



## The Birkenhead Priory

The oldest standing building on Merseyside, **Birkenhead Priory** encapsulates so much of the town's history within a small, enclosed site. Founded in 1150, the monks of this Benedictine monastery looked after travellers for nearly 400 years and supervised the first regulated "Ferry 'cross the Mersey".

The monks looked after the Priory and welcomed visitors from across the country especially those on Pilgrimage to the city of Liverpool.



*Have a look at the monks below and find out what colour each denomination would wear.*

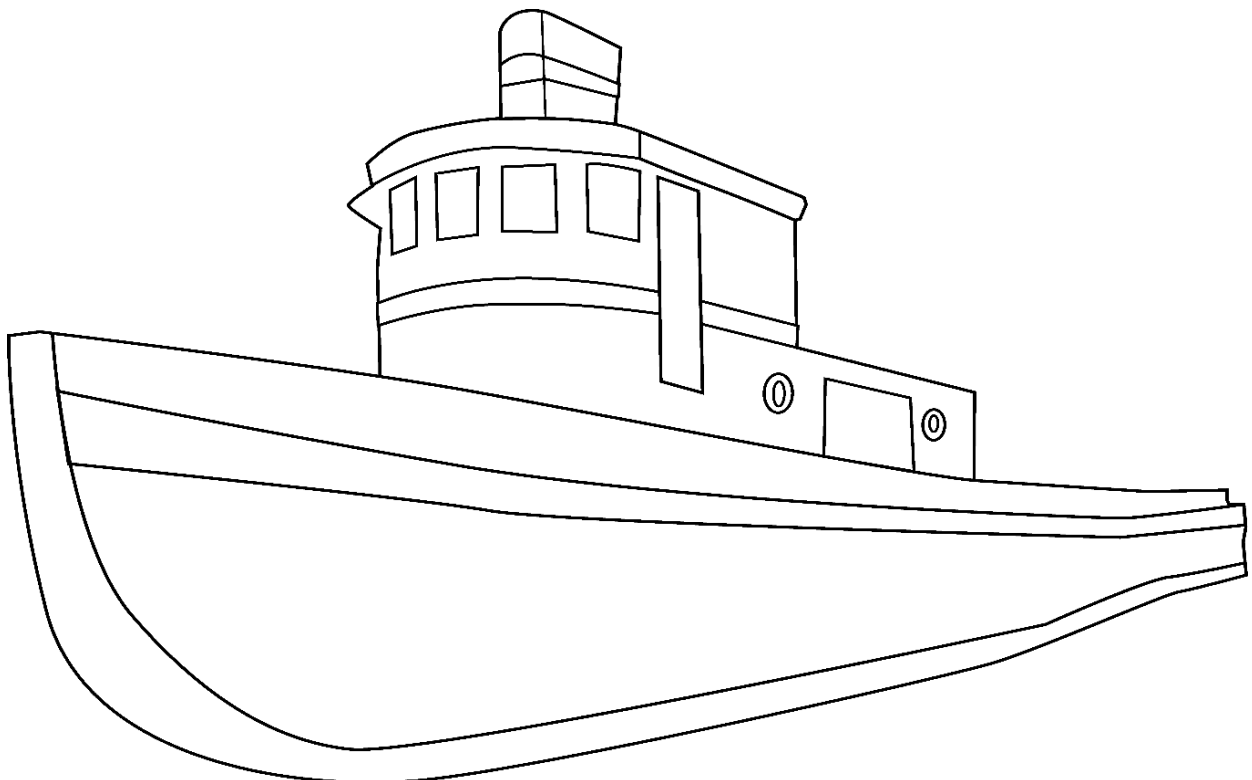




## Ferry 'Cross The Mersey

The Benedictine monks were granted a charter in 1318 to charge passengers to sail across the River Mersey. Today the ferry boat is very different to that of the monks.

*Have a look at the dazzle ship below designed by Peter Blake. Use the template to design your own ferry boat inspired by the dazzle design.*





## Stained Glass Stories

The Priory has a number of stained glass windows that help to tell the story of the Priory and other religious themes.

**Take a look at the stained glass images and then enjoy colouring in the windows on the next page.**

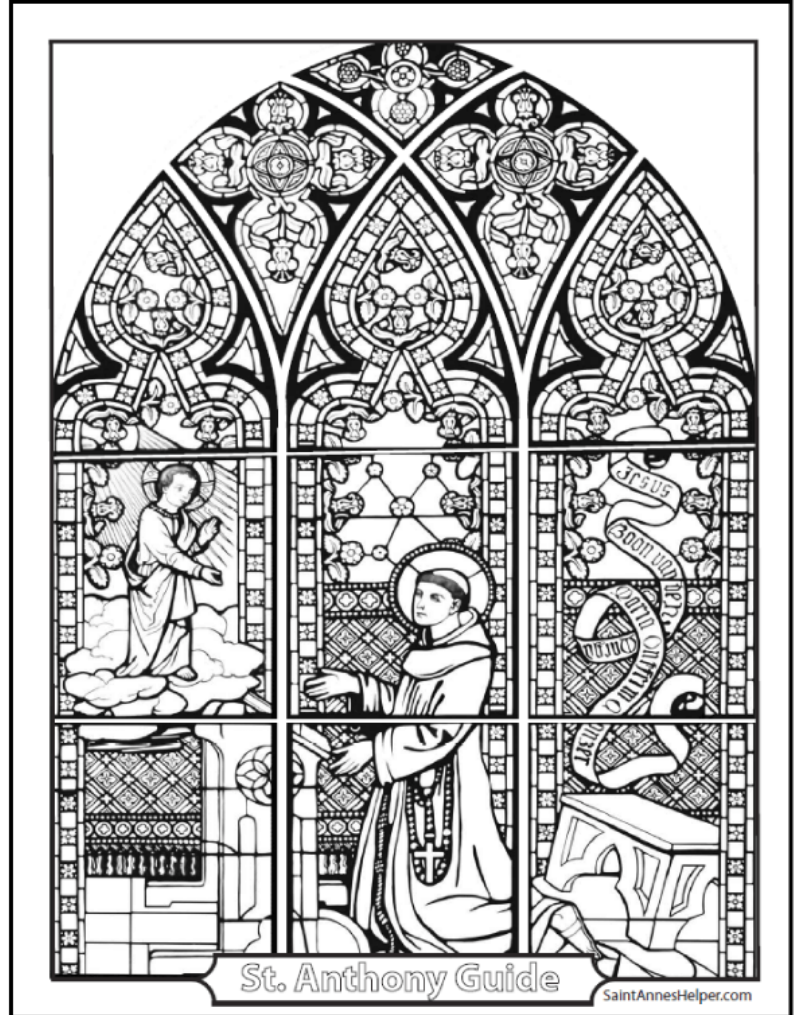
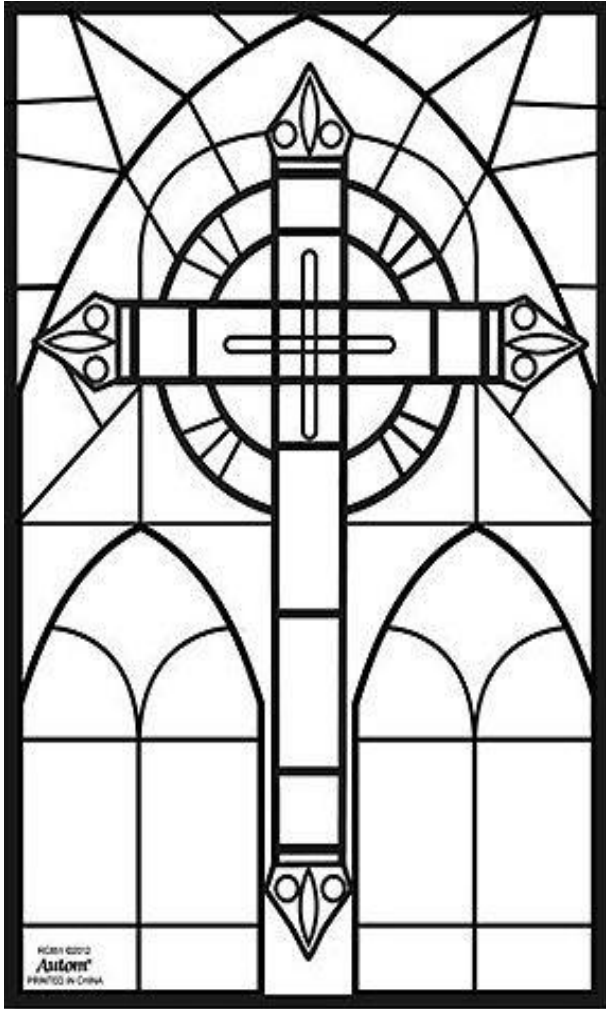


Joe Neary 10





Kids in  
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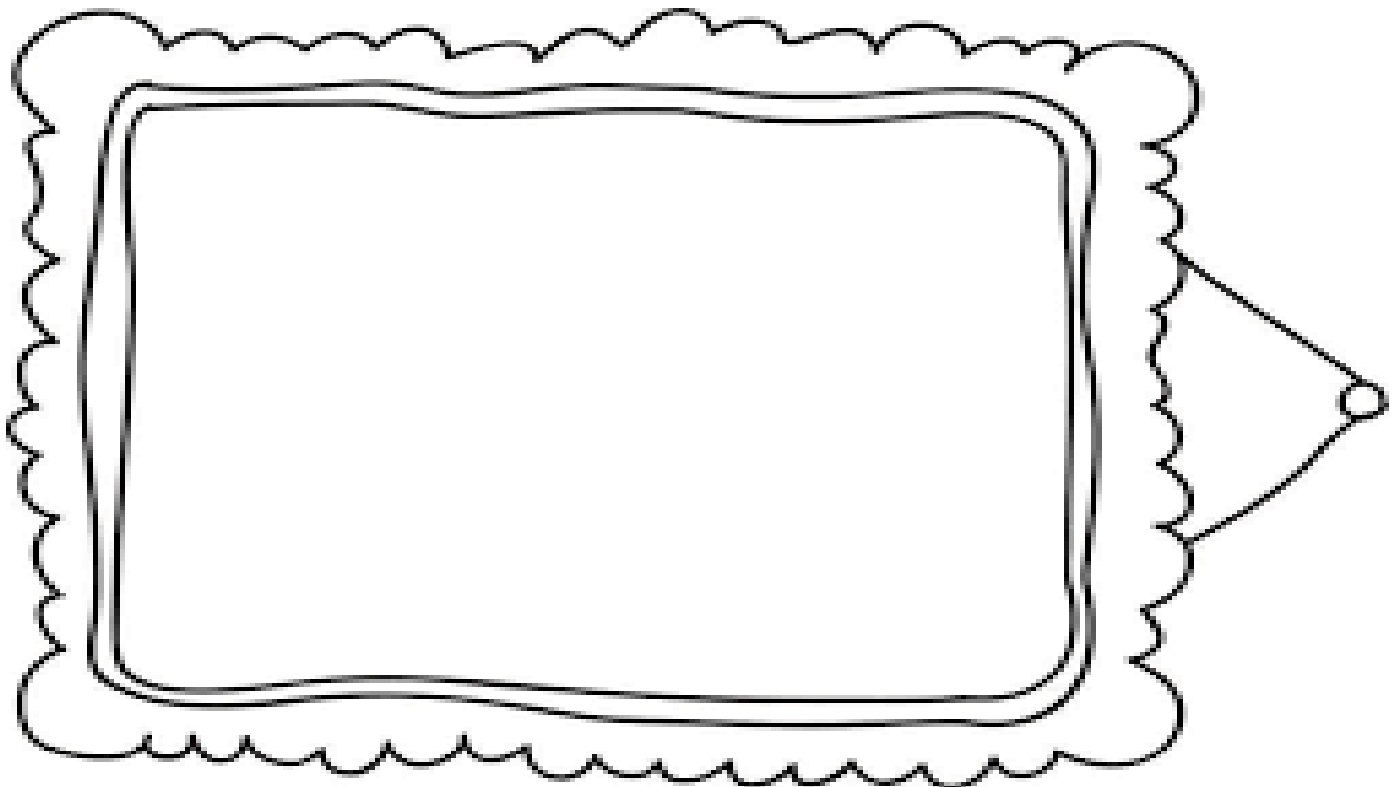
## St Mary's Church

On the site of the Priory is a Church called St Mary's that was built in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Today you can still climb up the 101 steps to the top of the tower. From the top you can see the Liverpool skyline and the length of the River Mersey.



*Imagine you are at the top of St Marys tower. What can you see?*

*Draw what you think you might see from the top of the tower in the frame below.*





## Birkenhead Priory quick quiz

*Answers on the next page*

1. What is the name of the 19<sup>th</sup> century church with the high tower on the Priory site?
2. What was the name of the order of the monks at Birkenhead Priory?
3. In what year was the ferry charter granted to the Priory monks?
4. Where were most people travelling to on the ferry boat?
5. What colour were the Benedictine monks' robes?
6. Who designed the dazzle ship?



Answers:

1. St Marys
2. Benedictine
3. 1318
4. Liverpool
5. Black
6. Peter Blake