



# Knowledge Organiser: Religion in the Middle Ages



Why was the Church so important in people's lives in the Middle Ages? How did the power of the Church change in the Middle Ages?		Chronology: Key Events		Key Vocabulary	
		<b>700</b>	Beginning of the Islamic golden age. Change in culture, science and technology.	<b>Archbishop of Canterbury</b>	The senior bishop for the church in England.
<b>Summary of Learning</b>		<b>1154</b>	Thomas Becket is made Chancellor by King Henry II.	<b>Caliph</b>	The ruler of an Islamic Empire.
<b>Why was religion important?</b>	Most people in the Middle Ages were Christian and religion shaped their lives. Prayer, attending Church, pilgrimages and asking for forgiveness were important to daily life and influenced your afterlife.	<b>1162</b>	Thomas Becket is made Archbishop of Canterbury by King Henry II. Thomas begins to live a more holy lifestyle.	<b>Chancellor</b>	The king's chief servant. The chancellor had many jobs, including writing important documents, managing royal finances and judging some legal cases.
		<b>January 1164</b>	King Henry II proposes limits to church power. Thomas agrees, but refuses to sign the documents.		
<b>Careers in the Church</b>	Priests ran the local Church and helped the local community. Monks and Nuns lived in monasteries or convent (nuns) and took vows, helped the poor and sick.	<b>October 1164</b>	King Henry II puts Thomas on trial but he flees to France.	<b>Clergy</b>	Officials of the Christian Church.
		<b>November 1170</b>	Thomas excommunicates three bishops who had crowned and anointed Henry II's son.	<b>Convent</b>	Place where nuns lived, sometime built beside a Monastery.
<b>Legacy of the Church</b>	God was very important to people in the Middle Ages, and one needed God's support. If you committed a crime, God would judge you. If you were ill, God could cure you. If you went to war, God could help. People prayed, went on pilgrimages and helped pay for the building of churches.	<b>21-22 December 1170</b>	Bishops tell Henry II they have been excommunicated. Four knights overhear the King say 'Who will rid me of this troublesome priest?' They set off to murder Becket.	<b>Doom Painting</b>	A painting showing people being sent to heaven or hell on the Day of Judgment.
		<b>29 December 1170</b>	Thomas Becket is murdered at Canterbury Cathedral by the four knights.	<b>Excommunicated</b>	When you are expelled from the Catholic Church by the Pope.
		<b>1174</b>	In order to receive forgiveness, Henry II completed a pilgrimage to Canterbury Cathedral barefoot and agreed to be whipped.	<b>Martyr</b>	A person who dies for their faith. A martyr could become a saint if the Pope approved and miracles were linked to them.
<b>Why was Thomas Becket murdered?</b>	After Thomas Becket was appointed Archbishop of Canterbury, he refused to give Church power over to the King. His refusal ended in his murder.	<b>Key People</b>		<b>Monastery</b>	A building housing a religious community of monks or nuns.
<b>Limits to Church power</b>	People believed the Church controlled who went to heaven and hell, and how people should behave. However, not everyone listened. Rulers fought Popes, religious groups challenged Christian beliefs and other used magic.	<b>Monk</b>	A member of a community of men who lived under religious vows in a monastery	<b>Mosque</b>	A place of worship for Muslims.
		<b>Pope</b>	Leader of the Roman Catholic Church. People in the Middle Ages were mostly Catholic and followed the Pope.	<b>Penance</b>	A punishment for sin.
<b>Rise of Islam</b>	The Islamic golden age began in the 8 <sup>th</sup> Century and continued until the 13 <sup>th</sup> Century. It was a period of great change in culture, science and technology.	<b>Thomas Becket</b>	Archbishop of Canterbury who was murdered in Canterbury Cathedral after opposing King Henry II.	<b>Pilgrimage</b>	A religious journey, typically taken to a shrine or a site of religious importance.
		<b>King Henry II</b>	Called for revenge against Thomas Becket in a fit of anger. Completed a pilgrimage to Canterbury Cathedral and was whipped as penance for Thomas's murder.	<b>Religious order</b>	A group of monks or nuns, who live their life according to guidance written by their founder.
				<b>Sacraments</b>	The ceremonial actions of a priest or bishop. There are seven sacraments, including marriage and baptism.
				<b>Tithe</b>	Villagers had to give the local church one tenth of all the food they grew.