

## Manorfield Detectives.



Look carefully at the wall of the tower in St. Michael's church, what do you notice?

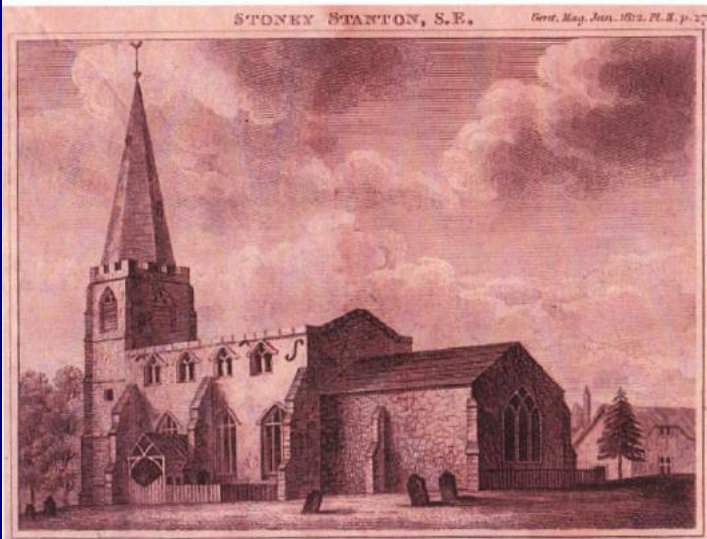
Can you see marks in the whitewash on the wall? Do you see the shape, pointing up towards the roof?

What might this be? If you look even more closely at the two white painted pillars on either side, there are some other marks which would join if they kept going.

St. Michael's, our parish church has stood on this site since at least the 12<sup>th</sup> century, and there was probably a previous, smaller church dating from before the Battle of Hastings in 1066.

We know this because Stoney Stanton already existed in 1086 when Domesday Book was written. St. Michael's has changed and grown as the village of Stoney Stanton has grown.

Look at the picture below, this is a drawing of St. Michael's church in around 1790 and published in a magazine in 1812. It shows St. Michael's looking a little different from today.



Compare it to the modern photograph of how St. Michael's looks today, can you see many differences?

When the church was inspected in 1778, it was noted that the churchyard fence needed repairing and the roof needed re-thatching.

What do you think St. Michael's church might have looked like with a thatched roof, and looking more like the drawing on the left?

Why not have a go at drawing a picture of what you think our church looked like hundreds of years ago.