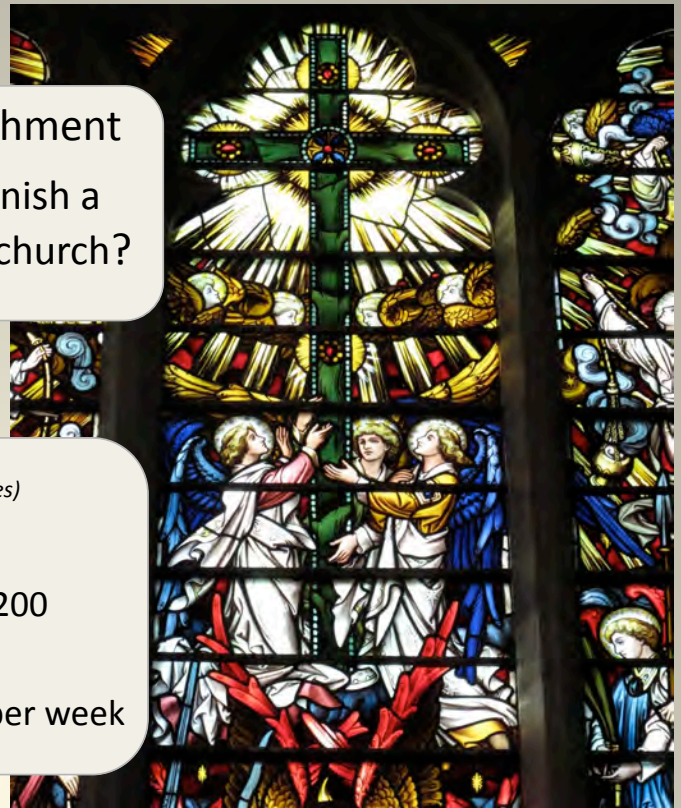


CATHOLIC CHURCH INTERIORS (1850 – 1914)

WHAT?

The 'Business' of Embellishment

What did it cost to furnish a post-Famine Catholic church?



WHY?

'Religion pays' - Leopold Bloom (*Ulysses*)

- Churches furnished 1850 – 1914: > 2,500
- Price range of church furnishings: £2 - > £1,200
- Stained glass costs: £2 per square foot
- Building craftsman's wages (average): > £2 per week

Research Questions

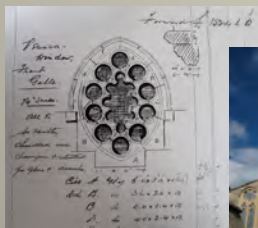
- What was the scale of activity by church furnishing firms?
- To what extent was this a profitable business?
- How accurate was the term 'Trade' art?

HOW?

- Established by analyzing reports on church building projects & publicity material of firms
- Determined by linking labour & materials costs to commissions
- Evaluated by relating production methods to the finished artwork



SOURCES?



Primary

- Written & visual accounts
- Business documents
- Design records
- Church buildings

