I suggest you go towards the pond. *Be careful, don't go near the edge!*
You can cross the little bridge and on the right you'll find a Christian labyrinth.
Go on, have fun, you can go through it! Oh, another red flame!

11) What are the particularities of this Christian labyrinth?

◯ It has no hedges ◯ It has no walls
◯ It has one entrance, one path, one centre and one exit

Now head to the back of the park *where you'll see some boxwoods cut into balls.*

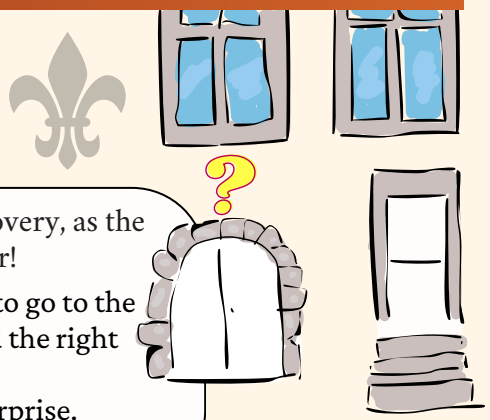
12) How many ones do you count?



Go back along the castle to the abbey. *On the west wing of the castle, look for the stone bearing the inscription 'Restauratum 1885'.*

13) How many lily flowers can you see on this stone?

◯ X) 6 ◯ S) 8 ◯ R) 3



I will let you get on with your discovery, as the bell is calling me to prayer!
Before you leave, don't forget to go to the shop to check if you've found the right answers.
You will receive a little surprise.
Thank you very much for your visit!



Copy the letters of the mystery word here:

1)	4)	5)	6)	13)
___	___	___	___	___

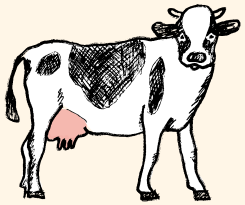
Welcome to Val-Dieu

Abbaye - Abdij - Abtei - **Abbey**



Good day, my name is Brother Bernard.
Would you like to discover my abbey and its park? The abbey was founded in 1216 by Cistercian monks.
According to legend, this place was called the "valley of the devil". The monks renamed it Val-Dieu (Valley of God).

Here you are in the abbey's court



This courtyard was once the abbey's farm, with cereals, stables for cows and horses.

Cistercians have always cultivated the land in order to make a living.

1) What expression do you think sums up the life of Cistercian monks?

◯ S) Pray and teach ◯ I) Pray and travel ◯ P) Pray and work

Since 2001, the Cistercians have entrusted the abbey to a new community of Christians: the 'Christian Community of Val-Dieu'.
It is linked to the monks of the Abbey of Lérins, on the island of Saint-Honorat near Cannes (France).

Like the monks before them, the Christians who live here try to live by the abbey's motto:
In Vinculo Pacis, which means 'In the bond of peace'.



This motto is represented by a symbol.
You can find it, for example, on the gate in front of the church.



2) Can you complete this coat of arms of the abbey?

The gatehouse



The gatehouse is where visitors are welcomed.
Above the door is a sculpture of four figures. In the centre, the Virgin Mary and her child, Jesus. They are surrounded by two saints who are the founders of the Cistercian Order.

3) Who are these two saints?

The Virgin Mary is considered to be the mother of the Cistercians and you will often see her statue (even on the roof of the church!)

The guest house (the castle)



At the far end of the main courtyard, behind the gates, is the abbey's former guest house, also known here as the castle.
For the Cistercians, every visitor must be welcomed as if it were Jesus arriving at the abbey.

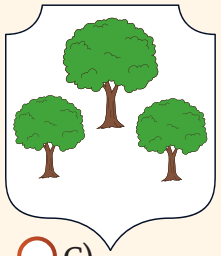
4) What do you see right above the main door?

◯ M) A flower ◯ A) A face ◯ T) A lion

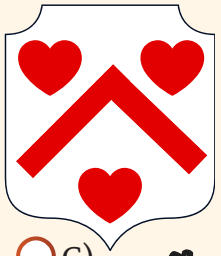
5) Abbé Dubois had the guest house built in 1739. What was his coat of arms?



◯ F)

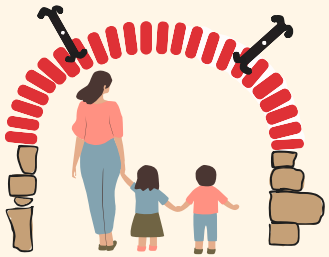


◯ C)



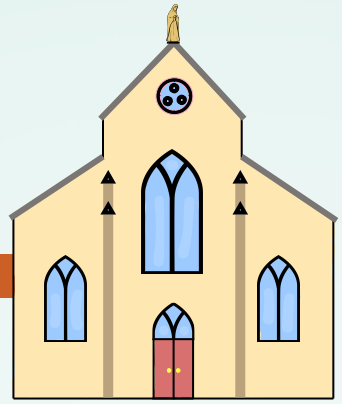
◯ G)

Head towards the church *through the vaulted passage between the church gate and the restaurant 'Le Casse-Croûte'.*



The church

Stay silent in the church.
Walk towards the choir of the church. On your left is a gilded altar containing a statue of a saint of particular importance to the Cistercians.



6) Who does this statue represent?

◯ I)St. Bernard ◯ U) St. Benedict ◯ L) St. Martin

On 20 August 1946, our church was given the distinction of being 'elevated to the rank of basilica' by Pope Pius XII. This was in recognition of the fact that during the Second World War, the monks of Val-Dieu joined the resistance against the Occupation. For instance, they hid people in order to protect them.

The parasol and bell (to the left and right of the choir) indicate that we are in a basilica.

7) Can you draw them?

Ombrellino	Tintinnabulum

To the right of the choir, in front of the gate, there's a door that invites us to happiness!

The inhabitants of this house, as in all abbeys and monasteries, take great joy in reading the Bible. The Word of God 'burns in their hearts'. That's what the red flame on the altar behind the eagle represents. In the park, you'll see other flames like this one!



Now go and explore the abbey's park.
(leave the church, return to the courtyard and go to the back of the castle)

The park

The first tree on your left was planted to celebrate the abbey's 800th birthday.

8) In what year was this ? ◯ 2001 ◯ 2016 ◯ 2018

9) What tree is it ? ◯ Lime ◯ Oak ◯ Ash

10) How many flames can you count next to the Good Lord's hut?