**Knowledge Organiser: AQA Religious Studies A – Christian Practices**

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| **Key Words** | | | |
| Believer’s Baptism | Service where those old enough to decide for themselves are welcomed into the church. | Liturgical Worship | Formal worship with set prayers, hymns and Bible readings. |
| Christmas | Christian festival which celebrates the incarnation (birth) of Christ. | Mission | The calling to spread the word of God and evangelise. |
| Consecration | When a priest blesses bread and wine in order to use it for Eucharist. | Non-liturgical worship | Worship with no set pattern, may have modern music and sermons. |
| Easter | Christian festival which celebrates the resurrection of Christ. | Persecution | Hostility and ill-treatment of a group of people. |
| Eucharist | Service where bread and wine is received by Christians to remember Jesus’ sacrifice. | Pilgrimage | Going on a journey to visit a holy site. |
| Evangelism | Spreading the word of God through action or speech. | Prayer | A communication with God, can be private or during worship. |
| Infant Baptism | Service where babies are welcomed into the church with holy water. | Reconciliation | Restoring friendly relations after a conflict or falling out. |

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| **Key Ideas** | | |
| **Worship + Prayer** | **Liturgical Worship**  - This form of worship takes place in a church and is led by a priest.  - **Formal**, **set prayers** are read out.  - A more **traditional service.**  - E.g. Roman Catholics, Anglicans practice this. | **Prayer**  - Prayer means **communicating** **with** **God**, either silently or out loud, sometimes through song.  - It is one of the most important parts of the spiritual life of a Christian and enables them to have a personal relationship with God.  - **Intercessions** are prayers made on behalf of others  - **Thanksgiving** is when people pray to say thank you to God.  - **Set prayers** are written down and used in liturgical worship.  - **Informal prayer** is off-the-cuff and often used in non-liturgical worship. |
| **Non-liturgical Worship**  - Also takes place in a church but **less formal.**  - No set prayers, instead people take turns to preach and read from the **Bible.**  - Can be modern and appealing to young people. |
| **Eucharist + Baptism** | **Eucharist**  - Eucharist and baptism are both sacraments meaning special occasions in a Christian’s life.  - In Eucharist, a priest **consecrates** (blesses) **bread** and **wine** and the congregation then receives these.  - **Catholics** believe the Holy Spirit transforms the bread and wine into Jesus’ body and blood.  - **Anglicans** believe the bread and wine are symbolic  - Christians take part in this ritual to remember the **sacrifice** Jesus Christ made for them by being **crucified** on the cross. | **Infant Baptism**  - This is a **formal** service welcoming a new child into the Christian church.  - **Holy water** is sprinkled over the baby’s head.  - All Catholics baptise their children close to birth to ensure they go to heaven. |
| **Believer’s Baptism**  - A believer’s baptism welcomes someone into the church who is **old enough** to decide themselves.  - They are submerged in a pool of **holy water.**  - They make promises to stay away from evil.  - **Baptists** only practice this type of baptism. |
| **Pilgrimage + Festivals** | **Pilgrimage**  - A pilgrimage is a journey made by a Christian to a holy site.  -A pilgrimage allows Christians to feel closer to God; gain forgiveness and help other pilgrims who are disabled or ill.  - Catholics go on pilgrimage to **Lourdes** where a vision of Mary was once seen, they believe the water there has healing effects.  -Christians can visit the **Holy land**. This is to visit places that Jesus did (at his birth and death). | **Christmas**  - Christmas celebrates the incarnation (birth) of Jesus Christ.  - Christians give gifts to commemorate the gift of God sending his own son to the world. |
| **Easter**  - Easter celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ.  - Christians celebrate by saying “*he is risen*” and by eating chocolate eggs that represent new life. |
| **Evangelism + Church in the Community** | **Evangelism**  Christians have a duty to **evangelise** (tell others of the word of God). An example is the **Alpha Course** which is an educational course that tells people more about the life of Jesus. | **Church in the community**  Christians also have a duty to **help others in the local community**. Two examples of this are **Street Pastors** who help drunk people at night and **Food Banks** that provide food to people in poverty. |
| **Reconciliation** | - Christians across the world play an important role in **reconciliation** (seeking to restore friendly relations after a conflict or falling out).  - An example is **Coventry Cathedral** which was bombed during World War II but now seeks to create peace and reconciliation elsewhere in the world. **The World Council of Churches** also works to help after conflict.  - In some places Christians face **persecution** where they are treated badly for their faith. Churches around the world work together to try and overcome this. | |
| **Key Quotes and Stories** | | |
| **Prayer** | **Formal Prayer**   * Jesus’ disciples asked Jesus to tach them how to pray. He responded with the Lord’s prayer.   “Our Father in Heaven…” – Lord’s Prayer  **Informal Prayer**   * “Bless us O Lord for these gifts which we are about to receive…” (Catholic Grace before eating). | |
| **Eucharist + Baptism** | **Eucharist**   * *“For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes”* – Bible | **Baptism**   * “Therefore go, and make disciples of all nations, baptising them…” - Bible. |
| **Pilgrimage + Festivals** | **Pilgrimage**   * Bernadette was believed to have seen the Virgin Mary in a grotto in Lourdes. Mary asked Bernadette to dig for water which had healing properties. | **Easter**  - Christians celebrate by saying “*he is risen*” |
| **Evangelism + Church in the Community** | **Evangelism**   * “Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit…” – Bible | **Church in the community**   * “Faith by itself, if not accompanied by action, is dead.” – Bible |
| **Reconciliation** | **Reconciliation**   * “If you want peace, don’t talk to your friends, talk to your enemies.” – Archbishop Desmond Tutu * “Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.” - Bible   **Persecution**   * “Overcome evil with good.”- Bible * “If one pat suffers, all parts suffer.” – Bible | |