



Prior Knowledge

Christians believe in one **God**.

The special place of **worship** for Christians is a church.

Christians call **Jesus** the Light of the World.

The **bible** is the holy book for Christians.

Why are gifts given at Christmas and how do they link to the Nativity story?

To Christians, the gifts given at Christmas are symbolic of the gifts from the Three Wise Men from the Nativity story.

Why are rites of passage important in the life of a believer?

These are significant points in life, often followed by a changed way of living.

New Knowledge

What is the nature and function of religious buildings and places associated with Christianity and the Christian community?

A church is a building used for Christian worship services and other Christian religious activities.

Christian churches are often open all day for quiet reflection, and services are regularly held with all being made welcome. Rites of passage are held in local churches so that the community can be involved.

Churches also often run youth groups, giving local children a place to participate in activities.

Churches often provide help and advice for those in need, and many Christians volunteer for local charities.



What is the difference between a religious Christmas and a secular celebration?

Secular things are not religious. Anything not with a church or faith can be called secular.

Religious Festival - is a festival by a certain or specific group of churches or religions.

Non-religious Festival - is a festival with a group of people, community due to tradition and culture.

Although many go to church as a family, there are plenty of things people can do as families that are completely secular: dinners, gift exchanges and holiday shows.

What is the importance of the Church to the community at Christmas?

Some denominations hold a special service on Christmas morning. Young children may be encouraged to bring their toys. Christmas carols are sung and there are Bible readings based around the Christmas story.