

Sacramental Nature of reality means that God is present in all of creation and can be understood through the things he has made.

Sacraments are ways that we can receive God's grace. This is a reason that each sacrament is important.

Baptism is important because it washes away original sin, welcomes us into the Church, allows us to receive other sacraments, the Catechism teaches it and Jesus did it.

Confirmation is important because it makes a person a full member of the Church, allows people to take on lay ministries, allows us to renew our baptismal vows and gives the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Reconciliation is important because a person's sins get forgiven and our relationship with God is strengthened.

Anointing of the Sick is important because it gives people strength to face illness, absolves a person's sins and they also receive Holy Communion during the sacrament.

Marriage is important because it shows love, commitment to staying together for life, is where children are meant to be had and raised.

Holy Orders is important because without priests, bishops and deacons we cannot receive sacraments which help us gain salvation.

For Eucharist see Liturgical Worship.

Divergent views

Most Protestants only have two sacraments, Baptism and the Eucharist, because they were instituted by Jesus.

Quakers and Salvation Army have no sacraments because they don't think they belong to the new law of Jesus.

Baptists don't get baptised as babies but rather as adults following Jesus.



Catholic Liturgical Worship

Liturgical worship is worship that uses set prayers and rituals, eg. Mass which includes these stages at all Masses.

- ◆ **Penitential Rite**—Where we say sorry and have sins forgiven.
- ◆ **Liturgy of the Word**—Where we hear Bible Readings, Gospel and Sermon. These help us to live a good Christian life.
- ◆ **Liturgy of the Eucharist**—The priest blesses the bread and wine like Jesus did at the Last Supper and it becomes the Body and Blood of Christ.
- ◆ **Rite of Communion.** The congregation receive Jesus' body and blood.
- ◆ **Final Blessing**—Give thanks for what we have received and remind us to live Christian lives

Non conformist Churches use non liturgical worship where they have hymns/gospel songs, unprepared prayers and have an emphasis on the sermon.

Forms of Popular Piety

Popular Piety includes the Rosary, Eucharistic Adoration and Stations of the Cross.

Rosary—A set of prayers that allow Christians to reflect on the life of Jesus, reminding them of what he has done for us.

Eucharistic Adoration— Catholics show adoration towards the Eucharist as it is exposed on the altar in a monstrance. Identifies with Jesus' suffering, allows us to be in the presence of Christ and allows us to give thanks to Jesus.

Stations of the cross—Images of Jesus journey from his trial to his body being put in the tomb. Reminds us of the suffering of Jesus and gives an opportunity to thank Jesus for this.

Catholic Social Teaching

Catholic Social teaching is all about how we treat others and the world around us. It is based on:

- ◆ Jesus' command to love your neighbour
- ◆ The Bible and Catechism teachings to be just.
- ◆ The Parables of the Sheep and Goats and the Good Samaritan
- ◆ Laudato Si'— Pope Francis' letter on how to treat the world.

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul (SVP) is an organisation that helps the poor and suffering in the UK by:

Visiting the lonely, running camps for children from broken homes, providing furniture stores to help the homeless, providing drop in centres for lonely people to socialise.

CAFOD are an organisation that helps the poor and suffering overseas by:

Providing long term aid so people can support themselves, helping in times of disaster such as earthquakes etc, speaking out on behalf of the poor communities and promoting fair trade products.

Funerals

There are 3 stages to a funeral.

- ◆ **A vigil service**—Takes place the night before the funeral. The have prayers and a service of the word.
- ◆ **The funeral liturgy**— Can be a Mass. Is a reminder that death is not the end. Pray that the person will not suffer but go quickly to heaven.
- ◆ **The rite of Committal** - At a cemetery or crematorium. Coffin sprinkled with holy water and lowered into the ground. Prayers of farewell said.

A Catholic funeral reminds people that they are still linked with the deceased through Christ. It is a celebration of the person's life and also reminds us that Jesus died so we could gain entry to heaven.



Prayer—Communicating with God.

Thanks—People pray to thank God for the things we have received.

Asking—People pray to ask God for help in times of need.

Praise—People pray to praise and adore God for everything that he has done for us

Sorrow—People pray to say sorry for the wrongs they have done and ask for forgiveness.

When Catholics pray they want a relationship with God, they follow what Jesus told them to do and follow the Catechism. You can pray in lots of different ways and it follows Jesus' command to Love God.

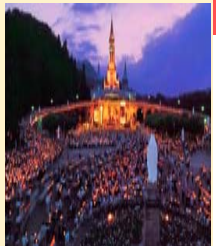


Pilgrimage is a journey to a religious place.

Catholics go on pilgrimage to become closer to God, be cured from illness or to see places where saints or Jesus were.

- **Jerusalem**— This is where Jesus spent his life. People go to see the areas where Jesus was buried and rose from the dead etc.
- **Rome**—This is where the HQ of the Church is and where the Saints Peter and Paul are buried.
- **Lourdes**— Where Mary appeared to St Bernadette and 6 million Catholics go. Many healing miracles recorded here

Protestants feel pilgrimage is unnecessary because God is everywhere so you don't need to go to a special place to get closer to him.



GCSE Religious Studies

Unit 1.2 Practices

Remember that you need to be able to refer to sources of Wisdom and Authority. The sources for this unit are overleaf.

Catholic Mission and Evangelism

Evangelisation is spreading the message of Christianity with the aim of converting people to Christianity.

Jesus' final words to the disciples, known as the Great Commission, was to go make disciples of all the nations so that is what Christians should do.

The early disciples evangelised by travelling to different countries and writing letters to spread the word of God.

Then when Christian countries colonised other countries they brought their religion to them.

Missionary and evangelical work is carried out today through:

- ◆ Through local churches offering mass and sacraments.
- ◆ Different churches working together
- ◆ The Pontifical Council that promotes new evangelisation through the media and social media.



Practices

Sources of Wisdom and Authority

	Topic	Quote/Reference	Source
1	Sacramental nature of reality	Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist are necessary for full Christian initiation.	Catechism
2	Liturgical Worship	The Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life.	Catechism
3	Catholic Funeral Rite	The Requiem Mass is the highest form of prayer; the soul of the deceased is commended to God.	Cardinal Vincent Nicholls
4	Prayer	Prayer is the raising of the heart and mind to God.	Catechism
5	Popular Piety	The rosary is important because it helps Catholic meditate on Jesus' life.	Catechism
6	Pilgrimage	Pilgrimage can strengthen faith.	Catechism
7	Catholic Social Teaching	The world must listen to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.	Pope Francis <i>Evangelii Gaudium</i>
8	Mission and Evangelisation	Jesus said "Go make disciples of all nations."	Matthew's Gospel