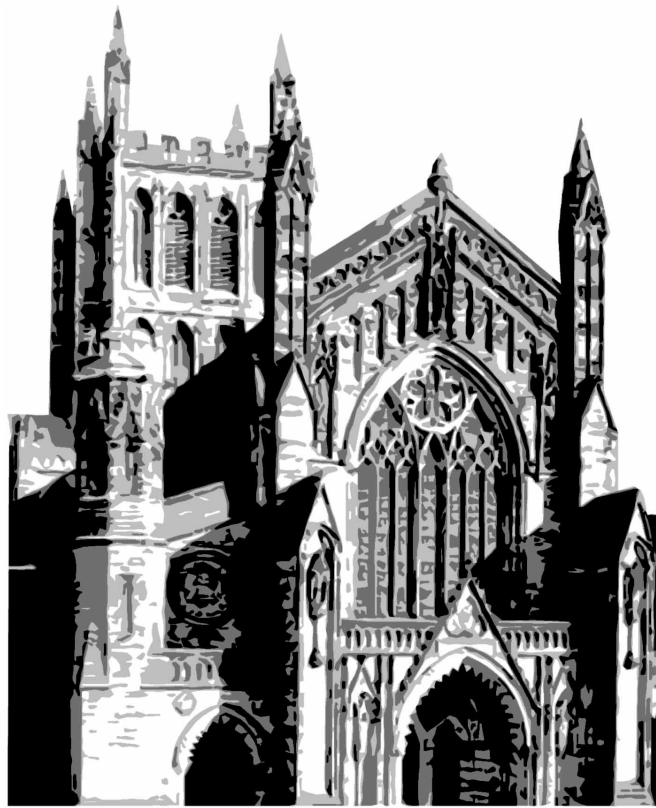


Hereford Cathedral: A Pilgrimage Experience Teacher's Pack 2.



Medieval Pilgrim Cameos
for use by teachers preparing KS2 classes for a
Pilgrimage Experience
at
Hereford Cathedral

Hereford Cathedral Education Department
Notes for Teachers

A Pilgrimage Experience: Teacher's Pack 2
Medieval Pilgrim Cameos

Pilgrim characters

This pack contains cameos of 30 medieval pilgrims, 15 female and 15 male. There are two pilgrim characters per page. Each child should take on the role of one of the pilgrims. The pilgrim cameos in the pack can be photocopied and given to the children so that they can get 'know' their character.

Costumes and gifts

Medieval-style costumes and gifts will be provided when you come to the cathedral, and time will be built into your visit for the children to change into and out of their costumes. All the outfits can be worn over the top of normal school clothing. We have a number of CRB checked volunteers who are happy to help children dress, but some children might prefer to be helped by someone they know, so it is important that you bring with you Teaching Assistants or parent helpers known to the children, who are prepared to help with the costuming.

Additional characters

If necessary, we can prepare additional characters, costumes and gifts. If you have more than 15 boys or girls in your class, or would like extra characters for any other reason, please let us know well in advance of your visit.

Pilgrim Prayer

A short pilgrim prayer is said when the children arrive with their gifts at the shrine of St Thomas Cantilupe. The words are printed below in a format that can be photocopied and given to a child, or perhaps two, to share. Before your visit, please would you ask for 1 or 2 volunteer prayer readers to be ready to lead the prayer?

Dear God,

We give you our grateful thanks for protecting us on our journey, and bringing us safely to the shrine of St. Thomas.

We humbly offer our gifts and hope that you will hear our prayers and bless us.

Amen

f 1

Juliana

My name is Juliana. Since I was a little girl, I have had difficulty walking.

One day my mother heard about St. Thomas curing a woman called Edith, so she sent me to pray at the shrine. I had to be carried in a basket by two servants. I remember it was Good Friday, and we reached the Cathedral in the morning.

As I lay on the floor near the Shrine, I saw a man who was unable to walk sitting quite near to me. As I watched, he struggled to his feet and slowly walked around the shrine. I felt that St. Thomas was telling me to do the same.

So I made a great effort and stood up and managed a few steps. I have been able to walk ever since, and now I am going to the shrine with my mother to give thanks to St. Thomas.

I am giving my old walking staff as my gift.

f 2

Dame Elizabeth ~ Juliana's mother

I am Juliana's mother. My name is Dame Elizabeth. I have been worrying about my daughter for many years. When she was a small child she could not play with the other children, and when she got older we worried that no man would want her for a wife.

We are so pleased that she can walk. Now she will be able to find a husband and have children of her own.

We are visiting St. Thomas's shrine to give thanks.

I am giving a large candle as my gift.

f 3

Matilda ~ friend of Juliana

My name is Matilda. I am a friend of Juliana. I have heard people talking about St. Thomas of Hereford, but I did not really believe that he could heal people.

I said this to my friends, and one night just afterwards I stumbled in my house and dropped my candle. In the dark I fell against a table and banged my head. I was poorly for many days. When I recovered I realised that I was blind in one eye. The priest said that it was because I doubted the power of St. Thomas. Now I am afraid that I will lose my sight altogether.

Then I heard that Juliana could walk again after her visit to the shrine. So I am travelling on this pilgrimage to ask for forgiveness and to ask God to give me back my sight.

I am giving an embroidered cross, which I have struggled to make.

f 4

Edith ~ Wife of Robert the Ironmonger

My name is Edith. I am the wife of Robert the Ironmonger. My dear husband tells me that I became mad and lost my reason. I even shouted and blasphemed against God in the Cathedral, and tried to bite people. I do not remember this at all.

My husband has told me that he took me to the shrine of St. Thomas and prayed to the saint, and I was cured. Now we are going on pilgrimage to give thanks for my cure.

I am bringing a candlestick for the saint as my gift.

f 5

Widow Julia

My name is Julia. I am travelling to the Shrine of St. Thomas Cantilupe of Hereford with my companion Felicia.

My husband, who was twenty years older than me, died earlier this year. He had once been strong and handsome, and enjoyed hunting, but in later life he became feeble and died of a sickness. I have come to pray for his soul.

I have inherited his large house and I am rich. I am used to a comfortable bed, fine linens, ladies to wait on me and good food.

This journey has been very hard for me. It has been very unpleasant staying at inns and travelling with peasants. I hope I can soon return safely to the comforts of my own home.

I have brought an embroidered altar cloth as my gift.

f 6

Felicia ~ Companion to Widow Julia

My name is Felicia, and I am travelling to the holy shrine with my dear friend Julia.

She is praying for the soul of her poor husband, and I am giving thanks for the recovery of my favourite horse. He collapsed when I was out riding him. I had gone to visit one of the families that live on our land when something scared him. He reared up, threw me to the ground and then collapsed himself. He seemed to be dead.

I prayed to Saint Thomas for his recovery, and the next morning my grooms found that he was standing up and eating grass.

My gift is a figure of my horse, which I will leave at the shrine.

f 7

Dame Morwenna of Cornwall

My name is Morwenna. I have travelled with Maud, my maid, all the way from Cornwall.

It has been a very long journey. I have been on many pilgrimages and I enjoy travelling round and meeting people. I like the evenings best because we stay at an inn or a monastery and have fun. We all gather round and eat and drink ale and tell stories. There is usually lots of laughter.

My poor old husband died - as did the one before him. They both left me money and property, so I am rich.

I hope I shall meet another man while I am on this pilgrimage. I am lonely on my own. I shall pray to St. Thomas that I can find another husband.

I have brought an embroidered cross as my gift.

f 8

Maud ~ maid to Dame Morwenna

My name is Maud, and I am the maidservant to Dame Morwenna.

I have been on pilgrimage with her before - to Canterbury and to Walsingham. She travels on horseback, but I have to walk all the way so I am always tired when we arrive at an inn for the night. It is hard work looking after my mistress. I have to make sure her clothes are looked after, and that the beds are clean and comfortable.

Even though I have to walk a long way and work hard, I still enjoy going on pilgrimage. I meet many jolly people, and I like best the time at the inns in the evening when everyone is laughing and telling stories.

My mistress has given me a purse with some coins in it.

f 9

Margaret and her baby

My name is Margaret, and a few months ago I had a baby. Afterwards I had a dreadful fever. I was sick for many days. People came to visit my bedside but I was so ill with fever that I did not see them. My husband was very afraid for me.

He had heard of the healing miracles of Saint Thomas of Hereford, so he made the long journey to pray at the shrine for my recovery. The next day it was truly a miracle, for the fever left me. I was still very weak and needed to be looked after, but slowly I got better.

Now I am well again, and I am coming to the shrine to thank St. Thomas for curing me, and to give thanks for my beautiful baby who was christened Thomas in honour of the Saint.

My gift is a candle.

f 10

Isobel and her son

My name is Isobel, and I am making this pilgrimage to thank St. Thomas for the life of my little son, John.

We were so proud when he started to walk, but soon he was walking and climbing everywhere. He went off into the fields and woods and often stayed away for hours and hours. I was always very worried that he would get lost. One day, when he was still no more than 2 years old, I heard a cry and a splash from the pool near our farmhouse. I ran outside to see that John had fallen in. His little body was face down in the water and seemed to be very still.

We pulled him out, but we thought he was dead. All of us prayed to St Thomas, and suddenly he began to breathe again. We were overjoyed.

We have brought some money in a purse.

f 11

Mother Benedict ~ a Prioress

I am the Prioress at St. Mary's Convent in Worcester. I have been in charge of the Sisters there for ten years.

I am bringing two of our novices to pray at the shrine of Saint Thomas of Hereford. I have been on many pilgrimages to the Holy Shrines, but this is the first time they have been. It is good for them to have this experience.

I hope that when they see other pilgrims and hear their stories, they will increase in faith.

My gift is a statue of Our Lady.

f 12

Sister Catherine

My name is Sister Catherine, and I am a novice at the convent.

Sister Maria and I are travelling to the shrine of St Thomas with Mother Benedict, who is very strict.

I am very excited to be making this journey, because I have not been outside the convent walls for six months since I decided to become a nun and devote my life to God.

When we get to the shrine I will pray for my parents. They are not yet old, and they are still in good health, so I will pray that they do not become sick.

My gift is some communion wafers that I have made.

f 13

Sister Maria

My name is Sister Maria. I have been a novice at the convent for only three months. I want to live a life of prayer and service to God. My mother is very proud that I want to become a nun.

I miss my family, but Sister Catherine, who has been in the convent for 6 months, has been a good friend to me.

Some of the nuns keep the garden and grow food and herbs. I hope that I will soon be allowed to help in the gardens.

Sister Catherine and I have enjoyed the journey on our pilgrimage to the shrine of St. Thomas and hope that he will bless us. I will pray that he will help me to be a good nun.

My gift is some communion wafers that I have made.

f 14

Lady Blanche ~ Wife of Sir Peter de Lacy

I am Lady Blanche, and I am travelling with my dear husband Sir Peter de Lacy on this pilgrimage to give thanks to God for his safe return from foreign lands.

My companion on the journey is Judith, who has tried hard to make the journey bearable.

I have not enjoyed our long journey, nor have I enjoyed staying in the dirty, noisy inns along the way. The food is poor and has made me ill, and I think some of the other pilgrims are making the journey just for the fun of meeting people. They are not really serving God.

Judith has been a cheerful and helpful companion and looked after me. So I will give thanks for her company.

My gift is a priest's stole that I have embroidered.

f 15

Judith ~ Companion to Lady Blanche

My name is Judith and I am on a pilgrimage to the shrine of Saint Thomas with Lady Blanche and her husband.

Lady Blanche has been very ill on the way, and has complained about the beds and the food. She has found fault with every place where we have stayed.

But, I have enjoyed the journey and seeing all the new places. I have also enjoyed meeting new people. I have tried to be cheerful, and help Lady Blanche in every way.

I will pray to Saint Thomas to help me to always be cheerful and help other people.

My gift is a rosary to leave at the shrine.

m 1

John Carpenter ~ Pilgrimage Leader

My name is John Carpenter, and I am the Pilgrimage leader. I have made this journey many times.

I have to collect all the pilgrims along the way, and lead them safely to Hereford Cathedral and the Shrine of our beloved St. Thomas Cantilupe.

I have to make sure that the inns where we stay offer the pilgrims clean and safe accommodation, and deal with all the problems and complaints. It is hard work as many of them are not used to travelling this way.

My wife has asked me to offer prayers and a gift for her mother's swift recovery. Although I love my mother-in-law, I must admit that the house has been quieter whilst she has taken to her bed.

My gift is flowers from my wife.

m 2

Sir Milo ~ a Knight

I am Sir Milo Pychard and I am a Knight of this shire. I am making this pilgrimage to give thanks to St. Thomas who heard my prayers and healed my wound.

Six years ago I was badly wounded by a lance in a tournament. We tried all manner of herbs and poultices, but no matter how we tried, nothing would heal it.

I heard that people had been cured of their ailments after praying to St. Thomas, and so I asked to be taken there in a cart. I was in great pain because the roads were so bumpy. I managed to stand at the shrine through the night, and then I went to rest.

When I woke up, my wound was almost healed.

I offer a sword as my gift.

m 3

Peter ~ Squire to Sir Milo

I am Peter, squire to Sir Milo. I take care of his armour and the weapons that he uses in the tournaments. I make sure that he has food to eat and clean clothes to wear. He has won a great deal of money and many prizes.

He has been very kind to me and I have travelled to many places with him. I was with him at the shrine, and was amazed that his wound had healed after so long.

I will pray for my mother and father whom I have not seen for many months.

My gift is a wooden cross my lord has given me to offer at the shrine.

m 4

Robert ~ the Ironmonger

I am Robert and I am an Ironmonger in the city.

I have come on pilgrimage with my dear wife Edith to give thanks to St. Thomas for the miracle that cured her madness. She did not even recognise her own family, and raged at everyone.

Even in the cathedral she blasphemed against God and his holy saints. I was told that she would have to be restrained and locked away, but I had a vision and I saw the shrine and felt God asking me to send her there.

I sent my servants to guard her and she stayed at the shrine for several days. Then one morning she awoke from sleep and was back to her normal self, and could remember nothing of her illness.

I shall offer prayers to God for his mercy.

My gift is a metal cross that I have had made by a local blacksmith.

m 5

Richard ~ squire to a Cornish knight

I have come on this pilgrimage on behalf of my lord Mark, who is a Cornish Knight.

One day when we were hunting, his favourite falcon was trampled by my horse. My lord was very angry at my carelessness.

He put the injured falcon in my hat to keep it warm, and we took it back to the castle.

I told him that I had heard stories that St. Thomas Cantilupe of Hereford had healed both men and animals. So we prayed to St. Thomas, and the falcon recovered and can fly again. So my lord has sent me to give thanks.

My gift is a golden image of a falcon.

m 6

Huw - priest to the Earl of Pembroke

My master has sent me on this pilgrimage to give thanks on his behalf to St. Thomas.

My master was very ill with a terrible fever and he was near to death. I was praying with him when he had a vision. In his dream, he was being wiped with a white cloth held by a bishop in his robes who was praying for him.

When he awoke his fever had broken and he began to recover. My Lord was certain that the Bishop in his vision was St Thomas of Hereford.

My gift is a Bible wrapped in a golden cloth.

m 7

Brother Patrick

I was born in Ireland and I am a monk in a small monastery near Dublin.

I have been sent by my Abbot to travel to many Holy Shrines. He has asked me to bring back some holy relics for our monastery.

I have been away for two years. I have heard much on my travels of the miracles that have happened at the Shrine at Hereford. I am hoping that I can take back with me a few strands of material from St. Thomas's robe.

When I have visited Hereford, I shall travel on to Gloucester and then to Canterbury to the shrine of the blessed St Thomas Becket.

My gift is a manuscript with a prayer, which I have copied and decorated.

m 8

Brother John

My name is Brother John. I am a monk at St. Peter's Priory at Gloucester.

I have travelled on this pilgrimage to ask St. Thomas to bless me and help me to live a holy life like his. I have heard that he was very careful never to eat too much, and he even invited tramps and beggars to share his food. He worked very hard for the people of the diocese of Hereford.

When I first became a monk, I sometimes found it very difficult to follow all the rules at the monastery and I had to try hard to remember that I am on this earth only to serve God.

One day, if I keep studying the Holy Gospels and trying to be more like St. Thomas, maybe I will become Abbot of a monastery myself. Then I can help others to live a life of prayer and devotion to God.

My gift is a piece of rich fabric to be used on the altar.

m 9

Gilbert the Minstrel

I am Gilbert the Minstrel. I have joined this pilgrimage because I wish to ask St. Thomas to bless my new venture. I was an apprentice tanner, but the chemicals and the terrible smell of the hides made me ill, and I had to give it up.

I had to find a new occupation. My mother advised me to become a minstrel, as I had always enjoyed singing even when I was very small, and had taught myself to play the lute.

So I have written some songs and improved my playing. I hope that I shall find a new master who will employ me to entertain himself and his guests. I am travelling with William who has taught me many old songs, and we hope to find work together.

My gift is a song that I have written for St. Thomas, which Brother Patrick has written on manuscript for me, to leave at the shrine.

m 10

William the Minstrel

I am travelling with Gilbert and I am teaching him some of the old songs. I have come on pilgrimage to give thanks for the healing of my hands.

A tapestry caught fire one night when I was singing in the Great Hall of Ludlow Castle. Without thinking, I pulled it down and beat out the flames. My hands were badly burnt and I could not play the lute - in fact I thought I would never play again. I have no other way of earning a living.

The priest at the castle, Father Matthew, took me to the chapel and we prayed to St Thomas and slowly my hands have healed.

I have saved all my money to take a gift to his shrine in thanks.

My gift is a small tapestry.

m 11

Robert ~ an apprentice carpenter

I am learning to be a carpenter. I am learning my trade with Master Robert who is very good to me. I live with his family and he is teaching me all he knows.

To begin with, I found it hard to learn all about the different woods and how to use them. There are so many tools and it will take me years to save up to buy my own. What I like best is carving. I would like to carve animals and figures which will decorate the churches, then my skills will be used for God's house.

I have come on this pilgrimage on behalf of my master who is losing his sight. Even in bright sunlight he can hardly see to work, and can't do the fine carving any more.

Then he heard that many people had been cured at St. Thomas's Shrine, so he has sent me to pray for him. It has been a wonderful journey - I have never been so far away from my village before. I pray that my master will get well.

My gift is one of my master's carvings of a dragon.

m 12

Thomas ~ an apprentice silversmith

I am only on this pilgrimage because the priest in my parish made me. He gave me a penance, which was to travel to the Shrine of St. Thomas and ask him to bless me and help me not to be a thief.

I only stole a small coin from the floor of my master's workshop to buy some cider. I was really stupid to get caught. I should have gone to an inn further away where no one knew me.

My feet hurt and my legs ache so I shall be glad to get back home. My master forgave me because I am very skilful in working the silver and he needs me.

Still, he did forgive me so I suppose I should be grateful. I could have had a much worse punishment than this.

My gift is a silver dish that I have made.

m 13

Hugh the Master Mason

I am Hugh and I have come on this pilgrimage to ask God's blessing on my ideas and plans for the re-building of Pembridge Church.

I first became an apprentice when I was seven years old, and then became a journeyman when I was fourteen.

Since then I have travelled around for many years, helping build other churches and cathedrals, but this is the first time that I have been employed as a Master Mason. I have seen some wonderful carving and huge soaring arches that seem to hang in the air. I have learned the skills from others to build these myself.

I hope that the work I do will last for hundreds of years to the glory of God. We hope that St. Thomas will give us his blessing and inspire us so that our work will be fit for the house of God.

My gift is a roof boss, which I have carved.

m 14

Sir Peter de Lacy

I am Sir Peter de Lacy. I have been a warrior in many battles. I have been wounded many times, but always through the grace of God my life has been spared. I am getting too old for warfare, so I had decided to return home to my loyal wife and family and settle down to a quiet life.

On my way home, our ship was caught in a terrible storm near the island of Malta. The waves rose higher and higher and the sails were torn to shreds by the wind. We all knelt on deck and prayed to our dear St. Thomas of Hereford, who has been known to look kindly on sailors who are in peril.

At once the storm was stilled and our lives were saved.

I have come on this pilgrimage with my wife to give thanks to God and his servant St. Thomas for sparing my life.

My gift is a replica of our ship in gold.

m 15

Adam ~ Squire to Sir Peter de Lacy

I am Adam, squire to Sir Peter. I am the son of one of his oldest friends and I am learning how to be a gentleman and a true knight. I have travelled to many far distant places with him, and tended to his needs. I have to make sure that he has good food and clean clothes and that his swords and armour are repaired and kept ready for battle.

I was with him on the ship and I was terrified when we were caught in the storm. I thought we would all be drowned and that I would never see England again.

When we got back, my master gave me leave to visit my mother and father to let them know that I was safe. Sir Peter says that we shall not go to battle again. I shall miss seeing the sights in all the foreign lands.

My mother gave me a gift of money in a purse to bring to the shrine.