the church does. However a lay person should only baptize someone in an urgent situation, where no priest or deacon is available and it would not be reasonable to wait.

Now for ... Quiz Number 2

(1) Which is the shortest book in the Bible?

(2) Where in the Bible are the Ten Commandments?

(3) Who were the children of Fatima and what is their story?

(4) St Nicholas Owen was a builder and carpenter. What type of structure is he famous for building?

(5) Which English saint lived for much of his life in Birmingham?

(6) Which public office did Saint Thomas More hold?

(7) The village church in Brixworth, near Northampton, is one of the oldest buildings anywhere in Great Britain. How old is it?

(8) Why is there a part of Northampton called "St James"?

(9) Which popular Catholic devotion was promoted by St Margaret-Mary Alacoque?

(10) One of the most widely known and used Latin hymns is the 'Salve Regina'. To whom is it addressed?