

# History and RE Curriculum Information

## The History Curriculum and Canterbury Cathedral

Augustine

Dunstan

Alphege

Monasticism

Lanfranc

Anselm

Becket

Chaucer & Pilgrimage

Black Prince

Reformation

Civil War and Restoration

## The RE Curriculum and Canterbury Cathedral

Places of Worship

Pilgrimage and Becket Sites

Map of Monastic Sites

# The History Curriculum and Canterbury Cathedral

## Augustine - first Archbishop 597-604

✘ St. Augustine was sent to England by Pope Gregory in 597. He made his way to Canterbury where Queen Bertha, wife of the King of Kent, Ethelbert, was known to be a Christian. She probably worshipped at the church of St. Martin. Ethelbert was himself baptised and gave Augustine land in his palace grounds to build a church. Augustine is often portrayed carrying a silver cross and a picture of a crucifix on a banner.

### ✘ History units

KS1 History - Lives of Famous People  
KS2 History – Romans, Anglo-Saxons and Vikings

### ✘ Cathedral sites

**Porch** - Statue of Augustine  
**St. Augustine's Chapel** - Windows of Gregory and Augustine  
**Chapter House** - Windows of Augustine, Ethelbert and Bertha  
**Cloister** - Windows of Gregory, Augustine, Lawrence, Mellitus, Justus

### ✘ Publications

Primary Resource Pack – Lives of Famous People  
Primary Pupils' Newspapers - Augustine

## Dunstan - Archbishop 960-988

✘ Dunstan was born in about 909, he lived in the west country near Cheddar and went to school at the monastery at Glastonbury. There are stories of him being tempted by devils and being rescued by angels. King Edmund believed that Dunstan saved his life by stopping his horse galloping over a cliff after some hounds. Dunstan was made Abbot of Glastonbury and in 959 Archbishop of Canterbury. At his first communion service a dove is supposed to have flown over his head. He was very involved in the revival of monasticism, based on Benedict's rule. Dunstan died in May 988. He became a famous saint and many people visited his tomb at Canterbury.

### ✘ History units

KS1 History - Lives of Famous People  
KS2 History – Romans, Anglo-Saxons and Vikings

### ✘ Cathedral sites

**Cloisters** - Boss of Dunstan  
**North Quire** – Triforium windows

### ✘ Publications

Primary Resource Pack – Lives of Famous People  
Primary Resource Pack - Monks and Monasteries

## Alphege - Archbishop 1005-1013

✘ Alphege was Archbishop of Canterbury in the year 1011 when the Danes attacked Canterbury. Alfraed, who had previously saved Alphege's life, turned traitor and let them into the city. The Cathedral was set on fire and only four of the clergy survived. Alphege was dragged off to Greenwich where the Danes had a camp. They wanted a ransom but he refused to let anyone collect money for him. Eventually he was murdered by the Danes, being pelted with ox-bones and finally hacked to death with an axe. In 1023 King Canute arranged for his body to be returned to Canterbury as an expression of sorrow for the action of the Danes. Alphege was buried near the high altar and Canute's golden crown was hung over his grave.

### ✘ History units

KS1 History - Lives of Famous People  
KS2 History - Romans, Anglo-Saxons and Vikings

### ✘ Cathedral sites

**Chapter House** - Window of Alphege  
**Cloisters** - Boss of Alphege  
**North Quire** – Triforium windows

### ✘ Publications

Primary Resource Pack – Lives of Famous People

# Monasticism

✘ The Benedictine Priory was the home of a community of monks, whose church was Canterbury Cathedral, dedicated to Christ. The organisation of the Priory was reformed by Lanfranc, Archbishop from 1070-1089. The Benedictines wore dark habits and their Rule emphasised work, prayer, worship and study.

At its height the community at Christ Church numbered about 150 monks. The nominal Abbot was the Archbishop of Canterbury so the day today running was in the hands of a Prior. As well as the supervision and organisation of prayer, study, education, art and music, the Priory was a great landowner and a centre of hospitality. The monks were responsible for the custody of the Shrine of Thomas Becket. The Priory surrendered to Henry VIII in 1540. Twenty eight monks remained as members of the new Cathedral foundation and others received a pension.

## ✘ History units

KS1 History – Lives of People in the Past

KS2 History - Local history

KS3 History – Britain 1066 - 1500

KS3 History - Britain 1500 - 1750

## ✘ Cathedral sites

**Cloister** - the centre of the daily life of the monastery. On the south side are the novices' benches, on the north side the door into the Refectory and the large archways where there were basins for the monks to wash before meals, and on the west side the door to the Cellarer's Hall with a hole beside it where the monks could get emergency refreshment.

**Chapter House** - where the monks met for daily reading of the Rule of St. Benedict and to conduct the business of the monastery.

**Water Tower** - built by Prior Wibert between 1151-1167 as part of a water supply system.

**Quire** - the venue of the monks daily worship. The screen around the Quire formed a division between the worshipping community of monks and the visiting pilgrims, thus separating these two activities.

**Various Ruins** - (see map of monastic sites) of which there are clues around the precincts.

## ✘ Publications

Primary Resource Pack - Monks and Monasteries, Monastic Alphabet

Secondary Resource Pack - Monasticism

Secondary Pupils' Newspapers - The Reformation,

# Lanfranc - Archbishop 1070-1089

✘ The first Norman Archbishop of Canterbury at the time of William the Conqueror. He was enthroned in 1070 and died in 1089. He re-organised and re-housed the monks of the community at Christ Church and supervised the rebuilding of the great church after the fire of 1067.

## ✘ History units

KS3 History – Britain 1066 - 1500

## ✘ Cathedral sites

Layout of **Nave and Quire, Western Crypt**

**Porch** – statue of Lanfranc

**St Anselm's Chapel** – stained glass windows

## ✘ Publications

Secondary Pack - Impact of the Norman Conquest

Secondary Pupils' Newspapers - Impact of the Norman Conquest

Architecture Topic Book

## Anselm - Archbishop 1093-1109

✘ Archbishop of Canterbury from 1093-1109 in the reigns of William Rufus and Henry I. Like Lanfranc he had strong connections with the Benedictine monastery of Bec. He found himself in conflict with the monarchy over the question of the power of the church. During his time at Canterbury the Community grew and an extension to Lanfranc's church was begun.

### ✘ History units

KS3 History – Britain 1066 - 1500

### ✘ Cathedral sites

Existing Quire and Western Crypt

**St Anselm's Chapel** – stained glass windows and the altar

### ✘ Publications

Secondary Pack - Relations of the Monarchy and Church  
Architecture Topic Book

## Thomas Becket - Archbishop 1162-1170

✘ Thomas Becket became Archbishop of Canterbury in 1162. His time in office was marked by a continuous dispute with King Henry II which centred on the issue of criminous clerks. Henry wished clerics to be tried in civil courts. Becket resisted this and the matter came to symbolise the struggle between royal and ecclesiastical authority. Relations worsened when Henry's son was crowned by the Archbishop of York and Becket excommunicated those bishops who had taken part in the ceremony.

In December 1170 four knights took the matter into their own hands following a supposed remark by the King that he wished to be rid of his Archbishop. They rode to Canterbury and confronted Becket in the Cathedral where he was killed. Miracles followed and Canterbury became a centre of pilgrimage. His body was placed in the Crypt. Henry came to do public penance there in 1174. The body was moved to the Trinity Chapel in 1220. The Shrine was destroyed in 1538 by order of Henry VIII.

### ✘ History units

KS1 History - Lives of People in the Past

KS2 History – Local History

KS3 History – Britain 1066 - 1500

### ✘ Cathedral sites

**Martyrdom** - Site of Becket's murder includes a stone inscribed Thomas and the Altar of the Sword's Point with its symbolic reference to Becket's murder and the Crucifixion of Jesus.

**Crypt** - Contains a statue of Becket, a picture of the original tomb and the Wax Chamber Windows from which the monks watched the pilgrims and their offerings.

**Miracle Windows** - showing miracles associated with Saint Thomas Becket.

**Trinity Chapel** - Site of the Shrine from 1220 to 1538.

**Corona Chapel** - built to house a part of Becket's skull.

**Pilgrim Steps** - The pilgrims' route up to the Shrine which they would sometimes climb on their knees.

### ✘ Publications

Primary Resource Pack - Becket

Primary Pupils' Newspapers - Becket

Secondary Resource Pack - Relationships of Monarchy with the Church

Secondary Resource Pack – The Norman Monarchs and the Church

Secondary Pupils' Newspapers - Relationship of Monarchy and Church

Secondary Pupils' Newspapers - Medieval Society

Pilgrimage Topic Book

Medieval Windows Topic Book

## Chaucer and Pilgrimage

✘ Geoffrey Chaucer had various links with Kent in addition to the location of the Canterbury Tales. In 1360 he may have stayed in Canterbury with the household of Lionel, Duke of Clarence and probably attended the funeral of the Black Prince at the Cathedral in 1376. He became the guardian of two Kentish boys in 1375, was MP as knight of the shire in 1386 and JP for Kent 1385-1389.

Henry Yevele, the royal master mason responsible for the rebuilding of the Nave, completed in 1405, was under the supervision of Chaucer who was the clerk of the King's works to Richard II.

Chaucer's pilgrims had come to visit the Shrine of Thomas Becket. They would have taken the Pilgrims' Way from Harbledown to Westgate and lodged in the Precincts and city hostelries. They would have seen a cathedral with the nave being rebuilt, two plain towers at the west end and a smaller, squat tower at the crossing where Bell Harry is now.

Entering through the Nave, where Mass was celebrated at the Nave Altar, they would have gone to the south west Transept. After going through a tunnel to view the Martyrdom, they would have visited the Crypt, stopping particularly at the Chapel of Our Lady Undercroft and the site of Becket's Tomb from 1170-1220. Going along the South Quire Aisle, they glimpsed the Altars of St. Alphege and St. Dunstan and the High Altar. Climbing the Pilgrims' Steps they approached the great shrine. Here was a gold covered chest inlaid with jewels and supported by pink marble columns. The chest had a wooden cover which could be raised and lowered. The pilgrims could also see a part of Becket's skull in the Corona. The monks had a relic cupboard on the north side the Quire. The Black Prince's Tomb would also have been of interest. Before their return journey they could buy brooches and acquire other souvenirs of their visit, including certificates to prove they had made the pilgrimage.

### ✘ History units

KS3 History – Britain 1066 - 1500

### ✘ Cathedral sites

**Crypt** - Contains a statue of Becket, a picture of the original tomb and the Wax Chamber Windows from which the monks watched the pilgrims and their offerings.

**Miracle Windows** - showing miracles associated with Saint Thomas Becket.

**Trinity Chapel** - Site of the Shrine from 1220 to 1538.

**Corona Chapel** - built to house a part of Becket's skull.

**Pilgrim Steps** - The pilgrims' route up to the Shrine which they would sometimes climb on their knees.

**Martyrdom** - Site of the murder of Becket in 1170.

### ✘ Publications

The Age of Chaucer Topic Book

Pilgrimage Topic Book

Medieval Windows Topic Book

## Black Prince

✘ The Black Prince was born in 1333. He was the son of King Edward III. He first visited Canterbury Cathedral when he was three and was given the present of a cup. In 1345 he fought against the French at Crecy and in 1356 at Poitiers. He married Joan of Kent and gave his bride the decorations for the Chapel of Our Lady Undercroft in the Crypt. The ceiling was painted with jewels and gold.

In 1376 he was taken ill and brought home from France. He was buried in the Trinity Chapel near Becket's Shrine. His tunic, shield and helmet were carried in the funeral procession and placed over his tomb. Today there are copies over the tomb and the actual "achievements" are in a nearby case.

### ✘ History units

KS1 History - Lives of People in the Past

### ✘ Cathedral sites

**Trinity Chapel** - Tomb of Black Prince

**South Quire Aisle** - Black Prince's Achievements in case

**Chapter House** – Window of the Black Prince

### ✘ Publications

Primary Resource Pack – Lives of Famous People

# The Reformation

✘ The two main effects of the English Reformation on the Cathedral were the destruction of Becket's Shrine and the dissolution of the Priory. The Shrine was destroyed in 1538 when cartloads of treasure were taken away by order of Henry VIII to swell the royal revenues. The great ruby, called the Regale of France, sent by Louis VII was made into a ring worn by Henry himself. Thomas's name was removed from the calendar of the English church.

The Priory formally surrendered in 1540. 53 monks were displaced. Some were given pensions. 28 became members of the new Cathedral foundation which set up a Dean and Chapter as well as virgers, choristers, bellringers and other officials.

## ✘ History units

KS2 History - Life in Tudor times

KS3 History - Britain 1500 - 1750

## ✘ Cathedral sites

**Christ Church Gate** - Tudor Rose and faces of Prince Arthur and Catherine of Aragon in memory of whose marriage the gate was possibly built.

**West Porch** - Statues of Edward VI, Elizabeth I and Archbishop Cranmer.

**Nave** - Memorial to Hales family. Sir James Hales died at sea in 1589.

**Martyrdom** - Tomb of Archbishop Warham, last Archbishop before the Reformation.

**Chapter House** - East Window: Henry VIII, Thomas Cranmer. West Window: Henry VIII with Charles V and Cardinal Wolsey, Archbishop Cranmer being made to listen to a sermon before being burnt 1556.

**Crypt** - Tomb of Cardinal Morton (reign of Henry VII), Carving of Tudor Rose.

**Trinity Chapel** - Memorial to Dean Wotton, site of Becket's Shrine.

**Corona** - Tomb of Cardinal Pole (reign of Queen Mary).

**Precincts** - Priory ruins: Infirmary and its Chapel, Dormitory.

## ✘ Publications

Primary Resource Pack - Life in Tudor Times

Primary Pupils' Newspapers - Life in Tudor Times 1 & 2

Secondary Resource Pack - Reformation and Canterbury Cathedral

Secondary Pupils' Newspapers - The Reformation

# The Civil War and The Restoration

✘ During the Commonwealth period the chapter house was used as a sermon hall and the number of services was reduced. There was destruction to the fabric of the cathedral and its written records and documents. In 1643 an act was passed abolishing deans and chapters and the administration and care of the Cathedral was neglected during the Interregnum.

✘ In 1660 when Charles II returned to England a new dean was appointed and the services and fabric of the Cathedral were returned to a decent order. Repairs were also needed to the Precincts. The Quire came back into use and there was a musical revival.

## ✘ History units

KS3 History – Britain 1500 - 1750

## ✘ Cathedral sites

**Nave** - Font which was removed in Civil War, replaced at Restoration. Memorial to Orlando Gibbons

**Crypt** – General damage to statues, windows and paintings

**Quire** – Coats of arms of Charles II. Lectern was placed here after the Restoration

## ✘ Publications

Secondary Resource Pack – Reformation, Civil War and Restoration

Secondary Pupils' Newspapers - The Civil War and Restoration

Post Medieval Windows Topic Book

Monuments Topic Book

# The RE Curriculum and Canterbury Cathedral

## Places of Worship

✘ Around the Cathedral are features of Christian worship.

**Altars** - Altars can be linked to the symbolism of the cross, candlesticks, altar cloths, and bread and wine.

**Prayers** - The Quire contains Prayer Books and Kneelers  
The Crypt is a still place in which prayer cards and candles are provided. The Chapel of Our Lady Martyrdom is reserved for private prayer.

**Bible reading** - The lectern is in the traditional form of an eagle resting on a globe. The Bible Windows show incidents from the Old and New Testaments

**Music** - Above the Pulpitum is the Organ Console. The Choir Stalls and the seats have copies of the service sheets and hymn books.

**Rites of Passage** - The Font and the Paschal Candle are linked to baptism. The Altars can be linked to the celebration of weddings and funerals.

**Belief and Behaviour** - Many of the monuments around the Cathedral speak of attitudes to life and death. The Martyrdom and the Corona bear witness to the ideals of commitment and sacrifice, whilst St. Michael's Chapel raises questions of war and peace. The site of the shrine in the Trinity Chapel is a living reminder of the concept of pilgrimage.

**Symbolism** - Symbolism is implicit in many of the features described above, as well as those particular to different dates in the Church's year. The Compass Rose, the Martyrdom sculpture and the stained glass of the Bossanyi Windows are interesting examples of modern symbolism. The ground plan of the Cathedral is cross shaped. The towers ensure visibility, are home for the bells and point upwards as powerful reminders of transcendence.

✘ **RE units**

All Key Stages - visiting a place of worship, prayer and worship, contemporary Christian communities

✘ **Cathedral sites**

**Nave** - Font, Paschal Candle, Pulpit, Altar, Compass Rose

**Quire** - Lectern, Pulpit, High Altar, organ console, choir stalls

**Crypt** - Altar, candles, icon in St. Gabriel's Chapel

**North Quire Aisle** - Bible windows

**South East Transept** - Bossanyi windows

**St. Michael's Chapel** - also called the Warriors chapel containing artefacts relating to war and peace

**Martyrdom** - modern sculpture marking the place where Thomas Becket died, the Chapel of Our Lady Martyrdom holds the pyx and light symbolising Christ the Light of the World

**Corona Chapel** - dedicated to modern day Saints and Martyrs

**Various chapels** - altars

✘ **Publications**

Primary Pack - Places of Worship

Primary Pack - Craft and Design, Stained Glass

Secondary Pack - Arts and Architecture

Symbolism Topic Book

Medieval Windows Topic Book

Post-Medieval Windows Topic Book

Architecture Topic Book

Monuments Topic Book

Signs and Symbols Fact Sheet

# Pilgrimage

✘ Canterbury Cathedral has been a place of pilgrimage since Anglo-Saxon saints such as Alphege and Dunstan were buried here. After the murder of Archbishop Thomas Becket in 1170 Canterbury became the most famous place of pilgrimage in England.

✘ Chaucer's pilgrims had come to visit the Shrine of Thomas Becket. They would have taken the Pilgrims' Way from Harbledown to Westgate and lodged in the Precincts and city hostels. They would have seen a cathedral with the nave being rebuilt, two plain towers at the west end and a smaller, squat tower at the crossing where Bell Harry is now. Entering through the Nave, where Mass was celebrated at the Nave Altar, they would have gone to the south west Transept. After going through a tunnel to view the Martyrdom, they would have visited the Crypt, stopping particularly at the Chapel of Our Lady Undercroft and the site of Becket's Tomb from 1170-1220. Going along the South Quire Aisle, they glimpsed the Altars of St. Alphege and St. Dunstan and the High Altar. Climbing the Pilgrims' Steps they approached the great shrine. Here was a gold covered chest inlaid with jewels and supported by pink marble columns. The chest had a wooden cover which could be raised and lowered. The pilgrims could also see a part of Becket's skull in the Corona. The monks had a relic cupboard on the north side of the Quire. The Black Prince's Tomb would also have been of interest. Before their return journey they could buy brooches and acquire other souvenirs of their visit, including certificates to prove they had made the pilgrimage.

## \* RE Units

KS 2 and 3 – Pilgrimage, Worship and Sacred Places

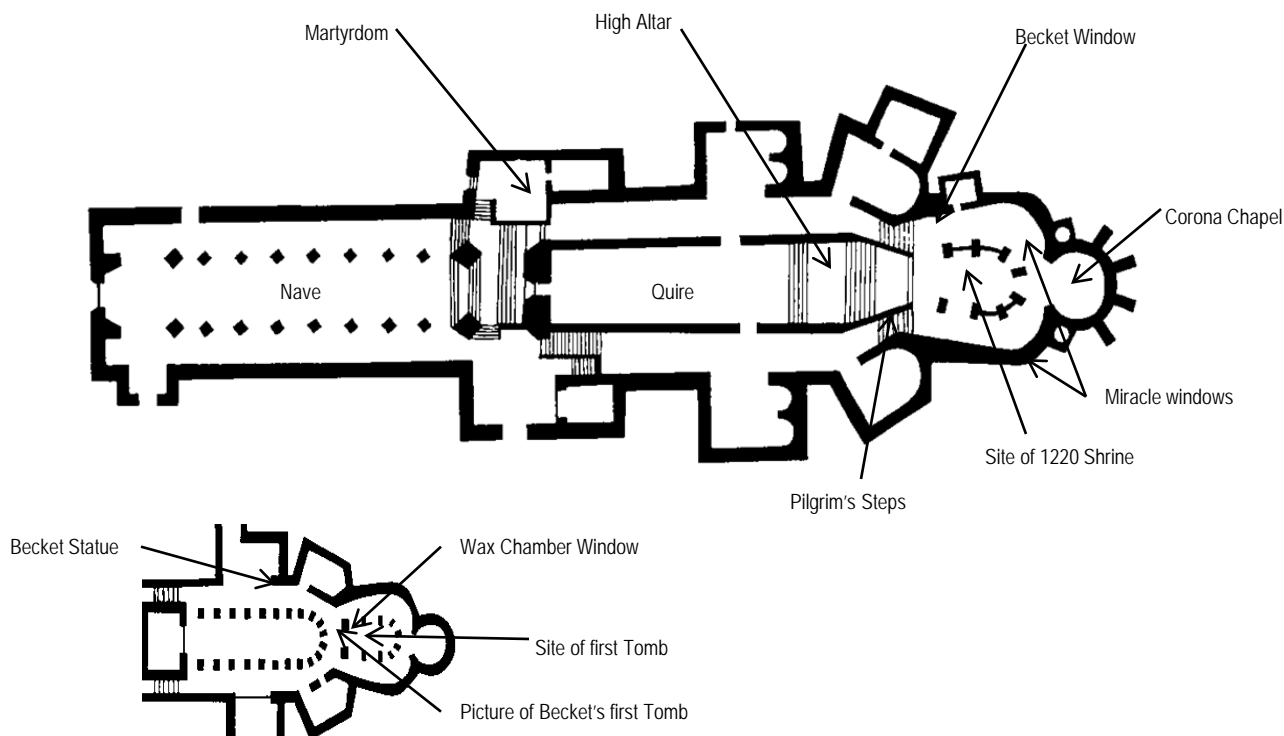
## \* Publications

Primary Pack – Pilgrimage

Primary Pack – Thomas Becket

Primary Pupils' Newspapers - Becket

# Becket Sites



# Monastic Sites

