



Climbing Higher

Year: Year 7

Term: Autumn

Subject: History

Topic: The Church in the Middle Ages

Name: _____ Form: _____

Subject Teacher: _____ Group (If known): _____

Date given: 16th October 2017 Date to hand in: 23rd October 2017

Level achieved in this Home Learning Booklet:	Effort in this Home Learning Booklet:	Achievement Points this Home Learning Booklet:
	A	A for Effort = 2 Achievement Points
	B	B for Effort = 1 Achievement Points
	C	C for Effort = 0 Achievement Points
	D	D for Effort = 0 Achievement Points
	A = Excellent D = Needs major improvement	

Teacher feedback:

WWW (what went well)		EBI (even better if)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	You have completed all the required tasks to a satisfactory standard	<input type="checkbox"/>	Complete all of the required tasks to the best of your ability even if they are difficult
<input type="checkbox"/>	You have shown a good or very good understanding of the key concepts	<input type="checkbox"/>	Spend more time reading and thinking about the information, sources and/ or the questions
<input type="checkbox"/>	You have explained your answers clearly and used relevant supporting information	<input type="checkbox"/>	Remember to fully explain your answers using relevant supporting information
<input type="checkbox"/>	Your work is careful and well presented showing attention to detail	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ask for help during the week if you don't understand something

Other Feedback:

Accuracy of punctuation, spelling and grammar

Excellent Good Requires Improvement

The Church in the Middle Ages

Read the information pages and then complete the tasks which follow.

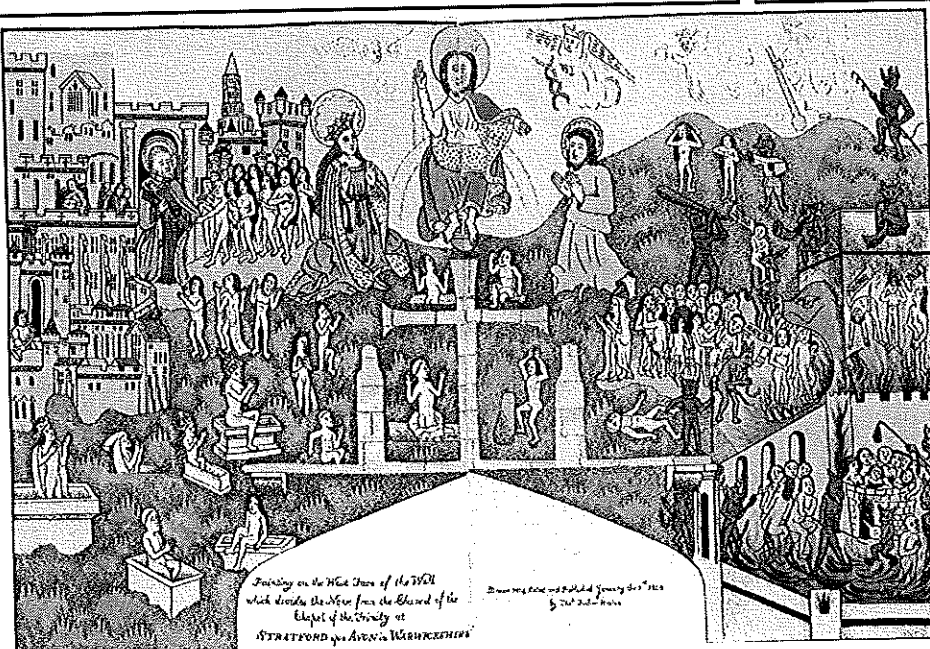
In the Middle Ages, the biggest building in a town or village was usually the Church. All of these churches belonged to the Catholic Church because Catholicism was the only Christian religion in England at that time. Everyone believed in God at that time so religion was a very important part of every person's life.

All of the people attended Church services which is why the churches had to be big. The services were all in Latin, a language very few people understood. To help them understand the stories in the Bible, there were statues and pictures in the Church. Windows were made of stained glass which also showed scenes from the Bible. In most churches there was a huge painting on the wall, called a Doom Painting. This painting was to show people what happened after they died. Part of the picture showed angels welcoming good people into Heaven where they would live close to God while the other part showed devils roasting wicked people over fires in Hell. (See Source A)

Life was hard for peasants because death, disease and hunger were very common. The Church was a great comfort to them. The priest was a very important man because he was in charge of the village Church. Some of the priests were well educated and could read; they might give lessons to the local boys. Other priests came from a peasant background. They could not read and when had had to learn the Church services by heart.

The Catholic Church in England was very wealthy and powerful because it owned about a quarter of the land. People gave it gifts if their prayers were answered. Another reason why the Church was wealthy was the fact that peasants had to give their priest one tenth of all the food they grew. This was called a tithe. It was often a great hardship to pay this but people did so because they believed in the Church and trusted their priest. He listened to them when they wanted to confess any bad things that they had done (which were called sins) and this would make them feel better. They also relied on the priest to tell them what was right and what was wrong.

Nobody dared to argue with Church because they were scared it would stop them getting into Heaven when they died. The priest performed three very important services for the villagers - baptism (which is when a baby is welcomed into the Church), marriage and funerals. Although these ceremonies were believed to be essential if you wanted to go to Heaven when you died, the people still had to pay extra for them. One priest even took the blankets from a dead man's bed to pay for the funeral.



The overall Head of the Catholic Church was called the Pope. He lived in Rome. He was helped with the organisation of the Church by Cardinals, Archbishops and Bishops.

Source A:
A Doom Painting
Heaven is on the left and Hell is on the right

1. Fill in the blanks using the words in the Word Bank

- The Church was usually the _____ building in the village because all of the villagers had to be able to fit inside so they could attend the _____.
- The local priest was a very _____ man because everyone in the village turned to him for _____ and would _____ their sins to him.
- Life was very _____ for most people in the Middle Ages but the Church gave them _____.
- The Church was very _____ and powerful because people gave it _____ and it owned about a _____ of the land in England.
- Every villager had to give one tenth of their income to the _____; this was called a _____.
- Nobody in the Middle Ages would dare to _____ with the priest because they feared he might stop them from getting to _____ when they died.
- Villagers had to pay _____ for marriage, baptism and funeral _____ even if they were very poor.
- The Head of the Church lived in Rome and his title was the _____; he received help to run the Church by Cardinals, Archbishops and _____.

**The
Word
Bank**



tithe; hard; Heaven; biggest; extra; important; Bishops;
advice; argue; comfort; services; Pope; wealthy; gifts;
confess; priest; ceremonies

2. Source A is a Doom Painting. Why was this kind of picture important in the Middle Ages?

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3. Study Source A carefully. What does this picture suggest about Heaven and what does it suggest about Hell? Explain your answer using specific detail from the picture to support your answer.

Heaven:.....
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Hell:.....
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4. Many people living in Britain today do not have any religious beliefs but in the Middle Ages virtually everyone believed in God. Try to explain one reason why religion was more important to the majority people in the Middle Ages than it is nowadays?

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Life in the Monasteries: Some men felt that going to Church was not enough for them to show God how much they loved him. They decided to cut themselves off from the everyday world and spend everyday of their lives praising God. These men were called monks and they went to live in a monastery. A boy who wanted to be a monk would go to live in a monastery when he was only seven when he would become a novice, which meant that he was a trainee monk. He was taught to read and write Latin, because this was the only language the monks were supposed to use, and also to sing and read music.

One of the first things that happened to a novice was having his hair cut short and being given a tonsure. This was when the top of his head was shaved; he had to make sure that no hair grew back. Another reason why being a novice was hard was because most of the day was spent in silence. When he was sixteen the novice could chose to become a monk or to leave. Monks had to make three promises. These promises were called vows:

- Never to have any possessions, meaning that monks owned nothing at all
- Never to get married or have a physical relationship with a woman (or man)
- To obey the abbot (the head monk) without question

If a monk did not do what the abbot told him, no matter how old he was, he could be whipped or made to go without food for up to a week. However, overall monks had a better life than the villagers because they had good food and relatively good living conditions as well as the certainty of going to Heaven when they died.



A Day in the Life of Arthur, a novice aged 13

'What a busy day! Brother Gerald woke me up at 2 o'clock in the morning for prayers in Church. I could hardly keep awake, never mind pray. When I got back to bed an hour later I couldn't get back to sleep because my robes were too itchy and it was freezing cold. I was up again for more prayers at 6 o'clock and after that we had our breakfast which was cold porridge as usual. Today I was whipped by Brother Gerald; I forgot that we are not allowed to talk and said 'good morning' to one of the other novices. My back is still hurting but I didn't cry out because I knew that would make it worse. I really hate having to be silent all the time but it is part of what it takes to be a monk.

At 8 o'clock we novices were told what work we would be doing today. I was happy because I was told to spend the morning in the scriptorium helping to make the vellum which the monks write on. Sometimes I get to help the monks copy out books, but not today. Some of the other novices had to spend the morning helping with the farming and when we met again for prayers at 11 o'clock, they were very tired and cold from their work. After prayers, at noon, we ate our dinner - soup, fish, bread and ale as usual. Not very exciting but it filled and warmed us. After this - you've guessed it - more prayers! After dinner I was sent out to help in the fields but when I got there I was told I was needed at the mill, which is where we grind the corn into flour so we can make bread every day.

I really wasn't feeling very well so I went to the infirmary instead to rest. The monks in our infirmary help take care of sick villagers who are too poor to pay for a doctor. We provide herbal medicines to the sick along with rest and food. We also give rest and food to the poor. We do this because we believe it is our duty to help the community, which is why we also teach a few of the village boys to read and provide shelter for travellers passing through the village.

By the afternoon I still wasn't feeling well so Brother John told me to chew on some poppy seeds. These seeds made me feel light-headed but soon my pain was gone. When Brother Gerald found out that I had done no work since dinner he said I was only to have bread and water for supper. He said God wasn't pleased with me as I had disobeyed instructions and because I hadn't worked very hard. After supper we prayed again and after that we were free to go to bed.

I have just finished polishing my tonsure with a piece of smooth stone - I have to do this to make sure that no hair grows back. Now I must try to get to sleep because I will be woken again tomorrow at 2 o'clock in the morning. Being a novice is a hard life, but at least I have enough food and live in relative comfort compared to my family in the village. When I am sixteen I will take my vows and become a monk. Despite all the hardships being a monk is better than being one of the villagers as I have good food and a comfortable home as well as spending my life serving God.

5. Write in the words being described in the table below. Be careful to spell each word correctly.

Key Word	Description
	This is place where monks lived
	This is what a trainee monk was called
	This word was used to describe a special promise made to God
	This was the person who all the monks had to obey
	This was the round part of the scalp shaved kept shaved by monks
	This was the only language monks were supposed to use
	Monks didn't have any of these (another work for belongings)

6. Read "A Day in the Life of Arthur" and then answer the following questions:

a) Explain why Arthur was always tired. Try to give more than one reason.

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b) Write down three things that the monks did to help the local community.

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c) Explain why the monastery provided these services.

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d) Give two things about Arthur's life that you would have found very unpleasant or difficult.

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e) Why did novices like Arthur usually decide to stay on at the monastery and become monks when they reached the age of 16, even though life as a monk could be quite difficult at times?

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