Why's the church important?



• Recap of Sessions 1-3



- Recap of Sessions 1-3
- Opening prayer



- Recap of Sessions 1-3
- Opening prayer
- A theological definition



- Recap of Sessions 1-3
- Opening prayer
- A theological definition



- Recap of Sessions 1-3
- Opening prayer
- A theological declaration



- Recap of Sessions 1-3
- Opening prayer
- A theological declaration
- Read some Scripture



- Recap of Sessions 1-3
- Opening prayer
- A theological declaration
- Read some Scripture
- Tradition as a source for theological thinking and living



- Recap of Sessions 1-3
- Opening prayer
- A theological declaration
- Read some Scripture
- Tradition as a source for theological thinking and living



Questions & reflections on the question 'Why's the church important?'



- Recap of Sessions 1-3
- Opening prayer
- A theological declaration
- Read some Scripture
- Tradition as a source for theological thinking and living
- Summary & closing prayer



Questions & reflections on the question 'Why's the church important?'



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- Opening prayer
- A theological declaration
- Read some Scripture
- Tradition as a source for theological thinking and living
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Questions & reflections on the question 'Why's the church important?'



• Recap of Sessions 1-3



- Recap of Sessions 1-3
 - Who is God?



- Recap of Sessions 1-3
 - Who is God?
 - Who are we?



- Recap of Sessions 1-3
 - Who is God?
 - Who are we?
 - Why's the Bible important?



Why's the church important?





Opening prayer

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord: give us such knowledge of his presence with us, and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Collect for the Third Sunday after Easter

- that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life



A theological declaration



We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.



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Lectio Divina



- Read (Lectio)
- Meditate (Meditatio)
- Pray (Oratio)
- Contemplate (Contemplatio)



- Read (Lectio)
- Meditate (Meditatio)
- Pray (Oratio)



- Read (Lectio)
- Meditate (Meditatio)
- Pray (Oratio)



- Read (Lectio)
- Meditate (Meditatio)
- Pray (Oratio)



- Read (Lectio)
- Meditate (Meditatio)
- Pray (Oratio)



- Read (Lectio)
- Meditate (Meditatio)
- Pray (Oratio)



1 Corinthians 15:1-4a - Read

¹Now I want you to understand, brothers and sisters, the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ² through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain. ³ For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures ⁴ and that he was buried and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures



1 Corinthians 15:1-4a - Meditate

Now I want you to understand, brothers and sisters, the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain. For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures and that he was buried and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures



1 Corinthians 15:1-4a - Pray

you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain. For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures

- Now I want you to understand, brothers and sisters, the good news that I proclaimed to
- that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures and that he was buried



1 Corinthians 15:1-4a - Contemplate

Now I want you to understand, brothers and sisters,

the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved,

if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you unless you have come to believe in vain.



1 Corinthians 15:1-4a - Contemplate

For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received:

that Christ died for our sins

and that he was buried and that he was raised on the third day

EXPLORING THEOLOGY - SESSION 4

ins in accordance with the scriptures

on the third day in accordance with the scriptures



What are our key sources for theological reflection?



• Scripture



ScriptureTradition



Scripture
Tradition
Reason



S T R

• F

- Scripture
- Tradition
- Reason
- Experience



- S
- Reason
- F
- •

- Scripture
- Tradition

- Experience
- Worship



- Reason

- Scripture
- Tradition

- Experience
- Worship



- Scripture
- Tradition
- Reason
- Experience
- Worship



What comes to mind when you hear the word 'tradition'?



What do we mean by tradition?



What are some of the positives...?



And what are some of the negatives?



Tradition vs Traditionalism



Traditionalism



Tradition



Latin **traditio**



Latin **traditio**, from tradere



Latin traditio, from tradere 'deliver, betray'



Latin traditio, from tradere 'deliver, betray'



Latin **traditio**, from *tradere* 'deliver, betray' from *trans*- 'across' + *dare* 'give'.



Latin **traditio**, from *tradere* 'deliver, betray' from *trans-* 'across' + *dare* 'give'. To give across. To hand over.



Latin **traditio**, from *tradere* 'deliver, betray' from *trans-* 'across' + *dare* 'give'. To give across. To hand over.



Tradition means both what is given across and the act of handing it over



and

Tradition means both what is given across the act of handing it over







had received

¹Now I want you to understand, brothers and sisters, the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ² through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain. ³ For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn



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What is being *traditioned* (handed over)?



¹Now I want you to understand, brothers and sisters, the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ² through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to **the message** that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain. ³ For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received







which takes the form of a story



¹Now I want you to understand, brothers and sisters, the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ² through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain. ³ For **I traditioned** (tradidi) to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: *that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures ⁴ and that he was buried and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures*



Tradition means both *what* is given across



Tradition means both what is given across

...that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures and that he was buried and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures (1 Cor 15.4)



and

Tradition means both what is given across the act of handing it over



The Telephone Game







What are some of the ways to preserve *the message*?



Three ways:



Scripture







Aaron Burden

Scripture Creeds



The Nicene Creed (325 AD)

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Amen.



Scripture Creeds



Scripture Creeds Bishops





Bishop Philip Mounstephen





Bishop Philip Mounstephen



Bishop Rhiannon King



Scripture Creeds Bishops





Mohammed Omar Rashid



Why's the church important?



When you hear the word 'church' what comes to mind?



What's been your experience of church?



How do you feel about church?



What is the church?



• The institution



• The institution

• The place



- The institution
- The place
- The people



If your church has a website, what do you think a visitor to the website would think 'church' was?

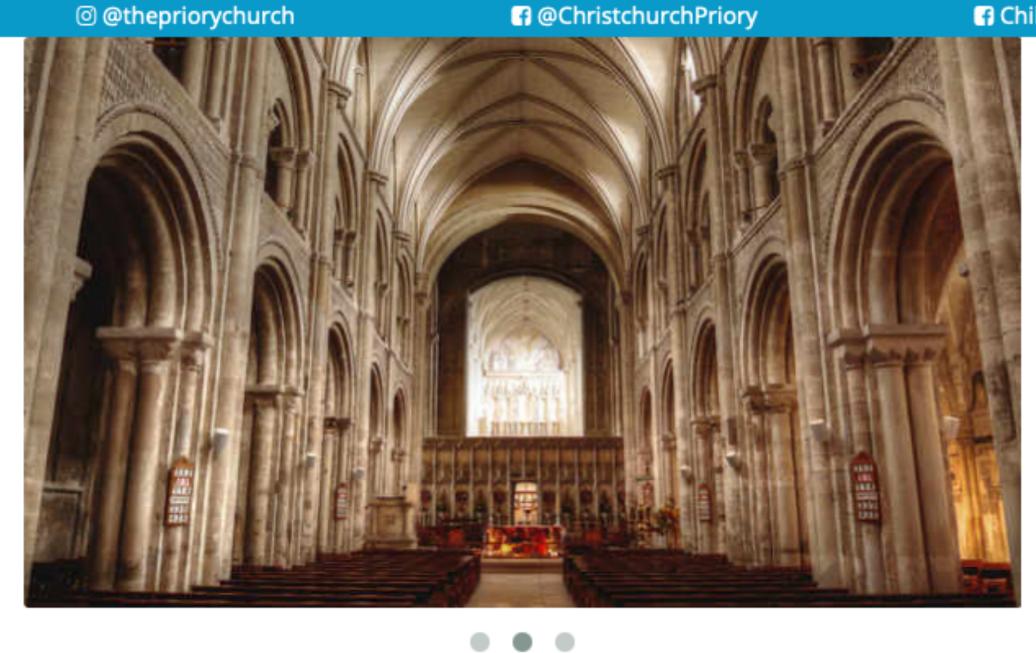


Home Page Visiting - Services/Events - Fabric/History - Parish - Music - Community - Contacts - Safeguarding



The Parish of Christchurch Christchurch Priory – St George at Jumpers – St John at Purewell

@ @thepriorychurch

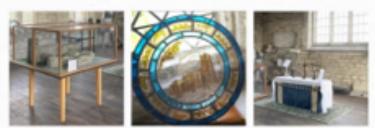


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G Children and Families

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ST MICHAEL'S LOFT MUSEUM



Visitor opening times Monday & Saturday Tuesday Wednesday & Friday

llam - 4pm llam - 1.30pm L30pm - 4pm

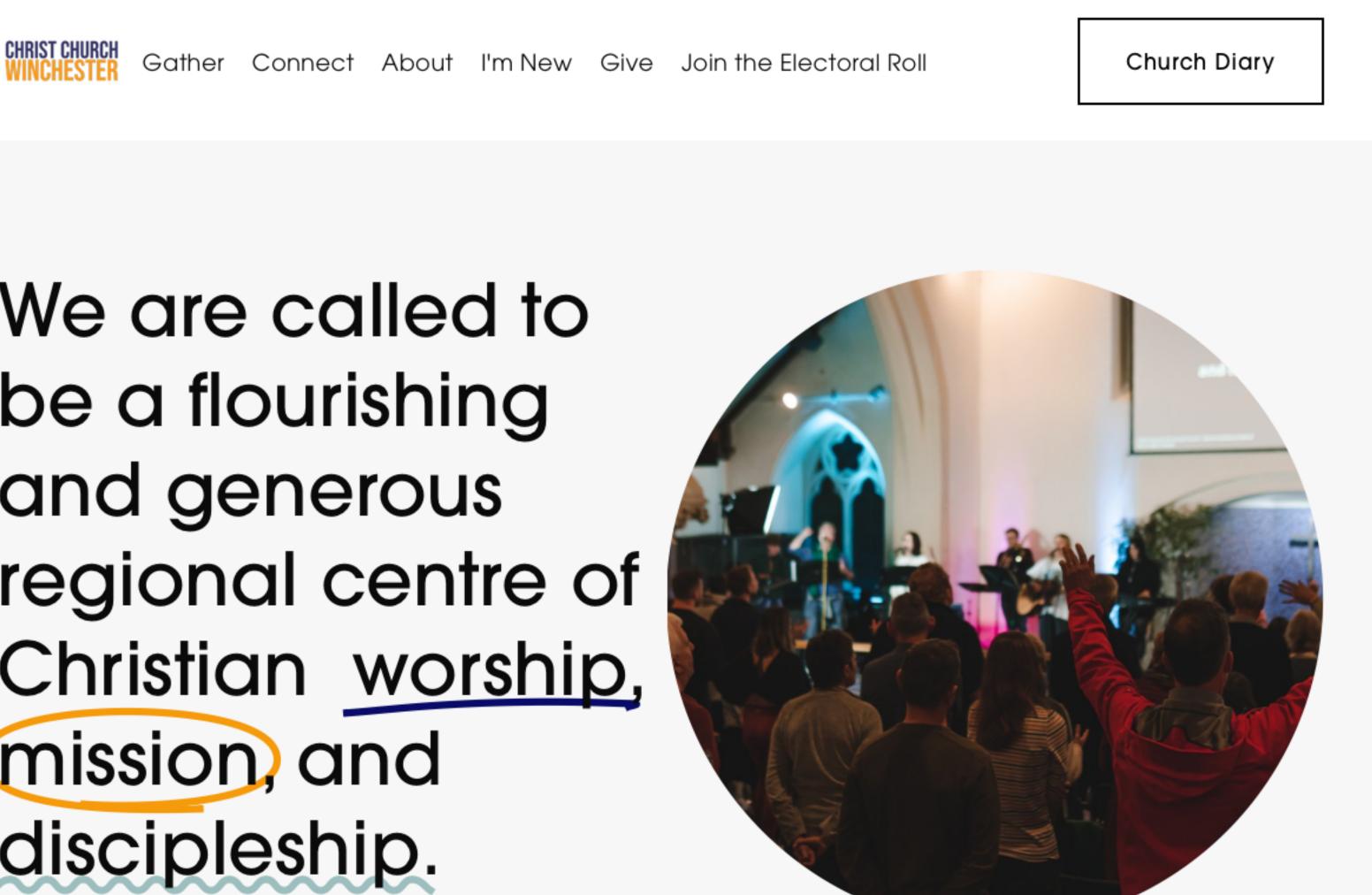
Priory Choirs

Suggested donation £1 Children under 12 free





We are called to be a flourishing and generous regional centre of Christian worship, mission, and discipleship.



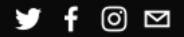


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EXPLORING THEOLOGY - SESSION 4

Search the website

Q Search



- The institution
- The place
- The people



Why's the church important?





Ignatius of Antioch (c.35-c.110)





"Wherever Jesus Christ is, there is the catholic Church"





catholic = universal





"Wherever Jesus Christ is, there is the catholic Church"





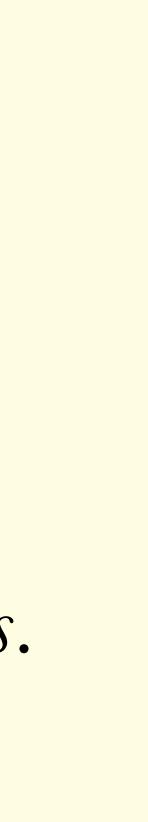
Why's the church important?





The church is important because *that's where Jesus Christ is*.







"Wherever Jesus Christ is, there is the catholic Church"



How is Jesus Christ present?



Jesus Christ is present ... sacramentally



Jesus Christ is present ... sacramentally Jesus Christ is present ... through the Word





Jesus Christ is present ... sacramentally Jesus Christ is present ... through the Word Jesus Christ is present ... through the Spirit

Alister McGrath, Christian Theology - An Introduction, pp364-367



Jesus Christ is present ... sacramentally



Hang on! What's a 'sacrament'?



Hang on! What's a 'sacrament'? Good question!



A sacrament is an outward and visible sign of an inward and invisible grace.'

Augustine of Hippo (354-430)



One way to think of this is:



One way to think of this is:

Jesus Christ is the sacrament of God.



One way to think of this is:

Jesus Christ is *the* sacrament of God.

EXPLORING THEOLOGY - SESSION 4

'The church is ... the sacrament of Christ; she represents him ... she really makes him present.' Henri de Lubac (1986–1991)



Christ has no body but yours, No hands, no feet on earth but yours, Yours are the eyes with which he looks Compassion on this world, Yours are the hands, yours are the feet, Yours are the eyes, you are his body. Christ has no body now but yours, No hands, no feet on earth but yours,

- Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good,
- Yours are the hands, with which he blesses all the world.
- Yours are the eyes with which he looks compassion on this world.
- Christ has no body now on earth but yours.

St Teresa of Avila (1515–1582)



Jesus Christ is present ... sacramentally Jesus Christ is present ... through the Word Jesus Christ is present ... through the Spirit

Alister McGrath, Christian Theology - An Introduction, pp364-367



Christ is present in the proclamation of the Word.



When the Word of God is proclaimed both in the reading of the Scriptures and the preaching of the Word





Karl Barth (1886-1968)





"Wherever Jesus Christ is, there is the catholic Church"



The Holy Spirit



Jesus Christ is present ... sacramentally Jesus Christ is present ... through the Word Jesus Christ is present ... through the Spirit

Alister McGrath, Christian Theology - An Introduction, pp364-367



In the absence of the Holy Spirit there is no church.





John Zizioulas (1931- 2023)



The church is instituted by Christ ...



... and constituted by the Holy Spirit.



Why's the church important?





"Wherever Jesus Christ is, there is the catholic Church"











How is Jesus Christ present in your church?



How do we worship and pray?



• A theological declaration - the Nicene Creed



- A theological declaration the Nicene Creed
- Read some Scripture 1 Corinthians 15



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