

Why are there Gargoyles on my church?

The gothic design of our church makes it look like those ancient buildings in Europe built 500 years ago. Gargoyles are part of that design theme. Our little guys are technically “grotesques” since they just sit on top of the building. A true gargoyles functions as a waterspout to divert rainwater away from the



stone walls of gothic buildings. But Webster’s dictionary does allow for a secondary definition so we will call ours gargoyles. Back to the original question – why are there gargoyles on our church? No one really agrees on a single answer. To scare away evil spirits? To remind us of the evil that is outside our walls? Who knows? Our cute little guys sit there because that’s what it means to be gothic.

Trivia question #1: How many gargoyles can you find sitting on Saint Anne’s roof?

Trivia question #2: Does anyone remember the Saint Anne Gargoyles softball teams?

More gargoyles trivia. The National Cathedral in Washington DC (also a gothic design by the way) has a very famous gargoyles located on the dark side (north side) of the church. Star Wars fans may have guessed from the location hint that Darth Vader himself is among the “grotesques” (aka gargoyles) on the Cathedral.