

🧠 Core Christian Beliefs About Worship – Christianity Practices [1/5]

Worship is how Christians **show love and respect** to God. It can be **communal** or **private**, **formal** or **spontaneous**. Different denominations have different styles, but all see worship as a way to connect with God, praise Him, and grow spiritually.

Type of Worship	What it means	Example
Liturgical Worship	Structured, follows a set pattern	Catholic Mass, Anglican Eucharist
Non-liturgical Worship	More flexible, less formal	Methodist or Baptist Sunday services
Charismatic Worship	Informal and emotional, led by the Holy Spirit	Pentecostal singing, dancing, speaking in tongues
Private Worship	Individual prayer or Bible reading	At home, in nature, or silently

Why Worship Matters

- It helps Christians **build a relationship with God**.
- It expresses **thankfulness, confession**, and **adoration**.
- It strengthens **faith, community**, and **discipleship**.



🧠 Core Christian Beliefs About Sacraments – Christianity Practices [2/5]

Sacraments are **outward signs of inward grace**, instituted by Jesus. They help Christians **encounter God**, receive **spiritual strength**, and **grow in faith**. Different denominations accept different numbers of sacraments.

Sacrament	What it means	Who celebrates it
Baptism	Entry into Christian life; symbol of cleansing from sin	All Christians (infant or believer's baptism)
Eucharist (Holy Communion)	Remembering Jesus' death and sharing in His body and blood	Catholics, Orthodox, Anglicans, Methodists
Catholic View	There are 7 sacraments (Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation, Confession, Marriage, Ordination, Anointing of the Sick)	Practised by Roman Catholics
Protestant View	Only Baptism and Eucharist are true sacraments	Based only on what Jesus directly taught
Quaker/Salvation Army View	Do not use sacraments – worship is spiritual not ritual	Focus on inner relationship with God

Why Sacraments Matter

- They are **acts of grace** – a way to **meet God**.
- They **strengthen faith** and mark **key moments** in a Christian's life.
- They express **unity, forgiveness**, and **community belonging**.



🧠 Core Christian Beliefs About Pilgrimage – Christianity Practices [3/5]

A **pilgrimage** is a **spiritual journey** to a **holy place**, made to deepen faith, seek healing, or reflect on life. It mirrors life's journey toward God. Not all Christians go on pilgrimage, but many see it as a chance to grow closer to God through **prayer, penance, or community**.

Place	Why it matters	Who goes there?
Lourdes (France)	Site where Virgin Mary appeared; many claim miraculous healings	Catholic Christians seeking healing or hope
Iona (Scotland)	Early Christian monastery; peaceful retreat for spiritual renewal	Protestants, especially from the UK
Taizé (France)	Monastic community promoting unity, prayer, and reconciliation	Young Christians from many denominations
Walsingham (England)	Site of Marian vision; known as “England’s Nazareth”	Catholic and Anglican pilgrims
Rome / Jerusalem	Sites connected to Jesus and early Church	All denominations, especially Roman Catholics

Why Pilgrimage Matters

- It helps believers **focus on God**, reflect, and feel spiritually renewed.
- It’s a form of **worship, repentance**, and sometimes **healing**.
- It strengthens **community, unity**, and **global Christian identity**.



🧠 Core Christian Beliefs About Celebrations – Christianity Practices [4/5]

Celebrations are important ways Christians **remember key events** in Jesus' life, express **faith**, and **share worship** with others. The two main festivals are **Christmas** and **Easter**, which mark the **birth** and **resurrection** of Jesus.

Celebration	What it remembers	How it's celebrated
Christmas	Birth of Jesus (Incarnation)	Nativity plays, gift-giving, services (e.g. Midnight Mass)
Easter Sunday	Resurrection of Jesus	Joyful services, hymns, candles, "He is Risen" greetings
Holy Week	Final week of Jesus' life (Passion)	Includes Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday
Good Friday	Jesus' crucifixion and death	Solemn services, Bible readings, fasting
Advent	Preparation for Christmas	Candles, calendars, prayers of waiting and hope
Lent	40 days before Easter; recalls Jesus fasting	Repentance, fasting, giving to charity

Why Celebrations Matter

- They help Christians **remember God's actions** in history.
- They **strengthen faith**, encourage **community**, and teach core beliefs (e.g. **Incarnation**, **Resurrection**).
- They give space for **joy**, **reflection**, **repentance**, and **hope**.





Core Christian Beliefs About the Church's Role – Christianity Practices [5/5]

The **Church** is not just a building – it is the **community of believers**. Christians believe the Church should continue **Jesus' mission** on earth: to **serve others**, **spread the Gospel**, and **respond to need** both **locally** and **globally**.

Local Role	What it involves	Why it matters
Evangelism	Sharing the Christian message	Obeys Jesus' command: "Go and make disciples..." (Matthew 28:19)
Worship & Pastoral Care	Services, counselling, sacraments, visiting sick	Builds community and supports faith
Charity & Outreach	Foodbanks, support groups, youth work	Reflects Jesus' teaching to help the poor (Parable of the Sheep & Goats)
Worldwide Role	What it involves	Examples
Missionary Work	Spreading Christianity in other countries	Evangelism, church planting
Persecution Support	Helping Christians suffering for their faith	Open Doors, prayer, smuggling Bibles
Global Charity	Responding to poverty and injustice	Christian Aid, CAFOD, Tearfund

Why This Matters

- Fulfils the **Great Commission** and the call to love your neighbour.
- Builds **faith in action**: practical care + spiritual growth.
- Unites Christians in a **worldwide body** (the Church as the Body of Christ).

