

KEY TERMS

Pilgrimage - Pilgrimage is a movement forward to a final destination. Christians believe they are on their way to meet God at death.

Evangelism: Preaching the good news about Jesus to other people.

Mission: 'Sending out' people with a job or function to perform.

Apostolic Succession: The authority of the apostles has been passed down from one generation of bishops to the next.

Magisterium: The combined authority of the bishops and the Pope.

Vocation: A call from God to take on a certain role in life.

Hierarchy: a ranking system.

Religious life: Monks or nuns. People who commit themselves to God by living in a small religious community.

Christians are members of the body of Christ. This means we must love our neighbour as Jesus told us to. We can do this locally, nationally and globally. St Vincent De Paul society (SVP) work locally. CAFOD work both nationally and globally.

CATHOLIC CHRISTIANITY: CHURCH AND THE KOG



The Catholic Church has said that "The production and showing of films that have value ought to be encouraged". Films that highlight Christian values can inspire Christians to preach the message to others and show it in their actions.

Les Miserables shows themes of love and forgiveness and the power that they can have on someone's life. "to love another person is to see the face of God". The Priest lives out the mission that all Catholics have – to act with love and mercy towards others and this is an encounter with God.

The hierarchy of the Catholic Church: The Pope is the head of the Catholic Church which means he has the highest authority. This has been passed down through the generations from Peter. The Pope's teachings must be taken as **infallible**. Councils are held to make important decisions and update Church teachings. These help the Pope to discuss difficult issues and to understand the feelings of the whole Catholic community. They express the voice of the whole Church. However the decisions of the council have no authority until they are approved by the Pope. This means that the Catholic Church is both **conciliar** and **pontifical**. The 2nd Vatican council was a series of meetings held by the Pope and bishops between 1962 and 1965. It produced a series of documents that reflected a more modern approach to the Church and the world. It aimed to "Open the windows of the Church".

The Magnificat is a prayer that Mary said after she became pregnant and visited her cousin Elizabeth. It is sometimes seen as a controversial prayer as some think it could inspire the poor and weak to rise up against their governments. "He has brought down the powerful from their thrones and lifted up the lowly." Others just think the prayer shows that God supports the weak and helpless and that those who trust in God will be saved.

The 4 marks of the Church are 4 qualities necessary for it to exist. It is **One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic**.

Lesson 1 – Pilgrimage and stations of the cross

Lesson 2 – Pilgrimage locations

Lesson 3 – Mission and evangelism in drama

Lesson 4 – Kingdom of God and the Lord's prayer

Lesson 5 – Hierarchy of the Catholic Church

Lesson 6 – Mary the Magnificat

Lesson 7 – The Four Marks and apostolic succession

Lesson 8 – Conciliar and Pontifical Church

Lesson 9 - The Church as the body of Christ

The Kingdom of God refers to the idea of God's authority and rule. It is among those who follow Jesus. It was established through Jesus, continues to grow in the present day and will be completed at the end of time. The Lord's Prayer is what Jesus taught to his disciples. It gives an idea of what is required for God's Kingdom to grow on earth.

Kingdom values are those that God wants us to show in our lives. Jesus gave the best example of this; gentleness, humility; obedience; peace; love and mercy. These are expressed in the vocations of priesthood, religious life and marriage.

There are 14 Stations of the Cross. These marks Jesus' final journey from Pilate's house to his death and burial. Out of the 14, only **eight** can be found in scripture. Stations 3, 4, 6, 7, and 9 are not specifically written about in the gospels. Many Catholics during Lent will make the Stations of the Cross; they will walk between each one and say a prayer as they think about Jesus' last journey. This can be done as a group or as individuals. Dramatised prayer involves physical movement. It is a way of accompanying Jesus on his journey, to act out a form of sharing in Jesus' suffering. It also allows the person praying to maintain focus.

Jerusalem, Rome, Lourdes and Walsingham are all Catholic places of pilgrimage. Catholics might go on a pilgrimage to these places to renew their commitment to the Church and God, meet other Catholics, heal themselves, or feel spiritually inspired.

Justice, peace and reconciliation are signs of the Kingdom of God. It requires these three things as it is perfect. Christians can help the Kingdom to grow on earth by contributing to justice, peace and reconciliation in their own lives and in the lives of others. **Justice** is to respect the rights of others. Christians should support all efforts to establish **peace** and harmony in the world. **Reconciliation** breaks down the barriers that exist between people. This helps peace and justice to grow, which helps the Kingdom to grow.

Pope Francis is an example of a Catholic who lived by the Kingdom signs of **justice, peace and reconciliation**. He lives simply, prays for peace and washes the feet of prisoners on Maundy Thursday.