

Senior School Religious Studies

As part of our ongoing studies of the world's religions, we gratefully accepted a kind invitation from the Reverend Patty Bailey to visit St Michael's and All Angels which is the Anglican Church in Cosby.



We were blessed with a mild morning for our visit and were engrossed in the weathering that had taken place of the limestone gargoyles and statues when the Reverend Patty arrived having been tending her flock. She quickly turned our attention from Geomorphologic processes to Religion and we were able to find a gravestone which had the notes of a favourite hymn inscribed upon it. Our rendition did not cause the heavens to open but it seemed like a good idea to follow the vicar inside just in case. Therein, Reverend Patty told us all about the parts of this lovely church including the altar, the pulpit, the gold eagle lectern and the choir stalls. The lady organist was practicing that morning and so all the vicar's words had the beautiful chords from this delightful second hand organ purchased from Peterborough Cathedral for £10000 in the background. The children, as ever, provided a barrage of questions on all matters religious- as well as some more mundane ones as to how many hours she worked in a shift. Obviously from the child of a shop steward. The good lady then gave us the run of God's house but I am delighted to tell you that no one did run and visitors to the church complimented them on their polite behaviour. Some were fascinated with the standards and plaques commemorating the fallen of The Great Wars, others the act of Communion and many were desperate to have ago in the campanologists' area. (The bell ringing bit to the uninitiated)

All too soon we had to take our leave but not before we had crowded around the inverted Anglo-Saxon font and stood in front of the memorial to the previous vicars dating from 1220 noting that the first three had Norman names. It is a wonderful church and is open to all on a Wednesday. If you want an escape from the madding crowd, do go along and have a coffee and a sticky bun. You are assured of a warm welcome and there is much to see. We gave our thanks to Reverend Patty and we hope to see more of her in the future. In the meantime, we would like to visit other places of worship in due course so if you have any contacts within other religions, please let us know.

