

FIRST WEEK

A Géographie lesson

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (U.K)

The United Kingdom is composed of Great Britain and Northern Ireland under the same sovereign, Queen Elizabeth II. Great Britain is composed of England, Wales and Scotland. Its history is a history of royalty, of crowns and sceptres, of princes and palaces. It remains a monarchy even today.

It is an island surrounded by the North Sea, the Atlantic Ocean, the Irish Sea and the Channel.

The United Kingdom belongs to the European Community. But there are no Euros, only Pounds and pence. In the United Kingdom, you drive on the left side of the road.

Vocabulary :

sovereign -> souverain

to belong to -> appartenir

Our Lady's Dowry

Long, long ago, when the world was young, Our Lord desired to give His Blessed Mother a gift - something beautiful, something she would love and cherish.

He turned His eyes towards the earth, searching, searching, until His gaze fell on a small island to the north. Here He stopped to admire this country which He had created. The island was very green, with tall, snow-capped mountains and deep lakes that shone like crystal in the spring sun. Its hills were soft and rolling, and a thin mist covered the land in the early dawn. « Blessed Mother », said Our Lord, « this island I give to you. It will be called your dowry. »

To tend to her dowry, Our Lady sent her own champions to win the new country for Her Son. Some, like Saint Augustine and Saint Bede, preached the gospel of Jesus Christ ; others like Saint Edward the Confessor and Saint Margaret, followed the teachings of Jesus Christ ; And many like Saint Alban, Saint Thomas à Becket and Saint Thomas More, gave their lives like Jesus-Christ and for Him ; And their blood fell on the land and sanctified it. And everywhere across the isle of saints the tall spires of cathedrals and churches, of monasteries and abbeys rose up to hail their Queen.

Vocabulary

earth	terre
to search	chercher
gaze	regard
a snow-capped mountain	une montagne coiffée par la neige
mist	brume
dawn	aube
blessed	béni
dowry	dot, don
to tend to	veiller sur
gospel	évangile
blood	sang
spire	flèche
to hail	saluer