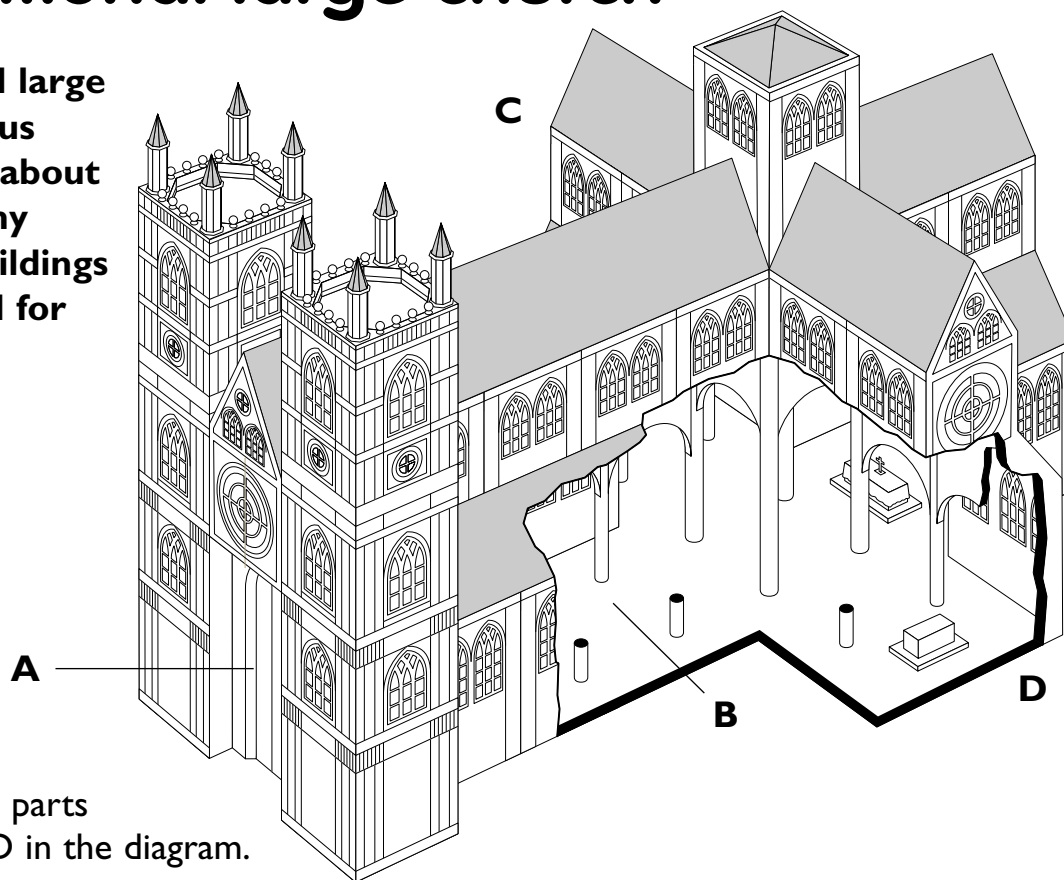


# A traditional large church

A traditional large church tells us much more about the way many Christian buildings are designed for prayers.



**Q1** Name the parts labelled A to D in the diagram.

A ..... B .....

C ..... D .....

**Q2.** The church has been built in a certain shape. What is it? .....

**Q3.** (i) In which direction do many churches point?

.....

(ii) Why do they point this way?

.....

**Q4.** What is a rood screen used for?

.....

**Q5.** Where do the choir sing? .....

**Q6.** What is the purpose of a tomb?

.....

.....

## Answers

1. **A = main entrance, B = nave, C = North transept, D = South transept.**
2. **A cross.**
3. **(i) East towards the City of Jerusalem, (ii) Jerusalem is the city where Christianity began.**
4. **To separate the nave from the High Altar.**
5. **In the chancel.**
6. **To help people remember other people who were important to the church, the country or the region.**

## Lesson objectives

- ▶ To show that some churches are in the shape of a cross.
- ▶ To learn the names of some architectural features of a church.
- ▶ To learn the importance of chapels, tombs and statues.

## Lesson outcomes

- ▶ The children know that some churches are in the shape of a cross.
- ▶ The children learn the names of some architectural features of a church.
- ▶ The children realise the importance of chapels, tombs and statues.

## Teaching notes

*Many churches were first small buildings but became extended as the local population grew in size. When you look at these churches you can sometimes see differences in the way the stones are laid. There were changes in architectural style through history so a church may show several styles. For example, the larger church on page 4 of the student book shows a difference in the styles of windows.*

*These are explored in more detail in the activity in unit 9. Some parish churches which were built in industrial towns in the nineteenth century were built large and have not been extended.*

*Some small parish churches may have been built in the form of a cross with the nave chancels and transepts being equal in length. This shape of cross is called a Greek cross.*

*The layout of a church may be thought of as showing a path to heaven. A person starts at the main door and travels through the nave. At the end of the nave is an archway which is often filled with a screen. Beyond this a person travels through the chancel towards the altar which is raised up to make people look upwards.*

*In some churches the east end wall is curved to form a structure called the apse. The curved part of the apse does not present any corners that the eye can focus on behind the altar and gives a sense of endless space.*

## Complementary work

You may feel that it is appropriate for the children to learn a little of Christian worship to relate the building to the religion. The children could study the suggested website.

## Resources

[Shttp://bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/christianity/christ/worship.shtml](http://bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/christianity/christ/worship.shtml)