

1.4 Forms of expression and ways of life

Church architecture	Catholic church features	Sacred objects	Artwork in Catholicism	Sculptures and statues	Symbolism and imagery in art	Drama	Music in worship	Tabernacle	Hunger cloths	Ichthus	Passion plays
How the design of a church building reflects Christian belief	The importance of internal features of a church building in reflecting Christian belief	Items of religious significance and sometimes devotion	Artwork which are visual expressions of faith and portray teachings of the Church	Items used by Catholics to recall the person or thing shown as an aid to worship	Where an image or object is used to mean something of religious significance	Dramatisation of religious stories, often as mystery plays or passion plays	Different styles of music are used to express Christian belief	Literally meaning 'dwelling place', this is where the consecrated host is kept	Cloths covered in images to help (often illiterate) people learn about God	A symbol of a fish originally used to indicate whether a person was a Christian or not	Dramatisations of Jesus' arrest, trial, death and resurrection

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Meaning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Catholic churches are often in the shape of a cross or star, and they face east towards the rising sun Most church buildings contain things which reflect Christian belief e.g.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a nave (where worshipers sit) a sanctuary (where the altar, lectern and usually the tabernacle are) a baptismal font (a bowl of holy water used for baptism) a confessional (where reconciliation takes place) candles Statues of Jesus and saints Churches also often have a hall where meetings and events take place. 	Importance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A church (small c) is a building The Church (big C) is the community of Christians Every part of the church building reflects Christian belief: If the building is cross shaped it reminds us of Jesus' crucifixion Churches face the east to remind us of the new life that Jesus gave us Candles show Jesus is the light of the world The baptismal font reminds people that they are a member of the Church Candles show us that Jesus is the light of the world 	Meaning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are several features Catholic churches always have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The lectern is a stand where the Bible is read by a deacon, priest or bishop A crucifix which is a cross with an image of Jesus on it The altar is usually made of stone and blessed by a bishop, it should be at the centre of the church. It is where transubstantiation takes place (bread and wine turning into body and blood of Jesus) The tabernacle shows that Jesus is truly present in the Blessed Sacrament (the consecrated bread) 	Importance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The lectern should reflect the dignity of God's word from the Bible as it forms the main part of the Liturgy of the Word The crucifix reminds worshipers of Jesus' redemption – the idea that Jesus died to save them from sin, and is also a useful image to focus on during prayer and worship The altar expresses the importance of redemption as it is an altar of sacrifice The tabernacle contains consecrated hosts so worshipers genuflect (kneel) to it when they enter the church as it is where Jesus is truly present. 	Meaning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sacred objects are holy items used in worship e.g.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sacred vessels are used for the bread and wine. These include the paten (plate for the priest's host), the ciborium (plate for the worshiper's hosts) and the chalice (cup for the wine and water) The stoup holds holy water Vestments are different coloured clothes the priest wears showing the time of year Sarcophagi are stone containers for dead bodies, often for saints Hunger cloths are cloths which show images of Jesus' life 	Importance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sacred vessels are the most important objects as they hold the body and blood of Jesus The holy water in the stoup reminds Christian's of the baptism and Church membership The colour of vestments express Christian beliefs – white / gold for Christmas and Easter, green – ordinary time, red – Good Friday / Pentecost, purple – advent / lent Sarcophagi are decorated to reflect beliefs about the saints and can help people reflect on their lives Hunger cloths often show themes of peace and justice 	Meaning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Images have always been used by Catholics to help understanding They can reflect the belief of the artist / help us understand more about God / encourage deeper worship / give an insight into religious truths <i>The Creation of Adam</i> by Michelangelo reflects that God is omnipotent, that humans are his children and he gave life to humans Icons are religious paintings from eastern Christians which show Jesus, Mary or the saints Some think images of God are blasphemy, going against the commandment of not making false idols 	Importance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council of Nicaea stated that images of Jesus, Mary and the saints should be used in churches, vestments, walls and in homes. Sacred art is not just for decoration but helps with acts of worship Images can help deepen understanding of God, Jesus and Bible stories, e.g. Rembrandt's <i>The Return of the Prodigal Son</i> shows the emotions of the son, the father and the elder brother. The hands of the father are noted to be masculine (symbolising strength and protection) and feminine (showing love and forgiveness)
Sculptures and statues		Symbolism and imagery in art		Drama		Music in worship	
Meaning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Catholic churches often use statues as an aid to worship and express belief Examples of statues could be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Madonna and Child – the Virgin Mary and her baby son to show she is the mother of God Sacred Heart of Jesus – a statue of Jesus with his heart exposed with a crown of thorns with a fire burning within to remind us of Jesus' Passion and his eternal love for us 	Importance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Statues are not worshiped but are used as a focus of prayer Many Catholics offer prayers to the saints and to Mary to help their prayers be answered Some Catholics will kiss the feet of a statue of Jesus as a sign of devotion and respect Statues and images are not restricted to inside the church building – they could be in the grounds of the church, on walls or in any place regarded as holy e.g. a place of a miracle 	Meaning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A symbol is an object or word that represents an abstract idea There are many Christian symbols, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crucifix – represents Jesus' sacrifice on the cross Chi-Ro – made from the first two letters of Christ in Greek to show Jesus' resurrection Alpha and Omega – first and last letters of the Greek alphabet to show God is at the beginning and end of all things Eagles – symbols of power / speed of God's message 	Importance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Symbols have great importance for Christians, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fish – many of Jesus' first followers were fishermen. It was an easy symbol to draw for early Christians to indicate their faith The Gospel writers each had a symbol: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Matthew – a winged man to show Jesus is God Mark – winged lion to show Jesus as courageous Luke – winged ox to show Jesus' sacrifice John – winged eagle to show God's word being spread 	Meaning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Bible contains many dramatic moments and so there are many plays and films about Christianity Plays were used widely to show Bible stories before people could read Mystery plays were medieval dramas to show the full message of Christian stories e.g. the nativity, Jesus' baptism, parables and miracles Passion plays are still produced today and tell the story of the last supper, Jesus' arrest, trials, death and resurrection 	Importance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drama can bring Christian belief to life through actions rather than words The Mass contains the drama of the recreation of the Last Supper Jesus' birth and death are two of the most famous stories in the world and are often recreated in dramatic fashion Some do not approve of dramatic recreations of Bible stories as they don't believe anyone should claim to represent Jesus, Mary or the saints 	Meaning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Catholics believe music is a good way to praise and worship God St Augustine said 'He who sings prays twice' There are different forms of religious songs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hymns: songs of praise, often sung during Mass Plainchant: singing not accompanied by music, mostly sung by monks Psalms: sacred songs contained in the Bible Worship songs: short and lively hymns often making use of modern instruments which are popular with young people 	Importance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Music will be played when the priest enters the church at Mass Certain parts of the Mass will be sung e.g. Gloria Music can help Christians reflect and meditate Some great composers have been inspired by Christianity and have written great works for Mass e.g. Mozart, Beethoven Music has been used in worship for thousands of years