## SECULAR CHARACTERS IN THE CHURCH NAVE

Medieval parish churches were hubs of activity within their communities. All adults were supposed to attend mass each Sunday and on feast days (although, of course, not everyone did!), and the major events of most people's lives, from christening to funeral, were marked within the church. Socialising, business deals, and even disputes all regularly took place around – or in the middle of – weekly religious observances. The church was not empty on weekdays, either: the parish clergy said, or sang, multiple religious services each day, in a cycle known as the Divine Office. These services were often performed privately by the clergy at the altar, but members of the community who wished to spend time in personal devotion, along with pilgrims who were passing through on their way to St Andrews, would have been welcome here in the nave.



