Topics	
The early Church	
Th Communion of Saints	
The Church on Earth	
Is the Church holy?	
What do Catholics believe about the Church in heaven?	
Angels in popular culture	
Materialism	

Knowledge Organiser: Year 9 Unit 5: To the end of the earth

Key words	**Church:** The universal Church as the body of Christ **Communion of saints:** A term used to refer to all Christians on earth, in heaven and in purgatory- who are united together spiritually as members of the one Church **Church on Earth:** Catholics on earth today **Church in heaven:** Catholics who have died and whose souls live as Saints with the angels in God's presence in heaven. **Church being purified:** Catholics who have died and whose souls are in purgatory being prepared for heaven. **Saints:** People who are officially recognised by the Catholic Church as being very holy because of the way they lived or died; It also refers to anyone who is already in heaven, whether recognised officially or not. **Angels:** Pure, intelligent, spiritual beings created by God as servants and messengers, they live with God in heaven **Archangels:** Angels of particular importance who are named in the Bible and given key tasks to perform by God. **Purgatory:** A period of purification following death, to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven
Teacher assessed work	Knowledge test and essay
Stretch and challenge	Further information on the Communion of Saints https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WApD9oWKkHc Angelic imagery https://cellbase.uk/what-do-angels-look-like/ St. Paul's letters https://www.rightnowmedia.org/blog/why-pauls-letters-matter-for-the-church-today St. Paul and the early church https://georgiazalunardo8dstpaul.weebly.com/st-pauls-contributions-to-the-early-church.html

The early Church	**The Communion of Saints and the Church on Earth**	**The Church in heaven**	**Angels in popular culture**	**Materialism v Christian belief**
• The Church as the community of Jesus' followers • People become members of the Church through baptism • The Acts of the Apostles and the letters of St. Paul provide information on the early Church, such as the conflict and issues they faced • St. Paul's letters are records of correspondence with many church communities, advising them on certain issues • The Church in Corinth were a successful Christian community united together as followers of Jesus, however there were disagreements and conflicts including local practices, authority, gifts of the Holy Spirit and beliefs • St Paul taught that every member has to accept the teaching of the apostles, including belief in the resurrection of the body • Must leave behind immoral behaviour • All gifts of the Holy Spirit must serve the common good	• In the Apostle's Creed, Catholics state that they believe in 'the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints' • The Church Is made up of those on earth today and those who, whilst no longer living on earth, continue to be part of the same community, either in heaven or purgatory • There are three parts of the Church as the Church on earth, Church in heaven, and the Church being purified • Sister Elizabeth Joseph uses the image of a giant stadium full of people; all are athletes and have either completed their race or are currently running. As each athlete stands at the start, they are encouraged and supported by those who have already run and understand the journey. This helps us understand the idea of the Communion of Saints • We all form one Church, the body of Christ • During month of November, there are two special feast days that focus on the doctrine of the Communion of Saints • The Church on earth is sometimes referred to as the Pilgrim Church • The structure of the Church as deacons, priests, Bishops and the Pope • Followers who are currently alive on earth are like pilgrims, travelling towards God's kingdom on a journey that is often filled with challenges • The Church is led by people appointed by God and guided by the teachings of Jesus but is also in continuous communion with Christians who are already enjoying the presence of God in the Church in heaven • Catholics believe saints continue to inspire and we pray for the to be purified • The Church on earth is made up of the laity and the clergy • The Church on earth is the means through which Catholics receive God's grace, the Church in delivering the sacraments makes the Church 'the universal Sacrament of Salvation' • The sacrament of the Eucharist unifies the community	• Heaven as a spiritual realm and the 'ultimate end and fulfilment of the deepest human longings.' • Catholics believe that the Church is not only composed of baptised Christians on earth but also those who are already enjoying the presence of God in heaven • All those in heaven are called saints and, together with the angels, are referred to as the Church in heaven • The saints continue to play active roles in the Church today • The Church in heaven is composed of two groups: saints and angels • Saints are people who followed Christ faithfully and reflected the power of God's grace for others • Mary, Mother of God, is the first among the saints • Angels are spiritual beings created by God as 'servants and messengers' of God's will. They are pure spirits and live in the constant presence of God • There are different types of angels: the lower sphere e.g. archangels, middle sphere e.g. virtues and powers, and the top sphere e.g. seraphim and cherubim each with a different purpose • Intercessory prayers are prayers a person makes on behalf of others • Catholics believe the saints intercede for the and the whole world, and as such continue to participate in the life and mission of the Church	• Angels are spiritual beings created by God as 'servants and messengers' of God's will. They are pure spirits and live in the constant presence of God • Angels in the Bible feature in both the Old and New Testaments. From the Annunciation to the Ascension, Jesus is adored and served by angels • The CC recognises the existence of three archangels mentioned in scriptures: Michael, Garbiel, and Raphael • The nine choirs of types of angels are identified in the Bible, and over the centuries, several Catholic theologians have developed a fuller account of their role and purpose. However, their writings are not part of official Church teaching • There are different types of angels: the lower sphere e.g. archangels, middle sphere e.g. virtues and powers, and the top sphere e.g. seraphim and cherubim each with a different purpose • Angels in popular culture as varying from Biblical scripture e.g. It's a Wonderful Life • In artwork or media, they are often depicted as babies with wings/harps/halos • Fallen angles have become popularised in television such as Lucifer • Angel of the North in Gateshead is the largest angel sculpture in the world • Book- Angels in My Hair	• Materialism is the belief that matter is all there is • Everything is just a result of brain chemicals, physics, and biological processes • When the physical body dies, that is the complete end • This can influence beliefs about the purpose of life, such as focusing on the here and now • Christian transcendence is the belief that reality goes beyond the physical world • This is based on a belief in an immortal soul • Humans have an immortal soul, and true reality includes both a physical world and a spiritual domain • This means that after death, there is still life through the soul • This links to belief in judgement • Key questions which arise include Are humans' unique image-bearers of God (*Imago Dei*) with an eternal soul, or are we just highly evolved primates? Can science explain *everything*, or are there truths (like meaning, beauty, morality, God) that science isn't designed to measure? If we are just biological machines (materialism), do we really have free will, or are our choices just chemical reactions?