Religious Studies. 
Christianity: Beliefs and Practices 
Revision

Caring | Listening | Helping
An initiative of Ascension Trust Charity No. 1127204

Name & Class:
General Teachings

The Nicene Creed

WE BELIEVE in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

The Apostle’s Creed

I believe in God the Father, Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth:
And in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our Lord:
Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary:
Suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead and buried: He descended into hell:
The third day he rose again from the dead:
He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty:
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead:
I believe in the Holy Ghost:
I believe in the holy Catholic Church: the communion of saints:
The forgiveness of sins:
The resurrection of the body:
And the life everlasting. Amen.
Christian Beliefs

"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."
John 14:6
Christian roots are Jewish, Jesus was born and died a Jew

In the 16th Century, some decided to protest about how Rome were controlling Christianity. They became the Protestant Movement. Church of England was born with Henry VIII as its head.

Some then moved away from the state ruled church and became Non-Conformists e.g. Methodist.

The church started out as Catholic Church – but disagreements started to appear in 1054AD – it split because Rome was attempting to make Latin the religious language and also some Christians were being mistreated because of different interpretations of worship.
Belief about God

There is only one God

God is creator and sustainer

God is spirit – neither male or female – but has qualities of both

God inspires people to do His will

Jesus is God’s son – true representation of God on earth
**Some qualities of God**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Omnipotent</th>
<th>Benevolent/Agape</th>
<th>Just</th>
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| • God is the supreme Being who is all-powerful.  
• God has unlimited authority.  
• E.g. Creation of the world, Jesus performing miracles, Jesus Resurrection. | • God uses his power to do good.  
• God shows his love by creating humans and caring for them.  
• God showed his love by sending God’s son, Jesus to earth – “For God so loved the world, He sent his Only Son...” (John 3:16) | • God is a just judge of humankind.  
• God will never support injustice, ill-treatment, prejudice or oppression.  
• E.g. Parable of the Sheep and Goats |

Evil and suffering challenges the qualities of God: Why does God allow people to suffer if all-loving? Why does God not prevent evil and suffering if all-powerful, especially if a natural disaster? Why does God allow injustice if God is Just?

Christians believe a just God treats people fairly, so they trust God even when things seem to be going wrong.
The Trinity

**God the Father** – the creator of all life, acts as a good father towards his children. He is all-powerful (omnipotent), all-loving (omnibenevolent) and present everywhere (omnipresent).

**God the Son** – became incarnate through Jesus who was both fully human while on earth and fully God at all times. Jesus is called the son of god to show his special relationship to God the Father.

**God the Holy Spirit** – is the unseen power of God at work in the world, who influences, guides and sustains life on earth.
Creation

“In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, “Let there be light”, and there was light.”

Genesis 1: 1-3

• Many Christians believe the story of the creation, while not scientifically accurate, contains religious truth.
• Some Christians believe God made the world in literally 6 days.
• God created everything out of choice and created everything ‘good’
• Christians believe God continues to create new life today.
• Although God the Father is referred to as the creator, the Holy Spirit was also active.

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.”

John 1: 1-3

• In John’s gospel, everything was created through the Word, who was both with God and was God.
• The Word refers to the Son of God who entered history as Jesus.
• Christians believe that the son of God, the Word of God, was involved in the creation.

John 1:1-3 (KJV)

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
2 The same was in the beginning with God.
3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.
Essential Information

- Christianity is the main religion in Great Britain.
- Christianity has three main traditions: Catholic, Protestant and Orthodox.
- Christianity is Monotheistic, meaning that Christians believe in one Supreme Being, God.
- God is omnipotent, almighty, having unlimited power.
- God is benevolent, all-loving and all-good.
- God is Just, the perfect judge of human behaviour who will bring about what is right and fair or who will make up for a wrong that has been committed.
- Christians believe there are three persons in the one God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- Each person of the Trinity is fully God.
- The persons of the Trinity are not the same.
- Christians believe in creation by God, the act by which God brought the universe into being.
- God, the Father, chose to design and create the earth and all life on it.
- The Holy Spirit was active in the creation.
- The Word, God the Son or Jesus, was active in the creation.
- The Trinity, therefore existed from the beginning and was involved in the creation.
Apply your knowledge

Which ONE of the following is the idea that God is loving? [1]


Which of the Gospels refers to the ‘role of the word’ in creation? [1]


Give two Christian beliefs about God [2]

1. 
2. 

Give two ways in which Christians believe God shows his benevolence [2]

1. 
2. 
Explain **two** ways in which the belief in creation by God influences Christians today. [4]

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Explain **two** ways in which belief in the Trinity influences Christians today. [4]

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Explain **two** Christian teachings about God. Refer to sacred writings or another source of Christian belief and teaching in your answer. [5]

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You only need to make one reference to scripture in your answer. It can support either your first or second point.
‘God cannot be all-loving because evil and suffering exists.’ Evaluate this statement. In your answer you should:
- refer to Christian teaching
- give developed arguments to support this statement
- give developed arguments to support a different point of view
- reach a justified conclusion. [12]

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It’s essential to include evaluation because this is the key skill that you are being tested on in the 12 mark question. You can evaluate after each viewpoint, and/or at the end as part of your justified conclusion.
‘God cannot be all-loving because evil and suffering exists.’
Who is Jesus?

- Christians believe Jesus was the Son of God.
- Christians believe God sent Jesus to save mankind from their sins or to say sorry as a kind of sacrifice. This is called SALVATION.
- Christians say that there are prophecies (predictions) of the arrival of a great leader or saviour in the Old Testament part of the Bible.
- Christians say that Jesus was actually God in human form – this is the INCARNATION – when God became human.
- Some people think Jesus was the Messiah – Jewish people believed God would send someone like a leader to help the Jewish people. CHRIST is the Greek word for MESSIAH.
- Some Christians say that Jesus was partly divine (like God) but also a human being with human weaknesses.
Incarnation of Jesus

Incarnation of Jesus – Son of God

Central to Christian belief is the idea that God took on human form as Jesus. John 1:14 says ‘the Word became flesh and lived amongst us.’ Christians believe that Jesus was fully God and fully human – truly the Son of God. If Christians acknowledge Jesus as son of god, God lives in them.

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<th>Jesus: Son of God</th>
<th>Jesus’ Knowledge</th>
<th>Importance of belief in Incarnation</th>
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| • The title ‘Son of God’ is used about Jesus in the New Testament.  
• Mary was a virgin who conceived through the power of the Holy Spirit. – “This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit.” Matthew 1:18  
• Some Christians accept the virgin birth as true, whereas other suggest it is more a metaphor to show that Jesus was both human and divine. | • If fully divine, Jesus should have had full knowledge of what was happening, yet at times his knowledge was limited – e.g. he said he didn’t understand fully about the end of the world.  
• This can be explained by saying that becoming fully human he had to give up most of his divine knowledge – a great sacrificial act. He came as a servant but was still fully God in his relationship with and understanding of God. | • It helps Christians understand the extent of God’s love for humanity.  
• It shows how Christians should live – as God loved us so we should love one another.  
• Many Christians have taken on this act of selfless love – consider Mother Teresa. |
## Crucifixion of Jesus

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<th>Crucifixion:</th>
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<td>• Jesus’ work on earth lasted about three years, then he was arrested, tried and crucified.</td>
<td>• At the time – Jesus’ teachings gave a new understanding of the Torah, which brought him into direct conflict with Jewish leaders.</td>
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<td>• Convicted of blasphemy by the Jewish authorities, he was put to death for treason under Roman law.</td>
<td>• At the time – the Roman governor was under pressure to keep a peaceful land, so came down hard on any religious rebellion. When Jewish leaders implied Jesus was stirring up trouble, the governor had to act.</td>
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<td>• He was crucified at Golgotha – the place of the skull. It took six hours for him to die. Mark’s gospel records that for three hours the earth was dark, perhaps symbolic of the judgment to Israel for its rejection of the Messiah.</td>
<td>• In Christian thought – Jesus had to die to fulfil God’s plan. Without his death, humans couldn’t be reunited with God and enter heaven. Jesus atoned for the sins of humanity, bringing God and man back together.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Jesus questioned: ‘God, why have you forsaken me?’</td>
<td>Why is it important</td>
</tr>
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<td>• Jesus’ last words before dying were: ‘Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.’ Luke 23:46</td>
<td>• Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross gives hope to Christians that their sins will be forgiven if they sincerely repent.</td>
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<td>• Mark’s gospel also writes that at the point of Jesus’ death, the temple curtain tore in two – believed by some to show Jesus’ death had destroyed the barrier of sin that separated man from God, therefore making it possible to access God.</td>
<td>• Christians believe that God understands human suffering because Jesus, who is God, experienced it.</td>
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<td>• A Roman centurion acknowledged Jesus was innocent, and said ‘Surely this man was the Son of God’ Mark 15:39</td>
<td>• Christians accept that suffering is part of life, just as it was part of Jesus’ life.</td>
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### Cross

The cross represents the idea that Jesus died on the cross but rose from the dead and is in heaven with God. It represents hope and salvation.

## Crucifix

The crucifix represents the idea that Jesus died for our sins. God’s sacrifice so that humans can be free.
Resurrection and Ascension

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<td>• Early on Sunday morning, some of Jesus’ female followers, including Mary Magdalene, visited the tomb to anoint Jesus’ body. (there was no time to do this after his death due to sabbath)</td>
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<td>• Jesus’ body was not there.</td>
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<td>• Either a man or two men, who may have been angels, told the women to spread the news that Jesus had risen from the dead.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Over the next few days, Jesus appeared to several people including Mary Magdalene and his disciples. He told them he had risen from the dead, as he predicted he would before the crucifixion.</td>
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<td>• “And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith. But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead...For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.” Corinthians 15 – This quote shows that Christianity would not exist without the resurrection. It also shows that the resurrection is important because it is significant evidence for Christians of the divine nature of Jesus.</td>
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<td>• 40 days after meeting with his disciples and asking them to carry on his work, Jesus left them for the last time, returning to the Father in heaven. This event is called the ascension.</td>
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<td>• “While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven.” Luke 24:51</td>
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Significance for Christian today:

**Resurrection:**
• Shows the power of good over evil and life over death.
• Proof that he was the Son of God.
• Means Christians’ sins will be forgiven if they follow God’s laws.
• Means Christians will be resurrected, if they accept Jesus, so there is no need to fear death.

**Ascension:**
• Shows Jesus is with God in heaven.
• Paves the way for God to send the Holy Spirit to provide comfort and guidance.
Afterlife for Christians

Christians will be resurrected and receive eternal life when they die.

This is a gift from God and dependent on faith in God.

They will be judged by God at some point after they die and either rewarded in heaven or punished in hell.

Judgment will happen either very soon after death or on the day of judgment. This is in the future when the world will end and Jesus will judge the living and dead.
Christian views about afterlife

Human Resurrection:
• Christians believe God will resurrect them before judgement day.
• Jesus said we would be different to our earthly state – a spiritual body.
• Continuity between person’s earthly life and the resurrected life.
• Roman Catholics believe in purgatory – a state between death and the afterlife. After death, the soul goes to purgatory if it is destined to go to heaven, where it is purified enough to enter heaven.
• Different views about human resurrection – Many Christians say we have no answers – only to trust God.
• Without scientific evidence it is all a matter of belief based in Bible teachings and Jesus’ words.

Judgement:
• Jesus taught that God’s love and mercy are unconditional.
• At the end of days ALL will be judged – Christians and non-Christians and will be judged by Jesus.
• The Parable Sheep and Goats reflects Jesus’ judgement.
• Other Christians reject the idea of a second coming – Humans will account for their actions, but no-one knows how or when.
• “I am the way, and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” John 14:6

Heaven and hell:
• Heaven is thought to be either a physical or spiritual state of peace, joy, freedom from pain and a chance to be with loved ones.
• Heaven is a reward for those who have lived a good life. Some Christians believe only Christians can enter heaven, others believe it is for all.
• Hell is seen as the opposite of heaven – a state of existence without God.
• Often pictured as a place of eternal torment in a fiery pit ruled by Satan (Devil) who is the power and source of evil.
• Some Christians believe god would not do this and see hell as an eternal state of mind, being cut off from the possibility of God.
• Hell would then be what awaits someone who did not acknowledge God or follow his teachings during their life.
Sin and Salvation

Sin:
- The story of ‘original sin’ is in Genesis – Adam and Eve are tempted by the devil to eat from the tree of knowledge of what is good and bad. They were all punished as a result and told to leave the Garden of Eden.
- Christians believe humans were all descended from Adam and Eve. Tainted by this act – humans have an inbuilt tendency to disobey God.
- Sin separates Humans from God. Humans are full of sin and only God can rectify this problem.
  - God offered salvation to humans through Jesus’ sacrifice.
- Most Christians don’t take the Genesis story literally. It conveys the message that humans do what they want (free will) sometimes doing what they are not supposed to do and therefore damage their relationship with God.

Salvation:
- Salvation means being accepted by God and having assurance of eternal life.
  Salvation by Law:
  - In Jesus’ time, Jews thought that ‘obeying the law’ was the way to salvation
  - Some Christians believe in salvation through works – the idea that it has to be earned.
    - Some Christians believe salvation can be earned by obeying God’s laws.
  - Others take on Jesus’ idea that God was more pleased with the thoughts in our minds and love in our hearts for Him – Christians need to put this into action.
  Salvation through grace:
    - Grace is unconditional love that God has for us.
    - God loves humanity regardless and therefore salvation doesn’t need to be earned.
      - God shows his love through Jesus – the Son of God.
    - Salvation through grace is made possible by Jesus’ sacrifice for humanity. This action allowed humans and God to reconcile.
    - Christians believe that God’s grace is received from showing love to others, by the Holy Spirit.
    - Many people today believe that ‘the grace of God’ helps them every day and that ‘acts of god’s grace’ are seen in the world daily.
Essential Information

- Christians believe that Jesus was God in human form, a belief known as incarnation (becoming flesh, taking a human form).
- Christians believe that Jesus was the Son of God, one of the persons of the Trinity.
- Jesus was sentenced to death by Pontius Pilate, a death by crucifixion (fixed to a cross).
- Jesus forgave those who crucified him and promised one of the men crucified with him that he would join God in paradise.
- Jesus’ body was buried in a cave-like tomb.
- The gospels say that after Jesus died and was buried, he rose from the dead. This event is known as the resurrection.
- The ascension of Jesus took place 40 days after his resurrection, when he returned to God the Father in heaven.
- There would be no Christian faith without the resurrection.
- Jesus’ resurrection assures Christians that they too will rise and live on after death.
- Christians have differing views about what happens when a person who has died is resurrected.
- Belief in resurrection affects the way Christians live their lives today.
- Christians believe in an afterlife that depends on faith in God.
- The afterlife begins at death or at the day of judgment, when Jesus will come to judge the living and the dead.
- Judgement will be based on how people have behaved during their lifetime, as well as their faith in following Jesus. This has an effect on how Christians choose to live their lives today.
- Many Christians believe God’s judgment will result in eternal reward or eternal punishment.
- Heaven is the state or place of eternal happiness and peace in the presence of God.
- Hell is the place of eternal suffering or the state of being without God.
- Sin is any thought or action that separates humans from God.
- Original sin is the in-built tendency to do wrong and disobey God, which Catholics believe all people are born with.
- The ways Christians can be saved from sin to gain salvation include following God’s law, receiving God’s grace, and being guided by the Holy Spirit.
- Christians believe that salvation is offered through the life and teaching of Jesus.
- Jesus’ resurrection shows that God accepted Jesus’ sacrifice as atonement. This means that through the sacrifice of his death, Jesus restored the relationship between God and humanity that was broken when Adam and Eve sinned.
Apply your knowledge

What is meant by incarnation? [1]


What is meant by ascension? [1]


Give two ways that Christians believe salvation can come about. [2]

1. 

2. 

Give two Christian beliefs about life after death [2]

1. 

2. 
Explain **two** ways in which the belief in Jesus’ crucifixion influences Christians today. [4]

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Explain **two** ways in which a belief in hell does not fit with the belief in a loving God [4]

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‘Jesus did not rise from the dead.’ Evaluate this statement. In your answer you should:
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It’s essential to include evaluation because this is the key skill that you are being tested on in the 12 mark question. You can evaluate after each viewpoint, and/or at the end as part of your justified conclusion.
‘Jesus did not rise from the dead.’
Christian Practices

charity
Worship

Why do Christians worship?

To praise and thank God

To ask for forgiveness

To seek God’s help for themselves or others

To deepen their relationship with God and strengthen their faith
## Different types of worship

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<th>Why is it important for Christians?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Liturical Worship** is a church service that follows a set structure or ritual | • Takes place in a church  
• Priest leads the congregation and may perform symbolic actions  
• Formal prayers with set responses  
• Bible passages are read out, there may be a sermon  
• Music and hymns                                                                 | The Eucharist (Catholic, Anglican and Orthodox churches)                                                                 | • Worldwide set order for service that is familiar to everyone  
• Ritual passed down through generations gives a sense of tradition  
• Bible readings follow the Christian calendar and teach Christian history and faith                                                                |
| **Non-liturgical worship** is a service that does not follow a set text or ritual | • Takes place in a church  
• Often focused on Bible readings followed by a sermon  
• May also have prayers and hymns but there is no set order, the number and type can change from week to week                                                                 | Services in non-conformists churches (Methodist, Baptist, United Reform) | • Services can be planned and ordered to suit a certain theme  
• Non-conformist churches place an emphasis on the word of God in the Bible                                                                                           |
| **Informal worship** is a type of non-liturgical worship that is ‘spontaneous’ or ‘charismatic’ in nature | • Community or house churches meet in private homes and share food  
• Quaker worship is mainly silent, people speak when moved by God to offer their thoughts or read from the Bible  
• ‘Charismatic’ worship may involve dancing, clapping, calling out and speaking in tongues (Holy Spirit taking over and an unknown language is spoken)                                                                 | Community or house churches, Quaker worship, charismatic (‘led by the spirit’) worship of the Pentecostal church | • The style of worship in house churches is similar to the worship of early Christians  
• People can share readings and prayers and can take an active part in church by calling out or speaking without formal training  
• Service may have an emotional impact with a feeling of personal revelation from God                                                                                       |

### How the Bible is used in worship:

The Bible is always the focus of any act of worship because it is considered either the ‘word of God’ or ‘inspired by God’.

The Bible can be processed into Church, many hymns are based on it, portions are often read out loud and in the sermon often explains a Bible passage put into todays’ examples.
Prayer

Why is prayer important?

- Helps Christians to accept God’s will even if it means suffering
- Helps Christians to keep a close relationship with God
- Enables Christians to talk and listen to God
- Gives a sense of peace
- Gives strength in times of trouble
- Encourages reflection in the middle of a busy life

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
Your Kingdom come, your will be done,
On earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever.
Amen

This is important as it is the prayer Jesus taught his disciples when he was asked by them ‘master, how should we pray?’

1. Christians see it as a model of good prayer, as it combines praise to God with asking for one’s needs.
2. It reminds Christians to forgive others in order to be forgiven, since prayer is only effective if people’s relationships with others are right.
3. It reminds Christians that God is the father of the whole Christian community, and it can be a sense of unity when everyone in the congregation says it together
4. The Lord’s prayer is often used in worship and is nearly always said at Holy Communion, baptisms, marriages and funerals. It is also used in school and in commemoration services in Britain.
Reasons Christians pray

- **INTERCESSION** (Eph 6v18-19)
  Pray for others. Pray for the salvation of your loved ones and friends. Pray for the church growth.

- **CONFESSION** (1 Jn1v9)
  Confessing and repenting to God for our weaknesses and sins.

- **THANKSGIVING** (Eph 5v20)
  Thank God for what He has done for you, your family & the church.

- **PETITION** (1 Sam 1v27)
  Ask God for peace & for your daily needs.

- **PRAISE** (Ps 146v1-2)
  Meditate on God’s attributes & praise Him for who He is.
### Sacraments

Sacrament: The external and visible sign of an inward spiritual grace. Can be experienced with the senses. Has a deeper meaning which is not experienced through the senses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sacrament</th>
<th>Outward and Visible sign</th>
<th>Inward and spiritual grace</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Baptism     | Water and the signing of the cross with the words – in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit | • Receiving the Holy Spirit  
• The removal of original sin  
• Entry into the Kingdom of God/the Church |
| Confirmation | The laying on of hands by the bishop                                                     | • Strengthening/sealing the gifts of the Holy Spirit in the person  
• Becoming an ‘adult’ member of the Church |
| Eucharist   | Bread and Wine                                                                           | • Spiritual ‘feeding’ with the body and blood of Christ                                   |
| Reconciliation | Words of forgiveness                                                                     | • The forgiveness of sins  
• Rebuilding of bonds                                                                         |
| Healing     | Anointing and the laying on of hands                                                     | • Spiritual and sometimes physical healing  
• Preparation for death                                                                      |
| Marriage    | Ring(s)                                                                                  | • Endless love between the couple                                                        |
| Ordination  | The laying on of hands by the bishop                                                     | • The special gifts of the Holy Spirit needed by a deacon or priest                      |

- Protestants acknowledge TWO sacraments: Baptism and Eucharist.  
- Roman Catholics, Orthodox and some Anglican have seven sacraments  
- Quakers and members of the Salvation Army reject all sacraments – they believe that Jesus did not intend for them to be prescribed rituals.

### Importance:

- Christians believe God imparts gifts through the sacraments.  
- They are offered at appropriate times in a person’s life – Rites of Passage – baptism, confirmation, marriage  
- Eucharist – bread and wine – helps Christians realise what they have done wrong  
- Healing can be given to help with strength and peace of mind  
- Ordination separates those who devote their life to God in the priesthood.
Baptism

Through baptism a person...

- Enters a new life with Christ in the Christian community
- Becomes a member of the Christian Church
- Becomes a child of God
- Is cleansed of sin
- Receives God's saving grace and the Holy Spirit

Practised by...

**Infant Baptism**
- Catholic
- Orthodox
- Anglican
- Methodist
- United Reform Church (URC)

**Reasons why**
- Removes original sin (Catholic/Orthodox belief)
- Allows the child to be welcomed into the church as soon as possible
- The parents can thank God for their new baby and celebrate with family and friends

**What happens**
- The priest/minister pours blessed water over the baby’s head ‘I baptise you in the name of the Father, the son and the Holy Spirit’
- Godparents and parents promise to bring the child up as a Christian
- The child is welcomed into the Christian Community

**Believer’s Baptism**
- Baptists
- Pentecostalists

**Reasons why**
- People should be old enough to consciously make a mature decision about their faith
- The decision to live a life dedicated to Jesus is what saves a person, rather than the baptism itself

**What happens**
- The person is fully immersed in a pool, symbolising the cleansing of sin and rising to a new life in Christ
- They give a brief testimony of their faith in Jesus.
- ‘in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit’
Holy Communion/Eucharist

The Last Supper – The last meal Jesus had with his disciples before his death. Jesus took bread, broke it – ‘This is my body which is given for you, do this in remembrance of me’ Jesus took wine – ‘This is my blood, do this in remembrance of me.’ This was a new sign of the new covenant between God and all believers.

Christians today re-enact the Last Supper in different ways. It can be done daily, weekly or monthly, as a part of, or in addition to a normal service.

The impact of Holy Communion – For many Christians, Holy communion is at the centre of their lives and worship. It affects individuals, local communities and the wider society in a number of ways:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Individuals</th>
<th>Communities</th>
<th>Wider society</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| • Christians receive God’s grace by joining in the sacrifice of Jesus.  
• This helps to strengthen their faith.  
• They become closer to God | • Holy communion brings the community of believer’s together in unity by sharing the bread and wine.  
• This can provide support and encouragement for those going through a difficult time. | • Holy Communion acts as a call to love others in practical ways.  
• It encourages Christians to work for equality and justice for all.  
• Many churches collect money during the service to help support those in need, such as the poor or homeless. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Celebrating Holy Communion/Eucharist</th>
</tr>
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</table>

### Catholic Mass and Anglican Holy Communion

**Liturgy of the Word:**
- There are three Bible readings, a psalm and a homily (a short sermon)
- The Creed is said
- Prayers are said for the Church, the local community, the world, and the sick and the dead.

**Liturgy of the Eucharist:**
- In the Anglican Holy Communion, people give a sign of peace to each other.
- Offerings of bread and wine are brought to the altar.
- The priest repeats the words of Jesus at the Last supper over the bread and wine.
- People say the Lord’s Prayer.
- In the Catholic Mass, the sign of peace is given at this point.
- The priest blesses people and sends them out to live the gospel.

Catholics and some Anglicans believe the bread and wine becomes the body and blood of Christ. This means Jesus is fully present in the bread and wine. This is a divine mystery that helps believers share in the saving sacrifice of Jesus’ death and resurrection. - **Transubstantiation**

### Holy Communion in the United Reform Church (URC)

- The service begins with a hymn and prayer of praise and thanksgiving.
- Bible readings and a sermon are given.
- Prayers for the world and the needs of particular people are said.
- The minister repeats the word’s and actions of Jesus at the Last Supper.
- There is an ‘open table’ so anyone who wishes may receive Holy communion.
- Sometimes the bread is cut beforehand, other times it is broken and passed around by the congregation.
- Wine is sometimes non-alcoholic and is usually distributed in small cups.
- The service ends with a prayer of Thanksgiving, a blessing, and an encouragement to go out and serve God.

Protestants celebrate Holy Communion as a reminder of the Last Supper. They do not believe the bread and wine become the body and blood of Christ. Instead, the bread and wine remain symbols of Jesus’ sacrifice, which helps believers to reflect on its meaning today.
Pilgrimage

Why go on a pilgrimage?
1. Strengthen faith in God
2. Grow closer to God
3. Meet others who share the same faith
4. Experience a holy place
5. Help other pilgrims who are disabled or ill
6. Seek a cure for illness
7. Thank God for a blessing
8. Pray for something special
9. Reflects on one's life
10. Be forgiven for sin

How pilgrimage can impact a Christian’s life:

• Gives them a better understanding of their faith
• Renew their enthusiasm for living a Christian life
• Help them see problems in a new light
• Help them to feel cleansed from sin
• Help them to feel more connected to the Christian community
• Give them a good feeling about helping other pilgrims who are disabled or ill.
• Pilgrimage can allow a pilgrim to live a simple life – allowing them to feel closer to how Jesus led his life.
Iona (an island off the coast of Scotland)

About Iona:
- Where St. Columba established a monastic community in the 6th century AD
- He was given Iona to spread the Christian message.
- There daily life was founded in the Bible – daily prayer, Bible reading, stewardship of time and money, regular meeting with other members and the active promotion of justice, peace and the environment.

Iona today:
- The long history makes pilgrims want to visit
- It is quiet, so pilgrims can spend their time praying and reading the Bible, reflecting and meditating
- Pilgrims can attend services in the abbey church, take part in workshops, and visit the island’s holy and historic sites.
- Individuals often go home renewed in their faith to live and work in the modern world.

Lourdes (South of France)

Bernadette in Lourdes:
- A girl named Bernadette claimed she saw the Virgin Mary 18 times.
- In a cave near the River Gave she was told to dig away the growth clogging the spring and drink the water.
- Her friend bathed her dislocated arm in the water and was healed.

Pilgrimage to Lourdes:
- Many visit Lourdes taking part in processions, saying the rosary and mass, touching the walls of the grotto (cave). Some have the opportunity to bathe in the waters of the spring.
- Water is often taken home and statues of the Virgin Mary bought.
- The sick or disabled go in the hope that they will be healed.

Healing in Lourdes:
- Since the first cure in 1858, 69 more Lourdes healings have been declared miracles.
- Most pilgrims not experiencing physical healing still feel as though they have been healed spiritually.
- Pilgrims also describe feeling of peace of mind.
Celebrating Festivals: Christmas

Christmas commemorates the incarnation of Jesus. The celebrations reflect Christian beliefs and teachings. The specific date is unknown but the Western church chose 25th December and the Eastern church chose 6th January.

Christians focus on family, children, the poor and lonely to make Christmas a time of warmth, love and togetherness. It is common for churches to set up shelters, host meals and distribute gift parcels for the most needy. It is a time of giving, receiving and of love to symbolise the love that God showed. It is also a time for hope – for peace and reconciliation, love to our fellow man and for Christians to show their faith to the world.

Christians celebrate Christmas in the following ways:

- **Lights** – represent Jesus as the light coming into the world of darkness.
- **Nativity Scenes** – show baby Jesus born into poverty
- **Carol Services** – these with Bible readings remind Christians about God’s promise of a saviour and the events of Jesus’ birth.
- **Midnight Mass** – reflects the holiness of the night and the joy Christians feel at Jesus’ birth.
- **Christmas cards and gifts** – recall the wise men gifts to Jesus
- **Give to charity** – in this time of peace and goodwill because God gave humanity the gift of Jesus, his Son.
Celebrating Festivals: Easter

**Easter**
Easter is the most important Christian festival, which celebrates Jesus’ rising from the dead.

**Holy Week**
(the week before Easter Sunday) remembers the events of Jesus arriving into Jerusalem (Palm Sunday) leading up to Jesus’ crucifixion, including his arrest and trial.

**Easter Saturday**
Some churches hold a special service on the evening to celebrate Jesus’ resurrection. Orthodox Christians walk with candles and procession, then enter the dark church as if going into the empty tomb. – The priest then announces ‘Christ is risen’ the response is ‘he is risen indeed.
Catholics and Anglicans have a vigil that begins in darkness, before the Paschal candle is lit to symbolise the Christ. The service ends with Holy Communion.

**Good Friday**
(The day Jesus was crucified)
There are special services and processions led by a person carrying a cross.

**Easter Sunday**
Churches are filled with flowers and special hymns are sung to rejoice at Jesus’ resurrection. Services are held at sunrise, and shared breakfasts include eggs to symbolise new life.

**Celebration & Importance:**
In Churches, special services are throughout the week. Christians would send Easter cards. Christians move from a period of great sadness to great joy knowing what God has done for them. The human suffering of Jesus and his obedience to the will of God are emphasised. Christians believe that God reunited himself with humanity by the actions of Jesus so that they can once again be reunited with Him at death – the new covenant.

*For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.*
*John 3:16*
The role of the Church in the local community – Food Banks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What does the Church do?</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Individual Churches:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Educate people about Christianity (e.g. Bible study groups – ALPHA course)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Meeting places for prayer and worship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Provide activities for younger people (e.g. Youth Clubs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Places where Christians can socialise and obtain spiritual guidance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Church:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Supports local projects such as food banks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Provides social services such as schooling and medical care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Help those in need</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Campaigns for justice</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“And God placed all things under his [Jesus’] feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the Church, which his is body.” Ephesians 1:22-23

You can use this quote to show that Christians think of the Church as the followers of Jesus, who together are the body of Christ on earth

Examples of the Church helping the local community: The Trussell Trust

• Helps the local community by providing food banks. The work of this charity is based on Christian principles (such as the Parable of Sheep and Goats)

• At food banks people volunteer to collect and distribute food. In 2004 saw the launch of the UK-wide network with a vision to end poverty and hunger, to show compassion and give practical help.

  • A charity running over 400 food banks in the UK

• These provide emergency food, help and support to people in crisis in the UK

• Non-perishable food is donated by churches, supermarkets, schools, businesses and individuals.

• Doctors, health visitors and social workers identify people in crisis and issue them with food vouchers

TIP: You may not be asked about an exact organisation, but you can use this to describe how the Churches help in the local community
The role of the Church in the local community – Street Pastors

“Faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.”
James 2:17

Jesus taught that Christians should help others by showing agape love towards them. For example, in the Parable of the Sheep and Goats, Jesus teaches Christians they should give practical help to people in need.

- An initiative started in London in 2003, by the Christian charity the Ascension Trust.
- Adult volunteers are trained to patrol the streets in urban areas. Following their training, they ask for God’s blessing on this difficult type of ministry.
- The main aim originally was to challenge gang culture and knife crime in London.
- The focus then widened to responding to drunkenness, anti-social behaviour and fear of crime.
- Street Pastors work closely with police and local councils.
- They listen to people’s problems, advise on where they might get help, and discourage anti-social behaviour.
- A similar group called School Pastors was set up in 2011 to discourage illegal drug use, bullying and anti-social behaviour in schools.

There have been Street Pastors in Stafford since 2009. Every Volunteer is a member of a local Church. Street Pastors are on duty every Friday and Saturday night from 10.30pm until the Clubs close in the early hours. We are there to support anyone, with whatever they may need during a night out. We have Water, Space Blankets, Lollies, and Flip Flops for tired feet! We may help lost friends find each other or help to get a taxi, or call home for a lift!
The role of the Church in the local community – Other organisations

Founded as a result of the deprivation people were living in and the apparent unconcern shown by many Christian churches, the Salvation Army works with the poor and disadvantaged, setting up, for example:

• Food kitchens and hostels for the homeless, including emergency assistance
• Toy collections at Christmas
• Training and employment help and advice.

This is a Roman Catholic society whose aim is to provide for the great needs of people in society. Its motto is to help the homeless, visit the sick, befriend the lonely and feed the hungry. The society is involved in, for example:

• Setting up support centres and counselling services
• Providing work training
• Helping refugees, released prisoners, the disabled and the mentally ill.
The place of Mission and Evangelism

The Great Commission:

• Jesus gave a Great commission to his disciples to spread the gospel and make disciples of all nations through baptism.
• The Holy Spirit at Pentecost gave the disciples the gifts and courage needed to carry out the Great Commission.
• All Christians have a duty to spread the gospel and tell others of their faith, but some become missionaries or evangelists (people who promote Christianity, for example by going to foreign countries to preach or do charitable work.)
• The aims of missionary work and evangelism are to persuade people to accept Jesus as their Saviour, and to extend the Church to all nations.

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.” Matthew 28: 19-20

Alpha:

• Alpha is an example of evangelism in Britain.
• It was started in London by an Anglican priest, with the aim of helping church members understand the basics of the Christian faith.
• The course is now used as an introduction for those interested in learning about Christianity, by different Christian denominations in Britain and abroad.
• The organisers describe it as ‘an opportunity to explore the meaning of life’ through talks and discussions.
• Courses are held in homes, workplaces, universities and prisons as well as in churches.

The Church Army – committed to Christian mission:

• Members are trained by the Church of England to work throughout the UK.
• Aim is to help people find faith, showing their love of God as revealed through Christ.
• They focus their work on the vulnerable and marginalised people in society e.g. Young People and families, Drug addicts, prisons and hospitals, visiting the elderly and providing access to worship outside of church.

SIM – Serving in Mission:

• Worldwide scope to follow Jesus’ instruction to send people out on mission.
• Members work chiefly in areas where it appears Christianity is under attack – e.g. Nigeria, where Christians are often the target for terrorist groups. (Boko Haram – Kidnapping school girls)
• Churches have been destroyed, vicars killed and people left traumatised by what they have suffered.
• SIM supports the rebuilding of these communities.
**Church Growth**

**Ways Christians can spread the faith**
- Sharing what God has done for them with others
- Inviting people to Christian meetings, fellowship meals and social events
- Praying for others to accept God
- Advertising and using social media (such as Facebook, Twitter or Premier Christian Radio)

**The Growth of the Church:**
- The Church is growing rapidly in South America, Africa and Asia, but not in the USA, Europe and the Middle East (where Christians have been persecuted)
- Worldwide around 80,000 people become Christians each day, and over 500 new churches are formed.
- The Church mission is to make disciples, not just new believers. This means new Christians are also expected to help spread the faith.
- Evangelism should therefore be followed up by training new converts in the way of following Jesus.
- Every Christian has a role in encouraging fellow believers.

**Christ for all Nations:**
- Christ for all nations is an example of a Christian organisation promoting evangelism. They do this by holding evangelistic meetings throughout the world, but particularly in Africa.
- They are led by the evangelists Richard Bonnke and Daniel Kolenda.
- Some of their large open-air rallies held in Africa have drawn crowds of up to 1.6 million people.
- It is claimed that many miracles of healing take place at the meetings.
- Christ for all Nations claims that 74 million people have filled in decision cards to follow Christ at their meetings.
The worldwide Church - Reconciliation

Irish Churches Peace Project:
• Brings Catholics and Protestants together in Northern Ireland
• The project aims to develop peace and understanding between these two denominations.

World Council of Churches:
• Works for reconciliation between different Christian denominations and members of other faiths.
• For example, the Pilgrimage of Justice and Peace initiative supports inter-religious dialogue and cooperation.

Working for Reconciliation:
• Christians believe humans were reconciled to God through Jesus’ death and resurrection. Thus means Jesus’ death and resurrection helped to restore the relationship between god and humanity, which had been broken by sin.
• For Catholics, the sacrament of reconciliation also helps restore people's relationship with God.
• Reconciliation is therefore an important part of the Church’s work. This might involve anything from trying to restore relationships between individual people, working for peace between different religious groups or nations at conflict.

Community of the Cross and Nails:
• After the bombing of Coventry Cathedral in World War 2, local Christians showed forgiveness to those responsible, and the cathedral became a world centre for peace and reconciliation.
• The Cathedral now works with other countries to bring about peace and harmony.

Corrymeela Community:
• Brings together people from different faiths or political leanings.
• They meet at a residential centre in Northern Ireland to build trust and explore ways of moving away from violence so they can work together constructively.
Christian Persecution

What is Persecution?

• The International Society for Human Rights estimates that 80% of all acts of religious discrimination today are aimed at Christians.
• This persecution happens around the world, but particularly in countries such as North Korea, Somalia, Iraq and Syria.
• It might involve – Being forced to pay extra tax; job discrimination; being forbidden to build churches; attacks on Christian homes, churches, families, including murder.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Supporting quote from scripture</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• For some Christians, persecution can have a positive effect, as it strengthens their faith and convictions. • It also allows them to share in the suffering of Jesus.</td>
<td>“I want to know Christ – yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his suffering” (Philippians 3:10) This quote shows that one way Christians can get to know Jesus is by sharing in his suffering.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• The Church believes it is important to act against persecution, by supporting persecuted Christians wherever possible and campaigning on their behalf.</td>
<td>“If one part suffers, every part suffers with it.” (1 Corinthians 12:26) This quote refers to the Church. It shows that helping individual Christians also helps the whole Church.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Christians are encouraged to show love and forgiveness towards their persecutors.</td>
<td>“Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.” (Romans 12:21) This quote shows that Christians should respond to evil with love.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ways in which Christians can help the persecuted.

• Christians have smuggled Bibles into the USSR (Russia) to strengthen and give comfort to persecuted Christians.
• The Barnabas Fund sends money to support people persecuted for their faith.
• Christian Solidarity Worldwide campaigns for religious freedom for all.
The Church’s response to world poverty

“If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.”

1 John 3:17-18

Helping those in poverty:

Christians try to help those living in poverty because Jesus taught that this was important. For example

- Jesus once told a rich man to sell everything and give to the poor (Mark 10:21)
- The parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus tells of a rich man who ends up in hell for ignoring a beggar.
- The parable of the Good Samaritan teaches the importance of helping all people.
- Jesus helped outcasts such as lepers, tax collectors and sinners.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Charity</th>
<th>Examples of their work</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christian Aid</td>
<td>• Supports projects to encourage sustainable development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Provides emergency relief, such as food, water, shelter and sanitation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Campaigns to end poverty alongside organisations such as Fairtrade Foundation, Trade Justice and Stop Climate Chaos.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tearfund</td>
<td>• Works with over 90,000 churches worldwide to help lift out of poverty.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Supplies emergency aid after natural disasters and conflict.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Provides long-term aid to help communities become more self-reliant, such as education or new farming equipment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Supported by donations, fundraising events and prayer from churches in the UK.</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAFOD</td>
<td>• Works with local organisations to train, supply and support communities to work their own way out of poverty.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Gives short-term aid such as food, water, shelter during conflicts and disasters.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Lobbies UK government and global organisations for decisions that respect the poorest.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
|            | • Encourages Catholic schools and parishes to pray, give money and campaign for justice.
Worship is the act of religious praise, honour or devotion. It is a way for Christians to show their deep love and honour to God.

Worship can take different forms, including liturgical, non-liturgical and informal worship.

Private worship is when believers praise or honour god in their own homes.

Prayer is communicating with god, either silently or through words of praise, thanksgiving or confession, or requests for God’s help or guidance.

Christians may use set prayers that have been written down and said more than once by more than one person. An example – The Lord’s Prayer – the prayer Jesus taught his disciples.

Christians may also use informal prayers (made up by an individual) to communicate with God. Some Christians find they can express their needs to God more easily by using their own words.

Sacraments are holy rituals through which believers receive a special gift of grace. Some Christian denominations recognise seven sacraments while others acknowledge fewer.

Baptism is the ritual through which a person becomes a member of the church. It involves the use of water to symbolise the washing away of sin.

Infant baptism is for babies and young children. Believer’s baptism is for people who are old enough to understand the significance of the ritual.

Holy Communion/Eucharist is the sacrament that uses bread and wine to celebrate the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross and his resurrection.

It recalls the Last Supper of Jesus, using his words and actions.

Christians interpret the meaning of Holy Communion in different ways, but all agree that it brings them closer to each other and to God.

In most churches the Holy Communion service has two parts: the ministry of the Word (focus on the Bible) and the ministry of the Holy Communion (Bread and Wine).

Christians have different practices when it comes to celebrating Holy communion.

A pilgrimage is a journey made by a believer to a holy site for a religious reasons. As well as making a physical journey to a sacred place, the pilgrim also makes a spiritual journey towards god.

A pilgrimage gives many opportunities for prayer and worship, and is itself an act of worship and devotion.

Two popular pilgrimage sites for Christians are Lourdes (France) and Iona (Scottish Island).
Essential Information

- A festival is a day or period of celebration for religious reasons.
- Festivals help Christians to remember and celebrate the major events in their religion – particularly the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.
- Christmas commemorates the incarnation and the birth of Jesus. Celebrations begin on 25 December and last 12 days, ending with Epiphany (which recalls the visit of the wise men).
- Easter celebrates the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. Celebrations begin before Easter Sunday and finish with the feast of Pentecost.
- The Church is the holy people of God, also called the Body of Christ, among whom Christ is present and active.
- A church is a building in which Christians worship.
- Individual churches and the Church as a whole help the local community in a variety of ways, including the provision of food banks. These give food for free to people who cannot afford to buy it.
- Christians should help others in the local community because Jesus taught that people should show agape love (Selfless, sacrificial, unconditional love).
- Christians believe it is important to put their faith into action. They do this through many organisations and projects that help vulnerable people in the community.
- Street Pastors are people who are trained to patrol the streets in urban areas. They help vulnerable people by providing a reassuring presence on the street.
- A mission is a vocation or calling to spread the faith. The Church has a mission to tell non-believers that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, came into the world as its saviour.
- Christians spread the faith through evangelism.
- They do this to fulfil Jesus’ instructions to the disciples to spread his teachings.
- Up to a third of the world’s population claim to be Christian (inc. people who rarely attend church), and around 80,000 people become Christians every day.
- The Church expects new Christians to help spread the faith as part of their commitment to Jesus.
- Christ for all Nations is an example of Christian organisation that promotes evangelism.
- The Worldwide Church has a mission to restore people’s relationship with God and with one another.
- The Church therefore plays an important role in reconciliation, through initiatives to develop peace and understanding.
- Christians have faced persecution from the beginning of the Church and Christians are still persecuted worldwide today.
- For some Christian persecution can have positive effects: It can strengthen their faith, allow them to share in Jesus’ sufferings and even inspire others to become Christian.
- The Church helps those who are persecuted through prayer, practical help and financial support, and by raising awareness of persecution and campaigning against it.
- Christian charities follow the example and teaching of Jesus in working to relieve poverty.
- Christians believe they should show Jesus to the world through helping the disadvantaged.
- Three Christian charities that help the poor are Christian Aid, Tearfund and CAFOD.
Apply your knowledge

Which one of the following is a type of worship that follows a set pattern [1]


Which one of the following is the festival that celebrates the incarnation of Jesus [1]

a. Easter   b. Good Friday   c. Christmas   d. Lent

Give two ways in which the Church responds to world poverty [2]

1. 

2. 

Give two reasons why prayer is important to Christians [2]

1. 

2. 
Explain **two** contrasting ways in which Christians worship. [4]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Explain one way</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Develop your explanation with more detail/an example/reference to a religious teaching or quotation.</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Explain second way</th>
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<tr>
<td>Develop your explanation with more detail/an example/reference to a religious teaching or quotation.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Explain **two** contrasting ways in which Christians practise baptism. [4]

TIP: The question is asking about different ways baptism is practised – e.g. Infant/believers baptism

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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Explain **two** ways that Christian charities help the poor in less economically developed countries. Refer to sacred writings or another source of Christian belief and teaching in your answer. [5]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Explain one teaching.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Develop your explanation with more detail/an example</td>
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<tr>
<td>Explain a second teaching.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop your explanation with more detail/an example</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Add a reference to a sacred writings or another source of Christian belief and teaching. If you prefer, you can add this to your first teaching instead.</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

You only need to make one reference to scripture in your answer. It can support either your first or second point.
‘The most important duty of the Church is to help people in need’
Evaluate this statement.
In your answer you should:
- refer to Christian teaching
- give developed arguments to support this statement
- give developed arguments to support a different point of view
- reach a justified conclusion. [12]

| Reasoned arguments in support of the statement |
| Explain why some people would agree with the statement. |
| Develop your explanation with more detail and examples. |
| Refer to a religious teaching. Use a quote or paraphrase or refer to a religious authority (church/Pope) |
| **Evaluate the arguments.** Is this a good argument or not? Explain why you think this. |

| Reasoned arguments supporting a different view. |
| Explain why some people would disagree with the statement. |
| Develop your explanation with more detail and examples. |
| Refer to a religious teaching. Use a quote or paraphrase or refer to a religious authority (church/Pope) |
| **Evaluate the arguments.** Is this a good argument or not? Explain why you think this. |

| Conclusion |
| Give a justified conclusion. |
| Including your own opinion together with your own reasoning |
| Include evaluation – explain why one viewpoint is stronger than the other or why are they equally strong. |
| Don’t just repeat arguments you have already used without explaining how they apply to your reasoned opinion/conclusion. |

It’s essential to include evaluation because this is the key skill that you are being tested on in the 12 mark question. You can evaluate after each viewpoint, and/or at the end as part of your justified conclusion.
‘The most important duty of the Church is to help people in need’