

Year 11 R, P&E: Topic 3 – Christian Practices

There are no sacraments in Quaker Christianity and fewer in the Church of England beliefs (only baptism and Holy Communion are seen as necessary in C of E)

Sacraments are holy rituals that outwardly express an inner, spiritual experience. They make visible for believers a special gift of grace, Catholic and Orthodox Christians expect seven sacraments which they believe to have been initiated by Jesus:

- Baptism
- Confirmation
- Holy Communion
- Marriage
- Holy Orders
- Reconciliation
- Anointing of the sick

Key Vocabulary:

Sacraments: rites and rituals through which the believer receives a special gift of grace; for Catholics, Anglicans and many Protestants, sacraments are 'outward signs' of 'inward grace'.

Baptism: the ritual through which people become members of the Church; baptism involved the use of water as a symbol of the washing away of sin.

Believers' baptism: initiation into the Church, by immersion in water, of people old enough to understand the ceremony / rite and willing to live a Christian life.

Infant baptism: the ritual through which babies and young children become members of the Church, where promises taken on their behalf by adults; the infant is freed from sin and introduced to the saving love of God and support of the Christian community.

Festival: a day or period of celebration for religious reasons

Christmas: the day commemorating the Incarnation, the birth of Jesus (25th December in most churches); also, the season of 12 days ending with the Epiphany (when Christians remember the visit of the wise men)

Easter: the religious season celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus from the dead; It starts on Easter Day and finished with the feast of Pentecost.

Holy Communion: the sacrament that uses bread and wine to celebrate the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross and his resurrection from death.

Transubstantiation: Roman Catholic belief that during the Eucharist (Holy Communion) the bread and wine become the body and blood of Christ, allowing them to take in the message of Jesus

Consubstantiation: Anglican and Orthodox belief that the bread and wine used in Holy Communion symbolically refer to the body and blood of Jesus, providing a message to all Christians to remember the Last Supper

Church: 1. The holy people of God, also called the Body of Christ. 2. A building in which Christians worship.

Mission: the vocation or calling of a religious organisation to go out into the world and spread their faith.

The Great Commission: Jesus' instruction to his followers that they should spread his teachings to all the nations of the world.

Missionary: a person sent on a religious mission, especially to promote Christianity in a foreign country through preaching of charitable work.

Evangelism: spreading the Christian gospel by public preaching or personal witness.

Eucharist: Roman Catholic name for the Holy Communion service

Reconciliation: a sacrament in the Catholic Church; also, the restoring of harmony after relationships have broken down.

Persecution: hostility and ill-treatment, especially because of race, or political or religious beliefs.

Key Quotes:

- *"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." Matthew 28:16*
- *"I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."*
- *"Christ is risen..." (Easter)*
- *"Father, you make this holy night...we welcome him as Lord, the true light of the world" (Christmas)*
- *"And God placed all things under his (Jesus') feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, which is his body." Ephesians 1:22-23*
- *"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me." Matthew 25:35-36*