

LEARNING FOCUS 2: Special places for the Christian community.

Pilgrimage

Many countries around the world have their own places of pilgrimage.

Can you use the internet to help research places which are visited by Catholic Christian Pilgrims across the world?

There are also places of pilgrimage in England and Wales.

For example:

- Our Lady's shrine at Walsingham in Norfolk. This shrine honours the Annunciation and was one of the greatest shrines for Christians in medieval times – when travel to the Holy Land was very difficult.
- Our Lady of the Taper is the national Catholic shrine of Wales. It is in Cardigan. A legend describes how a statue of Mary was found about one thousand years ago by the side of the river Teifi. The statue was of Mary with Jesus on her lap and a candle (taper) burning in her hand.
- St Winefride's Well in Holywell, North Wales, centres round a holy woman called Winefride who lived in the 7th century. She became a saint and her well at Holywell has been a place of pilgrimage and healing since that time.

Part of a pilgrimage to a special place is that it reminds people how important it is to pray and take time to think about what is important in their lives. Have a quiet moment to reflect on God being with us always.

*Lord, thank you for giving us so many special places
In our homes, In our school,
in our churches, in our world,
in our hearts.
Help us to take time to be still.*

SOME KEY QUESTIONS

- Q Have you or anyone you know been on a pilgrimage?
- Q Why do you think people go on pilgrimages?
- Q What might be the joys of a pilgrimage and how would it help the person in their Christian life?
- Q What do you think the challenges of making a pilgrimage might be?
- Q Why do you think a pilgrimage is a special time to pray?



Activity

In the past, pilgrims often returned from their pilgrimage with a badge to show where they had been. Pilgrims to the shrine of St James at Compostella in Spain wore a shell badge. I would like you to design a badge for one of the special places of pilgrimage you have learnt about today. After you have designed your badge, you then need to describe your reasons why you chose to use this design.

LEARNING FOCUS 3: Holy places of worship.

CONTENT

Look at places of worship around the world PowerPoint found on our school virtual learning page.

Compare these places of worship with your own church buildings:

- What is the same?
- What is different?
- What do all of these buildings have?



Remember that all of these buildings are for worshipping the same God.

SOME KEY QUESTIONS

- Q What do you notice about these places of worship?
- Q Why do you think people like to go to special places to worship?
- Q What do you think makes somewhere holy?
- Q Have you ever been to Mass or church in a different country? What was it like?
- Q Have you ever been to a Mass not held in a church? What was it like?

Activity:

For your task, you are going to write about a place of worship that is special to you, giving reasons why you go to this place. Compare this place to another place of worship somewhere else in the world. Include what is different and similar about these places of worship.