

Video 2

Glendalough: Artefacts and Early Christianity

Student Activities & Notes



museum

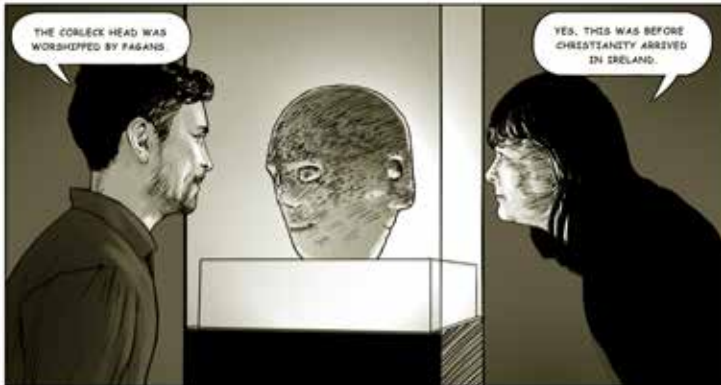
National Museum of Ireland

Ard-Mhúsaem na hÉireann



Comic Strip Image Tasks for Video 2

Section A) ARRIVAL OF CHRISTIANITY



This image shows an object in the museum that dates to before Christianity.

Complete the sentence using these three words: Celtic, Pagan, Iron

This a carved stone head from Corleck, Co Cavan, which has three faces. It dates to before Christianity, to the I ___ Age. It is thought to be a carving of a p ___ god, called Lugh, one of the C ___ gods.



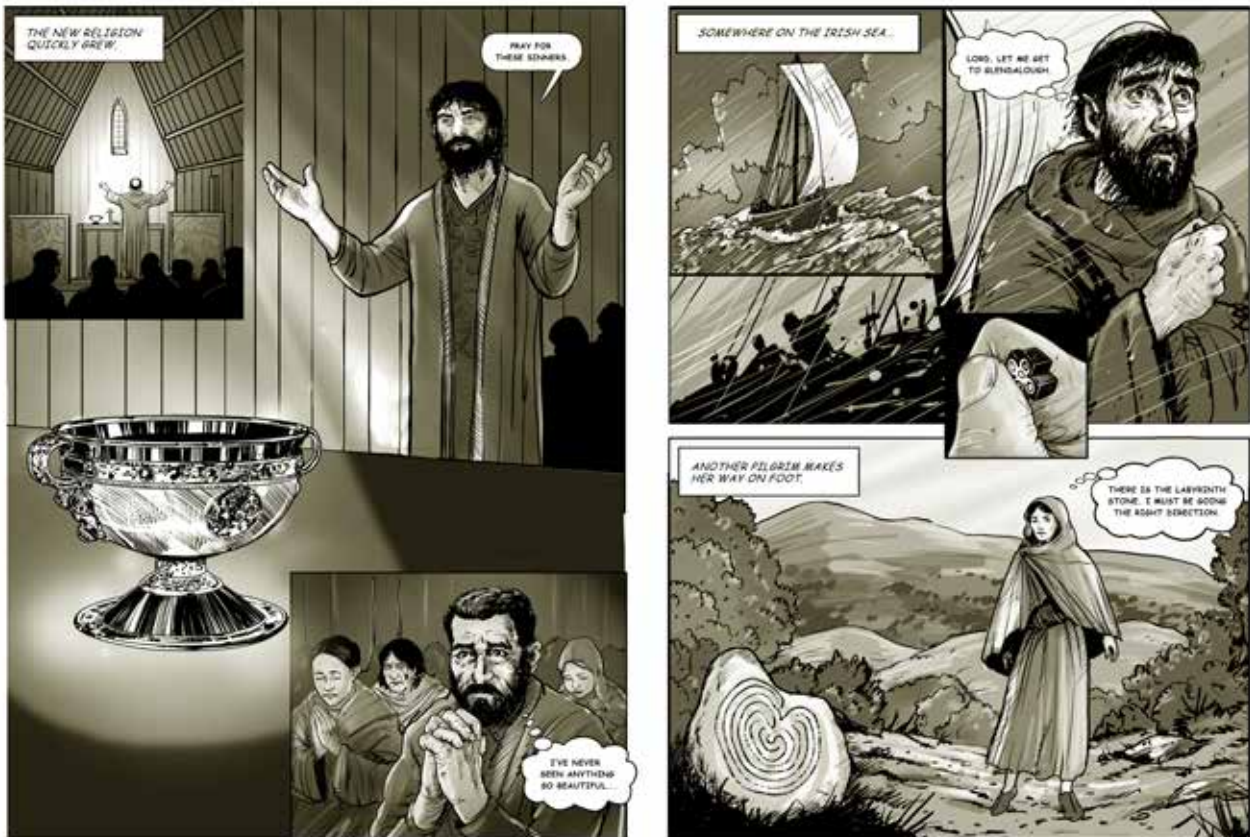
This image shows Saint Kevin banishing a monster from one of the lakes in Glendalough Valley.

In the image above there is an object associated with Early Christianity.

Name that object: _____

Name two things that the object might have been used for:

Section B) EARLY CHRISTIAN OBJECTS & PEOPLE



Note: If you need to see a larger copy of the image there is one in the separate comic strip document.

In the drawings there are different types of activities and people who lived in Early Christian times. One is a priest, another a monk, one a pilgrim and another a christian person praying at mass. Over the page there is an activity about these illustrations.

Explain who the three types of people in Early Christian Ireland are that are shown in this image. Name an object in the museum which each of them might have used, and explain who they are and what they are doing.

A) Pilgrim _____

B) Monk _____

C) Priest _____

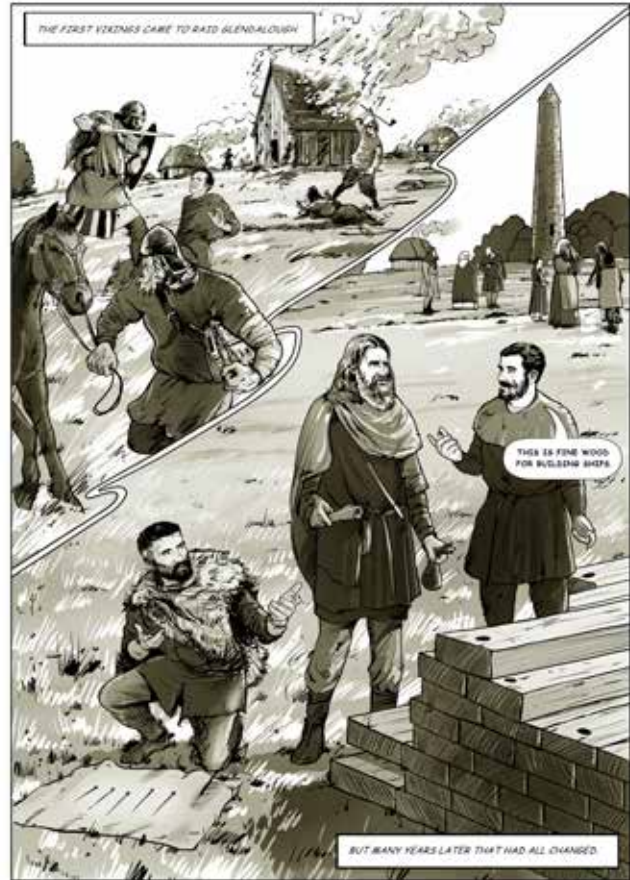
There is a large drawing of one object which the man thinks is beautiful. In the video, National Museum of Ireland curator and archaeologist Matthew Seaver describes this object: *So the most famous is this, the Ardagh Chalice. It's a silver cup which was used in the Christian mass, and it was found in a place near Ardagh in County Limerick, by two boys digging for potatoes. It shows a whole range of decorative techniques that were used in the early Medieval period, early Christian period, in the 8th century, including glass, amber, quartz, silver, and gold wire. And the gold wire is threaded for a band of strange creatures, with interlocking arms and legs which depict scenes from the Bible. And this is probably the finest example of early Christian art.*

Can you describe the Ardagh Chalice in your own words? Explain when it was made, what is shown on the chalice, and what it is an example of.

The design of a famous Gaelic Athletic Association trophy is based on this, what is it called?

Do you know, or can you remember from the video, other types of objects that might have been seen or used at a church or a monastery?

Section C) CHRISTIAN BUILDINGS AND BURIALS



Note: If you need to see a larger copy of the image there is one in the separate comic strip document.

One of the big changes that happened when Early Christianity arrived was how people were buried, what way were they buried?

What was the nickname given to Glendalough? Hint: It is in the title of the first picture on in the drawings above.

Name two Christian Buildings that are shown in the images

1.

2.

Section D) THE VIKINGS AND KINGS AND GLENDALOUGH

Looking at the images explain the first and second reasons why the Vikings went to Glendalough:

A)

B)

What are the types of relics in the hands of the two kneeling men in the image?

1.

2.

Why do you think the Irish regional and High Kings wanted to have family members in the Christian Church?

Video 2 WORDSEARCH TASK

Pilgrim

Chalice

Monastery

Monk

Shrine

Pilgrimage

Nun

Relic

Christianity

Crozier

R	U	S	E	H	N	R	T	I	A	N	O	E	B
M	Q	U	B	P	F	C	R	O	Z	I	E	R	L
E	O	A	C	I	M	D	E	R	A	B	H	O	A
D	T	N	H	L	O	R	L	C	N	M	S	R	I
Y	E	F	K	G	K	N	I	J	K	U	T	S	T
P	I	L	G	R	U	O	C	S	I	O	N	P	H
S	D	P	E	I	T	N	W	H	R	D	G	C	S
M	C	L	A	M	R	E	H	R	Y	A	L	H	E
N	H	C	H	R	I	S	T	I	A	N	I	T	Y
C	A	K	N	U	M	A	S	N	T	B	C	O	I
R	L	T	Y	X	A	Y	C	E	Z	Y	D	M	C
P	I	L	G	R	I	M	A	G	E	P	I	S	O
T	C	R	F	T	K	R	M	O	Q	G	A	N	D
I	E	I	T	M	O	N	A	S	T	E	R	Y	P
Y	R	F	Y	T	H	O	E	G	B	F	L	E	M

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Key Terms and their links to Glendalough

Abbot	The head of the abbey, or monastery of monks.
Bishop	A high ranking priest, who oversees an area called a dioceses, which has in it a number of different church areas, called parishes.
Bishop's pall	A piece of clothing worn by a bishop.
Cemetery	An area of ground, a place where dead people are buried.
Ceramic jug	A pottery jug that was made of clay and hardened by heat
Ceremonial site	A place where ceremonies, or religious rituals, took place.
Chalice	A large cup or goblet, used in Christian ceremonies, such as the Ardagh Chalice.
Christianity	A religion based on the teachings and life of Jesus Christ, Jesus of Nazareth.
Church buildings	A building used for public worship by Christians.
Crozier	A rod or staff with a hook or curved on top, that is based on the shape of a shepherds crook. They are carried by bishops and abbots as symbols of their rank of office.
Funeral services	The rituals carried out when people are buried or cremated.
Gravestones	A stone showing where someone is buried, normally with a name on it.
Graveyard	An area where people are buried, often beside a church.
Hiberno-Urnes style	Hiberno refers to Irish, and Urnes is the name of a Norwegian, Viking style of art. Hiberno-Urnes is a style that shows a mix of Irish and Viking art styles.
Irish annals	An annal is a record of events. Some of the legends and history in the Irish annals were written a long time after things happened.
Labyrinth	A labyrinth is a complicated twisty network of paths or passages, like a maze. It was used as a symbol for pilgrimage, and was carved onto the stone in the video.
Millstone	Millstone, a stone used in the milling or grinding grain to make flour.
Missionaries	A missionary is someone who is sent by their religion to another area or country to do religious work.

Monastery	Is a house or set of buildings, where persons that have taken religious vows such as monks, live, work and pray together. The buildings at Glendalough were a monastery.
Monastic site	A place where there is, or was in the past, a monastery.
Monk	A member of a religious community, usually a man, who has dedicated their life to religion, who is normally living apart from society and living according to a set of strict rules.
Mount /Horse Harness	A decorated metal pieces, part of a horse harness, the straps that are put around a horse to control it. The mount was most likely part of the straps around the head the bridle.
Nuns	A member of a religious community, usually a woman, who has dedicated their life to religion, who is normally living apart from society and living according to a set of strict rules.
Ogham	Ogham is the earliest known form of writing in Ireland. Each of the letters, or characters, represent a sound in the early Irish language and is made etching a line across a central line. When they were carved on a standing stone, the edge of the stone acted as the central line for each letter. Most Ogham Stones have the names of people and their parents and were used to remember or commemorate a person.
Pilgrimages	A religious journey, often a long and difficult one, to a sacred place.
Pilgrims	A person who is going for religious reasons on a long journey to a sacred holy place.
Place of pilgrimage	A sacred holy place that people travel to for religious reasons.
Porphyry	A type of hard colourful stone, it can be green, red or purple, it is a stone that was often used for decoration. It is thought it was brought back by pilgrims who went to Rome.
Pottage	A thick stew or soup, with vegetables and if available grains, meat or fish.
Priests	A person who has the authority to perform religious rituals.
Relic	A religious relic is an object such as a bell or book, or belonging or part of a holy person.
Roman, or Latin, alphabet.	This is the set of letters, the alphabet, we use today to write English and Irish. The alphabet was used by the Romans to write Latin. The language used for the prayers and rituals of the Christian Church was Latin, and therefore they used the roman or Latin alphabet.
Roman	In archaeological terms, Roman is the name for people of who were part of the culture of Ancient Rome, and part of the Roman Empire.
Round tower	A tall narrow tower, in Irish, <i>cloigtheach</i> , which means bell house. The Round Tower in Glendalough is over 30 metres tall and approximately 1,000 years old.
Saint	A very religious person, who has been recognized by the Christian Church as being extremely holy.

Sanctuary	A safe place, or a refuge, a building where you can get protection.
Shrine	A box or case or place for the relics of a saint, such as the bell, cozier and book mentioned in the video. It can also mean a holy place.
Viking	In archaeological terms, Viking is the name of people who came from Scandinavia, so from Norway, Denmark and Sweden between

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List of Objects and Buildings and 3-d Scans as they appear on screen

'Corleck Head', Corleck, Co. Cavan, 1st – 2nd century AD
Loughnashade Horn, Loughnashade, Co. Armagh, 1st century BC
Balline Hoard of Roman Silver, Balline, Co. Limerick, c. 300 – 400 AD
Mullaghmast Stone, Mullaghmast, Co. Kildare, 500 – 600 AD

St. Mary's Church or The Lady's Chapel, Glendalough, c. 1100 AD
St. Kevin's Church, Glendalough, c. 1100 AD
The Caher, Glendalough, 6th to 12th century AD

Hand-bell, Knockatemple, Co. Wicklow, 8th – 9th century AD
The Ardagh Chalice, Ardagh, Co. Limerick, 8th century AD
Gilt Horse Mount, Seven Churches or Camaderry, Co. Wicklow, 8th century AD

3-D scan, The Market Cross, Glendalough, 12th century AD

St. Patrick's Bell Shrine, c. 1100 AD
Shrine of St. Lachtin's Arm, early 12th century AD
Plaster Cast from 'The Priest's House' Glendalough, Co. Wicklow, Original 12th century,
Replica 19th century
Croziers, late 11th – early 12th century

Illustration of stone at 'The Priest's House', 19th century

Jet Cross, Seven Churches or Camaderry, Co. Wicklow, 11th – 12th century AD
Porphyry tile fragment, Temple-na-Skellig, Co. Wicklow, 11th - 12th century AD

Temple-Na-Skellig, Upper Lake, Glendalough, 8th to 14th century AD

Leather Shoe, Lugduff, Co. Wicklow, 899 – 1033 AD

St Mary's Church or The Lady's Chapel, Glendalough, c. 1100 AD
The Gate Way, Glendalough, Co. Wicklow, c. 1100 AD

Stone Marker Cross, Glendalough, 8th – 12th century AD
Labyrinth Stone, Lockstown Upper, Co. Wicklow
Cast of St. Kevin's Way Cross, Original 8th to 12th century AD
Disc-Headed Pin, Temple-Na-Skellig, Lugduff, Co. Wicklow, 11th or early 12th century AD
Cauldron, Glendalough, Co. Wicklow, 14th century AD
Charred Oat & Barley, Sevenchurches, Glendalough
Jug Handle, Temple-na-Skellig, Lugduff, Co. Wicklow, 12th century AD.

Grave Slab, Glendalough, 3D Scan

Ogham Stone, Colbinstown, Co. Kildare, Late 6th – early 7th century AD

St. Kevin's Church, Glendalough, c. 1100 AD

Round Tower, Glendalough, Co. Wicklow, 11th century AD

Suspended Bell, Late 11th – early 12th century AD

Nine-Mens-Morris Stone Gaming Board, Temple-na-Skellig, Lugduff, Co. Wicklow, 13th century AD

Replica Wax Writing Tablet, examples from late 7th – early 8th century AD

Disc-Headed Pin, Temple-Na-Skellig, Lugduff, Co. Wicklow, 11th or early 12th century AD

St. Kevin's Bed, used from at least 8th century AD onwards, 3D scan

Heart of St. Laurence O'Toole, Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin

Coin Hoard, St. Mary's Church, Co. Wicklow, 1270 - 1272 AD

Silver 'King Sitric Coin', Sevenchurches or Camaderry, Co. Wicklow, minted AD 995

'Sea Stallion' Replica Viking Longship, original built in Dublin region, 1042 AD