



**CITY WALKS**  
The Art of Faith

# The Art of Faith

Discover contemporary  
works of art in the City's  
historic churches





City Information Centre

Start your walk at the City Information Centre in St Paul's Churchyard. Walk down Peter's Hill towards Millennium Bridge. At Queen Victoria Street turn left and St Nicholas Cole Abbey is approx. 100m along on the left.

**St Nicholas Cole Abbey 1**

Opening Times: Mon-Fri 7am-5pm.  
Sat-Sun 10am-4pm.  
The earliest mention of a church on this site is from the 12th century. The current building features three striking stained glass windows designed by Keith New (1962), the style and rich use of colour reminiscent of Marc Chagall. Dominating the east wall, one window depicts St Nicholas Cole Abbey as the centre of the world surrounded by four crosses. The second shows St Peter with the ark, representing the church. The seven lamps in the third window represent the extended church around the world.



Turn left out of St Nicholas Cole Abbey along Queen Victoria Street. Just before reaching Bank junction turn right along Bucklersbury, St Stephen Walbrook is straight ahead.

The City of London has the greatest concentration of historic church buildings anywhere in the country. In the 16th century there were 111 churches in the City. 80 were destroyed in the Great Fire of 1666 with 51 subsequently rebuilt under the direction of Sir Christopher Wren. Today there are no fewer than 42 historic churches situated within the Square Mile, all of which are either Grade I or Grade II listed, and together they illustrate an extraordinary breadth of architectural history.

Prices and opening times may vary. Please note, as many of these churches are opened by Friends of the City Churches, some may not be open on weekends. Please check individual church opening times for details.

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Less well known is the extent to which they contain significant examples of art commissioned from the 20th century onwards. Many of the churches in the City were damaged by bombing during World War II, providing opportunities in the post-war reconstruction to engage with contemporary art.

These artworks are by prominent modern artists such as Jacob Epstein, Patrick Heron, Damien Hirst, Henry Moore, John Skeaping and Bill Viola, as well as work by other reputable artists such as Thetis Blacker, John Hayward and Keith New.



## St Stephen Walbrook 2

Opening Times: Mon, Tue, Thu 10am-4pm. Wed 11am-3pm. Fri 10am-3.30pm. Closed Sat and Sun. This is probably the most famous of Wren's churches, where the architect experimented with designs for St Paul's Cathedral. The interior was redesigned after damage in World War II. Henry Moore was commissioned by Lord Palumbo, a prolific patron of the arts, to design and carve the central altar (1972) using travertine marble from the quarry near Rome used by Michelangelo. The altar was controversial due to its unusual position in the centre of the church and it required

a rare reversal of a judgement by the Court of Ecclesiastical Causes. Moore's altar is complemented by colourful abstract kneelers designed by Patrick Heron and candlesticks designed and made by Hans Coper.

*Turn right out of St Stephen Walbrook and immediately right again along the passage, follow it to the left and straight on. Cross Bank junction towards the right and enter Lombard Street. St Mary Woolnoth is straight ahead.*

## St Mary Woolnoth 3

Opening Times: Mon-Fri 7.15am-5.15pm. This is the only church by Nicholas Hawksmoor within the City and is of classical design with a very distinctive exterior. The interior is lit by high-level semi-circular windows on four sides and contains original furnishings by Hawksmoor, including an impressive reredos and pulpit. Artist-priest Jean Lamb has spent over 30 years creating works that reflect the ideas and emotions of our age, as considered within the Christian framework. Her *Madonna and Child* sculpture depicts the Virgin Mary and the infant Jesus.

*Turn right out of St Mary Woolnoth and right again down Lombard Street. The next church is just after Birchin Lane on the left.*

*Madonna and Child by Jean Lamb*



*Duino by Miles Richmond*



## St Edmund King and Martyr 4

Opening Times: Mon-Fri 10am-3pm. A church has stood on this site since 1292 and from 2001 has been home to the London Centre for Spirituality. A large oil painting by Miles Richmond (1948) is displayed on the wall to the left of the sanctuary and is inspired by the *Duino Elegies* of the German-language poet Rainer Maria Rilke, a collection which explores beauty and existential suffering.

*From St Edmund King and Martyr continue left along Lombard Street and cross over Gracechurch Street. Take the first right onto Philpot Lane turning left at Eastcheap. At the end of Eastcheap cross Byward Street. All Hallows by the Tower is by the traffic lights.*



All Hallows by the Tower

## All Hallows by the Tower 5

Opening Times: Mon-Fri 8am-5pm. Sat and Sun 10am-5pm. All Hallows by the Tower dates back to the 7th century when it was founded by the Abbey of Barking. The church has commissioned a wide variety of artworks which are on display. The life size figures of *First Steps* by John Robinson expresses the protection of a mother's love for the child taking its first, uncertain steps in the world. The *Effigy of*

*First Steps by John Robinson*



*Tubby Clayton* by Cecil Thomas is a tribute to the former vicar of All Hallows, Philip Thomas Byard (Tubby) Clayton. Clayton founded Talbot House, also known as Toc H, a rest house for soldiers serving on the front lines at Ypres and other World War One battlefields in Flanders.



*Effigy of 'Tubby' Clayton by Cecil Thomas*

*Cross back over Byward Street and follow Trinity Square turning left on to Cooper's Row. Cut through the courtyard at the Grange City hotel passing a section of the Roman wall and follow the path through the buildings turning left under the arch at the end. Turn right onto Crosswall then left, St Botolph Aldgate is straight ahead at the end of Minories.*

## St Botolph Aldgate 6

Opening Times: Mon-Fri 10am-3pm. Sat: Closed. Sun: 10am-1pm. There has been a church on the site of St Botolph's for over 1,000 years, with the first Rector recorded in 1108. A fibreglass sculpture, *Sanctuary* (1985), by Naomi Blake, a survivor of Auschwitz, stands outside the entrance and is a monument to all victims of oppression. It was chosen by Rev Malcolm Johnson as the sculpted figure reminded him of the needs of the homeless in the community. Inside the church, the dyed-fabric batik technique used by Thetis Blacker in the reredos panels is unusual and depicts

*Sanctuary by Naomi Blake*



the theme of 'gateway': of St Botolph's as a gateway for the community and in the altar as a gateway between heaven and earth. The altar palls are by Barbara Sansoni, a Ceylon-based artist whose love of colour is clearly demonstrated in the striking hand-woven cotton cloths.

*Turn right out of the church then right again along Duke's Place. Continue along Camomile Street, cross Bishopsgate then take the first left along Old Broad Street. Just after Great Winchester Street on the right turn along Pinner's Passage. The Dutch church is in the square at the end.*



## Dutch Church 7

Opening Times:  
Tue-Fri 11am-3pm.  
Sunday service in Dutch 11am.  
A statue, *Augustinian Friar*, (1989) by Tim Metcalfe provides a visual reminder of the friars who used to frequent the area, as does the sculpture of St Augustine by John Skeaping, located on the wall of Augustine House. Skeaping, assisted by Rita M. Ling, also carved relief crests (1954) above each window and the entrance of the church – the latter commemorating the beheading of the Duke of Arnold in the 14th century and who was buried in the old church. Max Nauta's jewel-like stained glass (c 1954) has a three-dimensional quality through his use of small pieces of different coloured glass as a base layer before painting. Hans van Norden's *Tree*

*Augustinian Friar*  
Tim Metcalfe

*of Life* tapestry, hanging on the south wall, combines Biblical imagery with modernist forms rendered in pastels.

*Continue along Austin Friars and bear to the left along Cophall Avenue then bear slightly left on Cophall Buildings. Continue straight on, crossing over Moorgate and Coleman Street. Turn left at the end of Mason's Avenue then right past The City Centre into Guildhall Yard. St Lawrence Jewry is on the left.*

## St Lawrence Jewry 8

Opening Times: Mon-Fri 8am-5pm.  
Now the official Church of the City of London Corporation, St Lawrence Jewry was one



St Lawrence Jewry

of Wren's most expensive City churches. It was badly gutted in 1940 but restored in 1957. Stained-glass windows by Christopher Webb (1959-60) depict various saints and prominent Londoners including Sir Thomas More, born on Milk Street, and Sir Christopher Wren. The reredos by architect Cecil Brown (c1957) incorporates a modern painting of St Lawrence showing the events leading to the saint's martyrdom and is in a traditional rather than modern style.

*Cross Gresham Street and walk along Milk Street to Cheapside. Cross over and St Mary-le-Bow is on the left by the square.*

## St Mary-le-Bow 9

Opening Times: Mon-Fri 7am-6pm,  
Thu 7am-6.30pm, Fri 7am-4pm.  
Closed Weekends and Bank Holidays.

*Crucifix* by  
Simon Robinson



The church of the famous Bow Bells was built over an 11th-century crypt, the location of the "Court of Arches", an Ecclesiastical Law Court from that time. Above the altar the stained glass windows by John Hayward (1964) include an impressive figure of Christ in Majesty surrounded by the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit (wisdom, understanding, counsel,

knowledge, fortitude, piety, and fear of the Lord). The figure of the crucified Christ (1980s) on the east wall is a work by Simon Robinson made from stainless steel.

*Retrace your steps along Milk Street to St Lawrence Jewry, continue left on Gresham Street and right onto St Martin's Le Grand. Walk through Postman's Park (open 8am to 7pm or dusk, whichever is earlier) and turn right on to Little Britain, following it round to the left along St Bartholomew's Hospital. St Bartholomew the Great is down a passage to the right when you reach West Smithfield.*



*Exquisite Pain* by  
Damien Hirst

*Radiance* by  
Sukhi Barber

## St Bartholomew the Great 10

Opening hours: Mon-Fri  
(from 14 Feb-10 Nov)  
8.30am-5pm (from 11 Nov-13 Feb) 8.30am-4pm. Sat  
10.30am-4pm. Sun 8.30am-8pm. Admission charge for tourists.

Believed to be London's oldest surviving continuous place of worship and founded in 1123 as an Augustinian Priory, the present exterior is largely post-Reformation. St Bartholomew the Great has an effective policy of temporary loans by significant artists including Damien Hirst's gilded bronze sculpture of St Bartholomew entitled

*Exquisite Pain* (2006) presently located in the South Transept. Inspired by Tim Burton's film *Edward Scissorhands*, the figure holds a pair of scissors implying that his exposure and pain may be self-inflicted in a beautiful, yet tragic, manner.





Bear left along Giltspur Street then turn right onto Holborn Viaduct. St Sepulchre is immediately on the right.

### St Sepulchre 11

Opening Times: Mon-Thu 11am-3pm. Fri 11am-12noon. Sunday service 10.30am-12.30pm. The largest church in the City, St Sepulchre is known as the Musicians' Church because notable composers such as Handel and Mendelssohn played its celebrated Renatus organ. In the Musicians' Chapel there are fine modern windows (1960s) by Brian Thomas depicting the renowned singer Dame Nellie Melba and the composer John Ireland. A memorial window (1946) for Sir Henry Wood, founder of the Proms, designed by Gerald Smith in collaboration with Frank Salisbury, is also to be found there. A window depicting John Smith, Governor of Virginia, by Francis Skeat (1968) can be seen in the south wall. Smith was buried in the south aisle, however the exact location of his grave was lost during the Great Fire of London in 1666.

Turn left outside St Sepulchre and cross over Holborn Viaduct at the traffic lights along Old Bailey. Turn left at the end onto Ludgate Hill and St Paul's Cathedral is straight ahead.



St Paul's Cathedral

### St Paul's Cathedral 12

Sightseeing opening hours: 8.30am-4.30pm Mon-Sat. Sunday, Worship only. Admission fee for tourists.

The mother church of the Diocese of London, the Cathedral's Visual Arts Programme uses permanent and temporary commissions to explore the relationship between art and faith. *Martyrs (Earth, Air, Fire, Water)* (2014) and *Mary* (2016), located in the South Quire Aisle, are by internationally acclaimed artist Bill Viola and explore birth and death. *Hood: Mother and Child* (1983) in the North Quire Aisle, was Henry Moore's last major work. An abstract piece, it is made from travertine marble and represents the tenderness of a mother's embrace.



Hood: Mother and Child by Henry Moore

OPTIONAL: If time permits, visit St Dunstan-in-the-West and Temple Church.

From St Paul's Cathedral walk down the hill crossing over Ludgate Circus and along Fleet Street. St Dunstan-in-the-West is just after Fetter Lane on the right.

### St Dunstan-in-the-West 13

Opening Times: Mon-Fri 9.30am-5pm.



Romanian iconography

As well as being an Anglican church, St Dunstan's is home to the Romanian Orthodox Church in London, who brought the beautiful iconostasis from a monastery

in Bucharest in 1966. Icons, paintings of saints or biblical stories by often anonymous artists (called iconographers), are intended to open up windows into the divine for those who pray before them. A bronze monument to Lord Northcliffe (1929-30) by Kathleen Scott, Baroness Kennet, can be found on the exterior wall to the right of the porch. Lord Northcliffe was a newspaper and publishing magnate who owned both the Daily Mail and the Daily Mirror.

Cross Fleet Street and follow the signage left through the gap in the buildings to Temple Church.

Temple Church



### The Temple Church 14

Opening times vary, please check the website [www.templechurch.com](http://www.templechurch.com) for details. Admission fee for tourists

Founded by the Knights Templar in the late 12th century, this historically and architecturally important church has been the church of the Middle and Inner Temple since 1608. The famous East window (1954) by Carl Edwards illustrates Jesus' connection with the Temple at Jerusalem; in one panel he can be seen talking with the learned teachers there and in another he is driving out the money-changers. Windows by Edwards' daughter, Caroline Benyon, can be seen in the south wall, depicting the lamb and flag for the Middle Temple and the Pegasus for the Inner Temple.

This publication has been produced by the City of London Corporation, a uniquely diverse organisation with three main aims: to support and promote the City as the world leader in international finance and business services; to provide local services and policing for the Square Mile; and to provide valued services to London and the nation.



As a custodian of London's heritage, the City provides stewardship for a huge collection of books, archives, pictures, photographs, prints and other materials, which constitute a major part of the recorded memory of London, including Londinium.

[www.cityoflondon.gov.uk](http://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk)



**The Diocese of London**, responsible for overseeing Church of England schools, churches, projects and community groups supporting minorities and the vulnerable in London, has partnered with the City of London Corporation to produce this publication.



### City Visitor Trail

Discover more in the City with our City Visitor Trail – pick up a leaflet at the City Information Centre opposite St Paul's Cathedral.

When nature calls, take advantage of the Community Toilet Scheme. Look for the sticker in the window of participating shops, bars & restaurants.



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