

Worship

Liturgical worship → church service that follows a set structure and pattern

Non-liturgical worship → church service that does not follow a set text or ritual

Why do Christians worship? To praise God, give thanks, for forgiveness, to strengthen relationship with God

	<u>Liturgical worship</u>	<u>Non-liturgical worship</u>
	takes place in a church	no set order
	set prayers with set response	Services follow themes

Prayer

Set prayer → prayers that have been said more than once and written down, for example the Lord's Prayer

Informal prayer → a prayer that is made up by the individual using his/her own words

Why is prayer important?

- Allows Christians time to reflect, find peace, allows them to communicate with God
- The Lord's prayer is important as it reminds Christians to forgive others in order to be forgiven
- Key quote → "Our Father, who art in heaven"



Baptism

Infant baptism → is for babies and young children

Believers' baptism → people who are old enough to make the decision to be baptised

Why are people baptised? To become a member of the Church, to be cleansed of sin, follow in Jesus' footsteps

<u>Believer's baptism</u>	<u>Infant baptism</u>
Attend baptism classes	Parents make promises
Gives a brief testimony	Removes original sin

Key quote → "Get up, be baptised and wash your sins away" Acts 22:16



Holy Communion and celebrating it

Holy Communion → sacrament that uses bread and wine to remember sacrificial death of Jesus. Remembers the events of the Last Supper

Different understandings of Holy Communion

Catholic → transubstantiation (bread and wine actually becomes the body and blood of Jesus)

Protestant → see the bread and wine as symbolic to remember Jesus' sacrifice

How it is celebrated? In Catholic Church the priest gives the bread and wine to people, in Orthodox Church the priest receives bread and wine from church members. "Do this in remembrance of me"



Pilgrimage

Pilgrimage → religious journey of moral and spiritual importance

Lourdes – France → in the South West of France. Bernadette had numerous visions of the Virgin Mary who told her to dig for spring water. The water is believed to have healing powers and miracles are said to happen there. Pilgrims bathe in the water and there is a big focus on the sick and disabled.

Iona – island off the coast of Scotland → Ecumenical community → pilgrims spend time praying, reading the Bible, reflecting and meditating. It is said the veil between earth and heaven is thin here.



Celebrating festivals

Two main festivals in Christianity are Easter and Christmas

Christmas → commemorates the incarnation of Jesus

Ways it is celebrated → carol services, nativity scenes, giving to charity, Midnight Mass, Christmas cards and gifts

Easter → celebrates the resurrection of Jesus from the dead

Ways it is celebrated → On Good Friday there are special services and processions led by a person carrying a cross, Saturday night some churches hold a special service to celebrate the resurrection, Easter Sunday churches are filled with flowers and hymns are sung "He is Risen!"




Role of the Church in the local community: Food banks

The Church → the holy people of God, also called the Body of Christ, among who Christ is present and active

A church → building in which Christians worship

What does the Church do? Support projects such as food banks, providing social services and campaigning for justice

The Trussell Trust → runs over 400 foodbanks in the UK, provides food for those in need

The Oasis Project → provides an internet café, CV support and a safe meeting place



Role of the Church in the local community: Street Pastors

Agape → selfless, sacrificial, unconditional love

Jesus taught the importance of helping those in need.

Key quote → 'Faith, by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead' James 2:17 NIV

Street Pastors

- Volunteers who stroll the streets at night helping those that are drunk and supporting the police and local councils with anti-social behaviour.
- They listen to people's problems and give them advice.



Mission and evangelism

Mission → vocation or calling to spread the faith

Evangelism → showing faith in Jesus by example or by telling others

The Great Commission Jesus instructs his disciples to go and spread the gospels and make disciples of others through baptism. "Go and make disciples of all nations."

Missionary work

Aims of missionary work is to persuade people to accept Jesus as their Saviour. Alpha is an example of evangelism in the UK. It is an introductory course to Christianity for those that are interested.



Church growth and the importance of the worldwide Church

The growth of the Church

- Growing rapidly in South America, Africa and Asia but not in the US, Europe and the Middle East. Christ for all Nations is an example of an organisation that spreads the message

Ways Christians can spread the faith → praying for others to accept God, via social media, fellowship meals, sharing what God has done for them with others

Working towards reconciliation → Church has a mission to restore people's relationship with God and one another.

The Corrymeela community brings people together



Christian persecution

Persecution → hostility and ill treatment

Examples of persecution → paying extra taxes, job discrimination, being forbidden to build churches, attacks on Christian homes, churches and families, including murder

Christian responses to persecution

- To stand up against persecution
- Persecution can strengthen faith – 'if one suffers, every part suffers with it'
- They are encouraged to show love and forgiveness towards persecutors



The Church's response to world poverty

Helping those in need

- Jesus taught it was important to help others and often taught his message through parables
- The parable of the Rich man and Lazarus sees a rich man sent to hell for not helping the poor

Christian charities that help those in poverty → Christian Aid, Tearfund, CAFOD

What do they do? → Provide short term and long term aid including, food, medical supplies, shelter and sanitation

