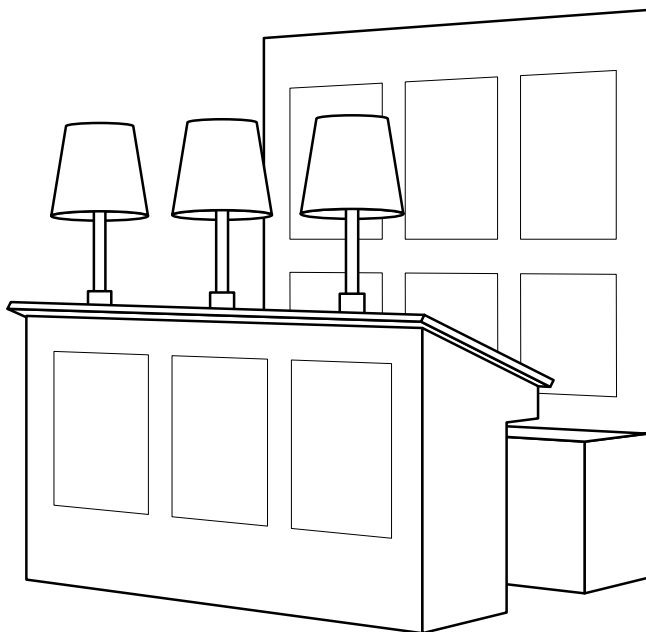


# Cathedrals

A cathedral is the central or 'mother' church of an area called a diocese which is led by a bishop.



**Q1.** (i) Where are seats like these found in the cathedral?

.....

(ii) Who sits in them? .....

**Q2.** What does the bishop do?

.....

**Q3.** In the past why were tall and grand cathedrals built?

.....

**Q4.** How many people may be able to sit in the nave of a cathedral?

.....

**Q5.** Where are important people buried in a cathedral?

.....

**Q6.** (i) What is the special seat found in a cathedral ?

.....

(ii) Who uses this seat? .....

(iii) When is the seat used?

.....

## Answers

1. (i) **At the end of the nave. They are the choir stalls,** (ii) **The choir.**
2. **The bishop leads the diocese.**
3. **To the glory of God.**
4. **Thousands**
5. **In tombs and crypts.**
6. (i) **The bishop's throne,** (ii) **The bishop in charge of the cathedral,** (iii) **During worship.**

## Lesson objectives

- ▶ To show how a cathedral is different in structure from a church.
- ▶ To show that a cathedral has some features in common with a church.
- ▶ To show how a cathedral has some features which are not found in a church.

## Lesson outcomes

- ▶ The children know how a cathedral is different in structure from a church.
- ▶ The children know that a cathedral has some features in common with a church.
- ▶ The children know that a cathedral has some features which are not found in a church.

## Teaching notes

*For the administration of the Christian religion the United Kingdom is divided up into regions and each region has a governing body which is headed by a bishop. The cathedral is the centre of this administration. Cathedrals were set up in large towns. In England Anglican cathedrals can be placed in four groups. These are the pre-reformation cathedrals (Canterbury, Carlisle, Chichester, Durham, Ely, Exeter, Hereford, Lichfield, Lincoln, Norwich, Rochester, St. Paul's,*

*Salisbury, Wells, Winchester, Worcester and York); Cathedrals set up by Henry VIII (Bristol, Chester, Gloucester, Oxford and Peterborough); Large old churches raised to cathedral status (Ripon, St. Albans, Southwark and Southwell); Parish Churches raised to cathedral status (there are twelve, Manchester and Portsmouth are examples) and new cathedrals (Coventry, Guildford, Liverpool and Truro). Westminster cathedral is an example of a Catholic cathedral.*

*Examples of cathedrals in other parts of the British Isles are to be found in St. David's and Brecon (Wales) Glasgow and Edinburgh (Scotland), Belfast (Northern Ireland) and Dublin (Eire).*

*St. Paul's is grouped with the pre-reformation cathedrals because the old building was built in those times and was burnt down in the Fire of London in 1666. The new building is in the renaissance style which is very different from the styles of the other cathedrals.*

*It is important to note that the bishop leads the churches in the area around the cathedral called the diocese. This may stretch for many miles around the cathedral. The running of the cathedral and its services is the responsibility of the dean. The service in which priests enter the church is called ordination.*

## Complementary work

The children could use the information in the notes to locate cathedrals on maps of the British Isles. They could then work out the five nearest cathedrals to where they live.

## Resources

Atlas of the British Isles.