

# RESOURCES FOR WORKSHOPS

## THE NORMAN CATHEDRAL

### The Norman Cathedral Education Workshops – outline for teachers

The whole workshop is designed to last approximately 50-55 minutes.

The purpose of this workshop is to try and create a picture of the Cathedral in Norman times. We hope to encourage the children to study the building and to consider its relevance to the people of that time. After a brief introduction to 'set the scene' the children will participate in 2 activities, building arches and the Norman Cathedral Trail.

#### Workshop content

#### Introduction

There will be a preliminary introduction to the whole group lasting about 5 minutes.

The aim is to give the children some idea of what the Cathedral was like in Norman times, and will concentrate on

- Appearance and size – darkness – candles – lack of furniture
- Sounds – chanting and talking – building
- Smells – people – incense

After this the group will complete two different activities.

#### Activities

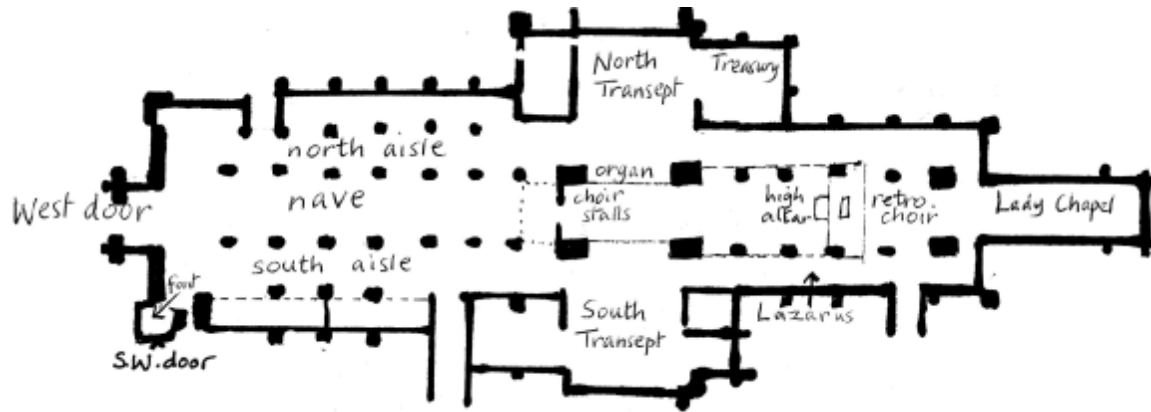
**Activity 1** Building Norman arches. The Workshop Leader will take the children to the Eastern Arm of the Cloisters for this activity. How long this activity takes will obviously depend on the children's ability; it is usually somewhere between 10 and 15 minutes.

**Activity 2** After this activity, the Children's Guide will take the children on the Norman Cathedral Trail. You will need to arrange a photocopy of the Trail for each pupil and ensure they bring pens or pencils and perhaps a clipboard. (A teacher's sheet acts as a prompt and provides some suggestions for answers). The Children's Guide will take the group to the key places on the Trail and encourage the children to look for themselves and try to come up with some answers. Obviously much will depend on the ability of the group and we believe that it is probably better to get some of the Trail done

**properly than rush. The children will be encouraged to jot down responses / exercises as they go; they can convert their answers into a work of art later!**

# The Norman Cathedral TRAIL

Use the plan below to help you find your way around the Cathedral



## 1. THE SOUTH WEST DOOR

Find the South West doorway. On your map it is near the font. This is a Norman doorway. Make a note of the patterns you can see surrounding it. You will need to go through the door and stand outside the Cathedral to do your sketching.



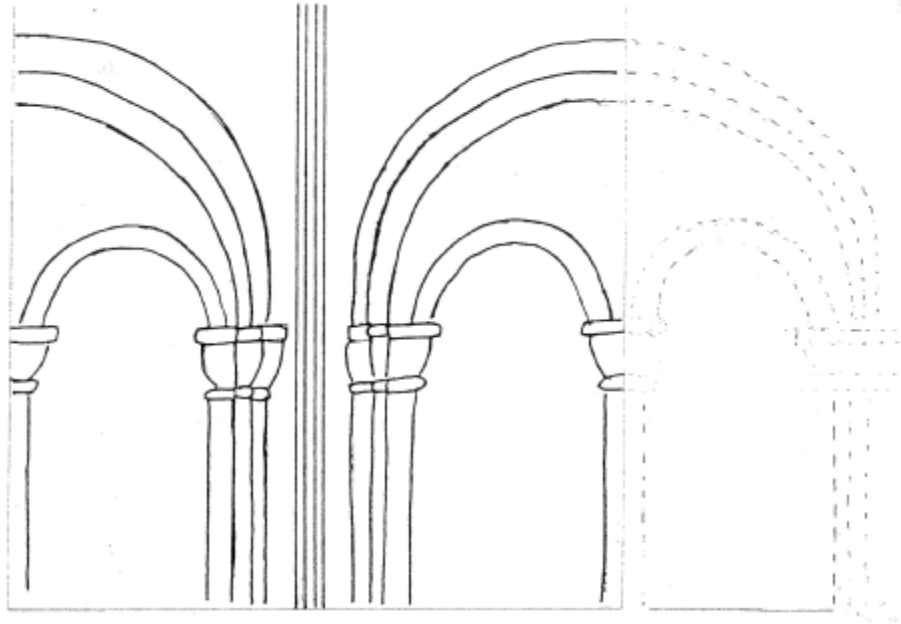
Go back inside the Cathedral and sit in the Nave

## 2. THE NAVE

The Nave was built in 2 stages. Can you see where the Nave was made longer? Hint - look up at the triforia (the windows on the second level).

**How many arches did the first Nave include? Stand in the aisle to count these.**

**3. Complete the drawing of The Triforia**



**4. Look up at the ceiling. After the fire of 1187 Bishop Seffrid put in a stone ceiling and had to strengthen the walls to support it. Can you see what he did?**

**5. On your plan of the Cathedral mark with a cross the places where you can see bricked up arches in the walls. What does this tell us about the building of the Cathedral?**

**6. Go to the place on your map marked 'Lazarus' and look at the Lazarus Reliefs. These carvings were made during the Medieval period. They would have helped people remember the story of Lazarus.**

**What do you think you will remember about them? Explain by writing a short sentence or drawing a small part in the box.**

## The Norman Cathedral Trail – teacher’s sheet

### Question 2

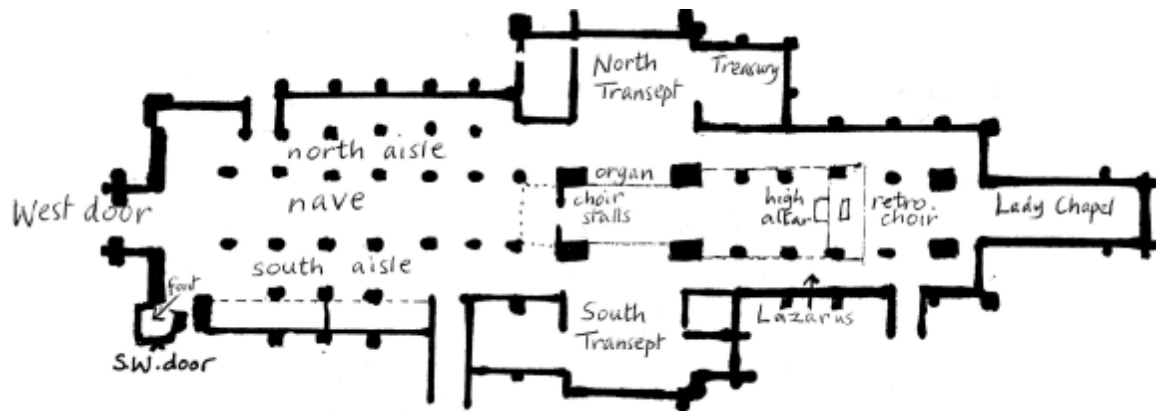
It is easier to get a clear impression of the original Norman Cathedral if you look up at the first floor level, the Triforia. Here you can see where the stone patterning at the top of the triforia changes from being fairly simple diamond shaped to more intricate patterns. The first part of the Norman Cathedral was therefore built away from the Quire (the first arch is slightly hidden behind the Arundel Screen), so the first 4 arches on each side leading away from the Quire are original Norman ones. The next 4 on each side leading towards the West Door are where the Nave was lengthened. The answer to the question therefore is that there are 8 arches in the first part of the Nave, 4 on each side.

### Question 4

On the inside of the Cathedral the pillars made from Purbeck marble (actually a kind of limestone) were added at this time. Look also at the long stone shafts which stretch from the floor to the ceiling, also added then. If you have time you might like to look at the flying buttresses, which were added to the outside of the Cathedral at this time.

### Question 5

Please see below for the crosses, which mark 3 blocked up arches. There are others but these are good clear examples!



### Question 6

Each child will undoubtedly respond individually, but it might help them to have an understanding of the story of Lazarus. This can be found in **John**, Chapter 11. Originally these carvings were heavily bejewelled (removed in The Reformation) and were painted very bright colours.