

<p>Items with a plain background based on http://www.churchofenglandglossary.co.uk/ Items with coloured backgroun added to by Dave Champness, from a variety of sources including Wikipedia and Church of England/Diocesan websites</p>
<p>Latest update: 06/07/16</p>
<p>Abbey</p> <p>Some churches, for historical reasons, are known as abbeys. E.g.Sherborne. For all practical purposes they are parish churches with the normal arrangements of churchwardens and parochial church councils. They were originally the base of a group of monks. Whalley Abbey is the Diocese of Blackburn's retreat and conference centre</p>
<p>Absolution</p> <p>The formal forgiveness of sins. In the Book of Common Prayer, Cranmer made it abundantly clear that it was God alone who forgives sins, in explicit contradiction of the Roman catholic theological position which made it necessary for a priest to act as an intermediary. Thus in the absolution in the 1662 prayer book, the minister says that God has "given power and commandment to his Ministers, to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the Absolution and Remission of their sins: He (sc. God) pardoneth and absolveth all them that truly repent and unfeignedly believe his holy Gospel". Thus the minister proclaims the truth and actuality of what God is doing. Liturgical revision has weakened this stance. The Alternative Service Book 1930 has an absolution in which the minister simply prays for the forgiveness of the congregation (for which they have already prayed in their confession); Common Worship backs a number of horses (it offers 13 forms of absolution) none of which carries the assurance carried by Cranmer's own composition.</p>
<p>Agnes Dei</p> <p>in the Eucharist of the Anglican Communion, the Lutheran Church, and the Western Rite of the Orthodox Church the Agnus Dei is the invocation to the Lamb of God sung or recited during the fraction of the Host. The most common words used are: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.</p>
<p>Altar</p> <p>See Lord's Table.</p>
<p>Anglican Communion</p> <p>The worldwide group of churches in communion with one another and, in particular, with Canterbury; all have a historical link with the Church of England, the Church of Ireland or the Scottish Episcopal Church. They accept fully the Lambeth Quadrilateral and look to the Archbishop of Canterbury as the senior bishop within the worldwide communion. All such churches uphold the Lambeth Quadrilateral.</p>
<p>Anglo-catholic</p> <p>The name given to loyal members of the Church of England who look primarily to tradition as the source of authority. They tend to espouse a Roman Catholic view of doctrine, particularly of Scripture, the Eucharist and the priesthood. The majority are against the ordination of women to the priesthood.</p>
<p>Archbishop</p> <p>There are two of these, the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Archbishop of York, the two provinces into which the Church of England is divided for administrative purposes. Of the two, Canterbury is the senior and is also de facto the senior bishop in the Anglican Communion; he is known as the Primate of All England. Within the United Kingdom, the Archbishop of Canterbury enjoys precedence immediately after the Queen and her close family. Then comes the Lord High Chancellor and only then, poor chap, the Archbishop of York. The archbishops are joint presidents of the General Synod as well as being the bishops of their dioceses. They are addressed as "The Most Reverend the Archbishop of.....".</p>
<p>Archbishops' Council</p> <p>Coming into being in 1999, this body was established in order to give greater coherence and coordination to the central organisation of the church. The two archbishops are its joint chairmen; ex officio members are the chairmen of the two convocations, the chairman and vice-chairman of the House of Laity of the General Synod and a Church Estates Commissioner. Two members each are elected from the House of Bishops, the House of Clergy and the House of Laity of the General Synod. Six members are nominated by the archbishops. Under the terms of the National Institutions Measure 1998 its objects are "to coordinate, promote, aid and further the work and mission of the Church of England".</p>
<p>Archdeacon</p> <p>"Arch", of course, derives from "head" and an archdeacon is technically a head deacon. He is the administrative right-hand man of the bishop in ecclesiastical matters and usually has responsibility for a specified geographical area (an archdeaconry) within the diocese. Archdeacons are addressed as "The Venerable the Archdeacon of.....".</p>
<p>Archdeaconry</p> <p>Area overseen by an Archdeacon. In the Diocese of Blackburn, there are two Archdeaconries; Blackburn and Lancaster - each of which oversee seven deaneries</p> <p>Blackburn - Accrington, Blackburn-with-Darwen, Burnley, Chorley, Leyland, Pendle and Whalley Lancaster - Blackpool, Garstang, Kirkkham, Lancaster & Morecambe, Poulton, Preston and Tunstall</p>
<p>Arches, Dean of the</p> <p>Not, as you might think, a senior ordained person with pastoral responsibility for the railway arches in Lambeth, but the legal officer of the Archbishop of Canterbury, both in terms of the Archbishop's office as a diocesan bishop, but also as archbishop of a province.</p>
<p>Area</p> <p>Increasingly, dioceses are being sub-divided, either formally by schemes authorised by the General Synod or, informally, into areas. Often a suffragan bishop will be given immediate responsibility for such an area, with an accompanying archdeacon, and the diocesan bishop may well delegate, again either formally or informally, certain of his own powers and responsibilities.</p>
<p>Area Dean</p> <p>In the Diocese of Blackburn, the lead clergy person in a Deanery is known as an Area Dean (not a Rural Dean, as many of the deaneries are urban/sub-urban in nature)</p>
<p>Articles of enquiry</p> <p>Archdeacons may request Churchwardens to provide the answers to a list of questions about their parish/church and parochial activities (in addition to the annual return of finance and mission statistics). The answers are used by the Archdeacons and central diocesan teams to build a picture of opportunities/threats at a parish/deanery level and react through policy or individually as appropriate</p>
<p>Articles of religion</p> <p>A necessary read for all members of the Church of England! The bases of the doctrine of the Church of England are the Apostles' Creed, the Thirty Nine Articles and the Book of Common Prayer. The first of these needs no comment. The last contains the authorised services, including those for ordination to the priesthood and the consecration of bishops. The middle one constitutes the most coherent statement of the theology of the Church of England. It is a child of its time – the Reformation – and thus contains some fairly forthright remarks about the beliefs of the Roman Catholic church, which do not commend themselves to today's readers. Those apart, however, it is a robust statement of the evangelical faith and well worth reading. It is sufficient in its coverage of major theological matters for the late W H Griffiths Thomas to have written a commentary on it and to have been able to entitle that commentary "The Principles of Theology". The articles are particularly strong on the inspiration and authority of Scripture, salvation, and the sacraments as well as covering matters like the Mass, vestments etc.</p>
<p>Authority</p> <p>A vexed question in the Church of England! Very simple, in essence: the Lord Jesus Christ is the Head of the church: there is no question of that. The problem comes in deciding how that authority is mediated to the church in practical everyday problems and situations. There are broadly three strands of belief. The catholic, which regards the church's tradition as the final arbiter; the evangelical, which regards Scripture in that way; and the liberal, which gives final authority to human reason. It is not as clear cut as this simple division would suggest, for the Catholics have a high view of Scripture, the evangelicals do not ride roughshod over tradition (and both recognise that the interpretation of both tradition and Scripture in today's culture calls for the application of reason), and the liberals are not without regard to tradition and Scripture. However, there is also fourth strand, the charismatic, which runs through the other three and which holds that the individual believer can experience the direct revelation of truth and its current application from the Holy Spirit. All this, however, raises the further question of how this authority, however it is derived, is mediated to the church. The Church of England does this through a system of synodical government, in which both clergy and laity take part.</p>
<p>Baptism, of infants</p> <p>The Church of England recognises the validity of the baptism of infants. Its position is defined in Article 27 See Articles of Religion. Whilst this is the norm – although not all the clergy assent to it – provision is made for the baptism of older people – "those of riper years" as the Book of Common Prayer calls them. When parents are unable to go along with infant baptism for any reason, some clergy offer a service of thanksgiving and/or dedication instead.</p>
<p>Battle</p> <p>The town of Battle shares with the village of Bocking the distinction of having its incumbent entitled Dean. This arises from the special status these churches had, but which has been removed.</p>
<p>Benedictus</p> <p>The Benedictus (also Song of Zechariah or Canticle of Zachary), given in Gospel of Luke 1:68-79, is one of the three canticles in the opening chapters of this Gospel, the other two being the "Magnificat" and the "Nunc dimittis". The Benedictus was the song of thanksgiving uttered by Zechariah on the occasion of the circumcision of his son, John the Baptist.</p>
<p>Benefice</p> <p>One of those words loved by the lawyers that are difficult to define. The Shorter Oxford Dictionary says "an ecclesiastical tenure", whatever that may mean. For our purposes it may do to say that it relates to all that an incumbent accepts on his appointment to a parish – any endowments, the cure of souls in the parish, the freehold, the occupation of the clergy residence, be it vicarage or rectory. It used to include tithes when they were payable to an incumbent.</p>
<p>Bishop</p> <p>There are lots of these, in all shapes and sizes. Diocesan bishops are the senior clergy in their diocese, spiritually responsible for the cure of souls in their diocese. They should be the focus of unity, the defenders of the orthodox faith, and teachers of it. The bishop is president of the diocesan synod and Bishop's Council. Diocesan bishops are appointed by the Crown on the advice of the Prime Minister from two names submitted by the Crown Nominations Commission, on which there are a group of permanent members to which are added representatives of the relevant diocese for the discussion of specific vacancies. Suffragan bishops are appointed by the diocesan bishop to assist him in his duties, often having responsibility for a particular geographical area of the diocese. Similarly, a diocesan bishop may be helped by retired bishops living in the diocese, who are given the title of assistant bishop. Bishops are addressed as "The Right Reverend the Bishop of".</p>
<p>Bishop's Council</p>

In the **Diocese of Blackburn**, members of the House of Clergy and House of Laity from the Diocesan Synod (as well as a number of ex-officio roles such as the Suffragan bishops, Archdeacons, Cathedral Dean and Diocesan Secretary are elected to serve on the Bishop's Council. The role of the Council is to provide advice to the bishop on any matter. The Council meets c. 5 times per year, chaired by the Bishop of Blackburn. The members of Bishop's Council are also **Directors of the Diocesan Board of Finance**, but do not act in a directorial capacity in Bishop's Council.

Bishop's Leadership Team (BLT)

In the **Diocese of Blackburn**, the Bishop's staff team is known as the Bishop's Leadership Team. The members of the team are: Bishop of Blackburn, Bishop of Lancaster, Bishop of Burnley, Archdeacon of Blackburn, Archdeacon of Lancaster, Dean of Blackburn Cathedral, Diocesan Secretary, Head of Parish Mission Support, Head of Ministry & Development, Director of Board of Education, Womens' ministry representative, Communications Manager, Bishop's Chaplain (from Jan 2016 Vision 2026 Coordinator). The BLT usually meet once per month.

Bishop's Mission Order (BMO)

Process by which a Bishop can 'affirm, enable, encourage and support a new mission initiative within the overall ordering of the life of the church.' A BMO can be used when a mission initiative aims to establish a new community (a fresh expression of church) and/or when a number of parishes or ecumenical partners are involved. Examples in the **Diocese of Blackburn** include Wellfield Church in Leyland (which is a church plant by St Andrew's within the parish boundary of St Johns)

Bishop's Staff

The senior lay and clergy leaders in a diocese are called the Bishop's Staff. In the Diocese of Blackburn they are called the **Bishop's Leadership Team**

Blackburn Diocesan Board of Education (BDBE)

Provides support for children and young people's work within **Diocese of Blackburn** parishes and provides services to the 160+ church primary and ten church high schools in Lancashire. The BDBE is a separate legal entity to the Diocesan Board of Finance, although there are close links.

Blackburn Diocesan Board of Finance Limited (BDBF)

The charity/limited company formed to manage the financial affairs and hold the assets of the Diocese. The members comprise the Diocesan Bishop and members of Diocesan Synod. The members of Bishop's Council are the Trustees and Directors.

Bocking

See Battle.

Book of Common Prayer (BCP)

A permanent feature of the Church of England's worship and a key source for its doctrine, the Book of Common Prayer is loved for the beauty of its language and its services are widely used. The latest edition was printed in 1662

Canon

Canons are definitely amongst the big guns of the Church of England, although perhaps the smallest of them. Canon is the title given to a cleric who is a member of a cathedral and derives from the fact that he is bound by the rules or canons of that cathedral. Some canons have specific roles within the life of the cathedral eg treasurer or precentor and are known as residentiary canons and, with the dean, form the chapter, which is the governing body of the cathedral, responsible on the one hand for the maintenance of worship within the cathedral and on the other for the maintenance of the cathedral buildings. There are also honorary canons, clergy whom it is desired to honour because of their service to the diocese; these have stalls in the cathedral for their use when attending particular services. Broadly speaking, the residentiary canons form the lesser and all the canons the greater chapter; it is the lesser chapter that is the executive body referred to above. There are also lay canons, who are lay people who have the honour bestowed on them in recognition of their contribution to the cathedral or the diocese.

Canon law

That by which the clergy and, to some extent, the laity are governed. Approved by Parliament, it has the force of law and covers matters of worship and practice. Mayfield, in his "The Church of England: its members and its business" has some 11 pages on this subject. Confusingly, the constituent parts of canon law are referred to as canons!

Canterbury

The diocese whose bishop is the senior bishop in the Church of England. See Archbishop.

Canticles

A canticle (from the Latin canticulum, a diminutive of canticum, "song") is a hymn, psalm or other song of praise taken from biblical or holy texts other than the Psalms. In the Church of England, Morning and Evening Prayer according to the Book of Common Prayer makes extensive use of canticles.

At Morning Prayer: Venite (Psalm 95) Te Deum (not biblical) or Benedicite (Daniel 3:57–88 in the Apocrypha) Benedictus (Luke 1:68–79) or Jubilate Deo (Psalm 100)

At Evening Prayer: Magnificat (Luke 1:46–55) or Cantate Domino (Psalm 98) Nunc dimittis (Luke 2:29–32) or Deus misereatur (Psalm 67)

Catechist

is a lay person who is licensed by the bishop on recommendation of the priest and local church council. The Catechist organises and conducts worship services on Sundays when there is no priest, and throughout the week, the catechist rings the bell that calls people to Morning and Evening Prayer. In most villages, the catechist also works with youth, educates parents and godparents for the Baptism of their children, rehearses those to be confirmed, and many other duties. Most catechists also assist in the distribution of Holy Communion when the priest comes to a village for celebration. In some parishes, a catechist also distributes Holy Communion with elements previously consecrated by the priest.

Cathedral

The mother church of a diocese, where the bishop is enthroned on his appointment to the see and in which he has his "cathedra" or seat. Cathedrals are governed by their chapters according to statutes. Some, but by no means all, cathedrals are also parish churches. **Blackburn Cathedral** is located in Blackburn town centre, within 5 minutes walk of the train and bus stations, and car parking at the Mall shopping centre

Cathedral Quarter

Cathedral Quarter is the name given to the land immediately surrounding **Blackburn Cathedral** was redeveloped in 2015 to include the first cloisters to be built in England for 700 years that houses the cathedral clergy and vergers (Cathedral Court), and a café operated under the Northcote brand. Office accommodation and a hotel were also constructed transforming an under-developed part of the town centre.

Catholic

Properly meaning "universal" or "worldwide", but often used as shorthand for Anglo-catholic. Hence "the catholic group in the General Synod".

Chancellor

is a lawyer who represents the church in legal matters. In the Church of England, the office technically combines that of Official Principal (who presides over, and represents the bishop in, the consistory court) with that of Vicar General (who acts as the bishop's deputy in non-judicial legal and administrative affairs)

Chapter

The body that governs a cathedral and consists of the dean and canons. The same term is used of all the clergy in a deanery.

Charismatic

One of the strands of theological belief (see also catholic, evangelical, liberal) within the church today. Its emphasis lies on the working of the Holy Spirit in healing, prophecy and miracles in the church today, and on the direct revelation of God's will to the individual believer.

Choir

Gone are the days when every parish church had a choir of boys and men to lead the worship. Many still do, but many do not. The parish church choir of today will, almost certainly, include girls and women; many cathedral choirs include girls, but many remain a final stronghold of the all-male choir. There is a feeling that choirs can, sadly, begin to exist for their own musical reasons and have a life separate from the real worship of the church; this clearly is unhealthy. Much will depend on the choirmaster and his own Christian conviction, and on the relationship between choirmaster and incumbent.

Choirmaster

These days one must think also of choirmistress. Where a choir exists, its leader is clearly a key figure in the life and worship of the church. Ideally the choirmaster will have a deep personal Christian faith, a good musical training and a sympathy with a wide range of musical taste. He will need to know the hymn book used in his church from cover to cover, so that, working with the incumbent, he can bring out a rich variety of hymns relevant to the Sunday themes and make sure none are overused.

Christmas

The Christmas morning service continues to attract many casual participants for whom it is, perhaps, the only service they attend in a year – apart from weddings, baptisms or funerals. Many parishes also hold a celebration of Holy Communion late on Christmas Eve. It is, of course, the annual celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary. The season of Christmas is also celebrated by crib and Christingle services.

Church Army

is an evangelistic organisation founded in the Church of England and now operating in many parts of the Anglican Communion.

Church Assembly

The predecessor of the General Synod and superseded because of its limited powers and the inadequate place it gave the laity in church government.

Church Commissioners

The Church Commissioners support the work and mission of the Church of England across the country. They manage an investment fund of £7 billion, distributing £218.5 million in 2015. They are the third largest UK charitable giver. Their responsibilities include:

- Supporting dioceses with fewer resources with ministry costs
- Providing funds to support mission activities
- Paying for bishops' ministry and some cathedral costs
- Administering the legal framework for pastoral reorganisation and settling the future of closed church buildings
- Paying clergy pensions for service prior to 1998
- Running the national payroll for serving and retired clergy.

Church House, Blackburn

The administrative offices of the Diocese of Blackburn were located in Church House adjacent to Blackburn Cathedral until November 2015; after which they have been located at **Clayton House**.

Church House, Westminster

Here we go! Church House is the administrative centre of the Church of England and is the home of its permanent staff and of the staff of the Church Commissioners. As such, it is always liable to be under attack for consuming, as some would say, so large a proportion of the total resources of the Church of England. It is a fine building, designed by Herbert Barker, and completed in 1939. Its Assembly Hall is used for the meetings of the General Synod. It is itself administered by an independent corporation. The staff at Church House underpin the General Synod and its Commissions, providing an effective civil service function in support of the considerable work load of these bodies. The Secretary-General is the head of the Church House staff.

Church of England

We shall need to be selective here! The Church of England is the established church of the realm (in Scotland, the established church is the Church of Scotland, which is Presbyterian in ecclesiology). This has typically laid responsibilities on it and its ministers eg the incumbent of a parish has the duty of ministering to all the inhabitants in that parish; subject to some reservations, he must baptise and marry them and conduct their funeral services, if so requested. Church of England clergy tend to be involved in some of the ceremonies of local government (and central government, for that matter eg some bishops sit in the House of Lords; the senior chaplains to the armed forces are drawn from the Church of England clergy). The Church of England, through its archbishops and bishops, and through the use of Westminster Abbey for the ceremony, has played a prominent place in the Coronation of the Sovereign. It still has, through the General Synod, a legislative link with Parliament.

Churchwardens

Every parish has two churchwardens, who are senior laity elected annually at a meeting of electors, who are those who live within the parish or are on the Electoral Roll of the parish church. They are, ex officio, members of the Parochial Church Council and of its Standing Committee. Their duties are covered in the Churchwardens' Measure 2001.

Churchyards

Areas of land surrounding churches, and often, if well maintained, providing much appreciated amenity. They are used for the burial of parishioners.

Clayton House

The administrative offices of the Diocese of Blackburn since November 2015. The modern open plan offices are located close to Junction 5 of the M65 on the Walker Business Park.

Clergy

The term used to denote all those who have been ordained.

Clergy Disciplinary Measure (CDM)

The Clergy Discipline Measure 2003 which came fully into force on 1st January 2006, provides a structure for dealing efficiently and fairly with formal complaints of misconduct against members of the clergy, other than in relation to matters involving doctrine, ritual or ceremonial. All admitted to holy orders in the Church of England are covered by the Measure, whether or not in active ministry. Where the formal complaint concerns a priest or deacon, the disciplinary structure is centred on the bishop; where the complaint concerns a bishop, the structure is centred on the archbishop of the relevant province.

Collation

One form of appointment to an ecclesiastical office, either to a benefice or as a dignitary. This term was applied when the ordinary, usually but not always the diocesan bishop, appointed to a living of which he was the patron or which a lapse had brought within his gift. When a clergyman was appointed to a living by collation, there was no presentation or institution, but collation was followed by induction or installation.

Collect

Nothing at all to do with money! See collection for this! No, a collect is a prayer. The Church of England divides the year into seasons and allocates appropriate Scripture readings (known, in the Book of Common Prayer, as lessons) for each Sunday and also a prayer, known as "the collect of the day". Those that appear in the Book of Common Prayer and, modernised, in Common Worship are largely the work of Cranmer. Most of them are structured to begin with a statement of a particular attribute of God, which is then developed into a petition appropriate to the day, linked to the lessons for the day. In addition to their use in public worship, they form a valuable resource for the prayers of the individual Christian.

Collection

Every church is to a great extent financially dependent on the giving of the laity. Traditionally, this giving was made every week in cash that was collected by means of a plate or bag passed round the congregation during the singing of the last hymn. With the increasing use of bank accounts on the one hand and of regular committed giving on the other, the collection has seemed less and less relevant today. In addition, there has long been a feeling of embarrassment at the passing of a collection plate to casual visitors to a church. Some churches, therefore, no longer make a collection and, instead, have a plate or other suitable receptacle near the entrance door into which regular worshippers can place their gift as they arrive. Increasingly, the emphasis is on regular and planned giving with the use of Gift Aid to increase the value of the gift. It has to be said, however, that the presentation of the gifts of the congregation via collection plates as a part of the worship of the church was a powerful visual image, the value of which cannot readily be overestimated.

College of Bishops

All serving bishops in the Church of England comprise a body known as the College of Bishops. The House of Bishops consists of the following members of the College of Bishops: all 42 diocesan bishops of the Church of England (which includes the offshore dioceses of Sodor & Man and Gibraltar in Europe); the Bishop of Dover (who performs many of the Archbishop of Canterbury's diocesan functions); the Bishop to the Forces; and seven suffragan bishops elected from among the total number of suffragan bishops, (four from the Province of Canterbury, and three from the Province of York). 8 regional representatives elected by and from senior women clergy.

Commissioners, Church

This body came into existence in 1948 and inherited the resources of two earlier bodies – the Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty and the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, both of whom had capital funds available for the use of the Church of England. The Church Commissioners' funds consist of investment and property, and it is the interest from these capital funds that the Commissioners are able to deploy. Some is used for the payment of bishops' stipends and expenses and the upkeep of their residences (which technically belong to the Commissioners), some is used for the payment of the higher clergy, and some goes to dioceses for the payment of the clergy. Some is used to help with the provision and upkeep of houses for the clergy. The largest share of the Commissioners' funds are also, is used for clergy pensions.

Common Tenure

Over many years, the terms of service of clergy have been discussed in the light both of what some have regarded as the anomalous freehold that has attached to clerical appointments and of current general employment laws (which by and large have not applied to the clergy. The result is enshrined in the Ecclesiastical Offices (Terms of Service) measure 2009 and will be known as "common tenure". Regulations under this measure are currently being drafted.

Common Worship

name given to the series of services authorised by the General Synod of the Church of England and launched on the first Sunday of Advent in 2000. It represents the most recent stage of development of the Liturgical Movement within the Church and is the successor to the Alternative Service Book (ASB) of 1980. Like the ASB it is an alternative to the Book of Common Prayer (BCP) of 1662, which remains officially the normative liturgy of the Church of England. It has been published as a series of books, rather than a single volume, offering a wider choice of forms of worship than any of its predecessors.

Communion by Extension

Communion by Extension is a service using bread and wine that has previously been consecrated.

Compline

is the final church service (or office) of the day in the Christian tradition of canonical hours. The English word Compline is derived from the Latin completorium, as Compline is the completion of the working day.

Comprehensive

One of the glories of the Church of England is said by many to be its comprehensiveness. Others condemn it. It effectively means that its members – and even its clergy – can hold almost any belief or none, and still claim membership, and loyal membership at that. Thus an inability to accept the historicity of, for example, the Virgin birth or the bodily resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ has proved to be no bar to the holding of office, nor has a disbelief in His deity. The problem comes when one tries to agree on the limits of that comprehensiveness. The debate continues!

Conclave

A private meeting

Confirmation

Infant baptism leaves a problem. Unless one believes that the very act of baptism is a sign that the infant has, indeed, become regenerate regardless of the undoubted fact that the child will have had no understanding of what was being done to it or for it, one needs some formal opportunity for that child to endorse what was done at baptism. The service of confirmation provides this. It is the bishop who presides at the service, underlining that the candidate is being received as a member by and into the universal church; during the service he lays hands on the candidates and prays for the indwelling of the Holy Spirit within them.

Conservative evangelical

is a term used in Britain to describe a theological movement found within Evangelical Protestant Christianity, and is sometimes simply synonymous with Evangelical within the United Kingdom. The term is used more often in the first sense,[1] but conservative evangelicals would themselves tend to use it in the second.[2] Conservative evangelicals are sometimes called Fundamentalists[3] but typically reject that label and are keen to maintain their distinct identity, which is more Reformed.[4] In this sense, Conservative Evangelicalism can be thought of as being distinct from Liberal Evangelicalism, Open Evangelicalism and Charismatic Evangelicalism.[5] Some conservative evangelical groups oppose women ministers or women preachers in mixed congregations.

Convocations

Before the advent of the General Synod, the clergy were provided with the means of influencing church policy through the Convocations of Canterbury and York. The members of these bodies were the bishops (all the diocesan bishops together with representative suffragans elected by their colleagues) and clergy elected by their colleagues in the deaneries. The convocations still exist but meet only rarely. Technically, the General Synod consists of the two convocations with the House of Laity.

Court, ecclesiastical

Mayfield, in his *The Church of England: its members and its business* OUP 1958, has 12 pages on this subject! Suffice it here to say that these are legal courts administered by the church and intended to correct and educate those who transgress or ignore the church's teaching or laws of conduct, to correct and as necessary remove from office those of its officers whose conduct is unseemly or whose teaching is heretical, and to protect the clergy in their teaching of the gospel and to prevent their censure or dismissal without due trial. This right not to be deprived of office capriciously is what is known as "the parson's freehold". Clergy today can only be dismissed on proved grounds of gross immorality or total pastoral breakdown. Use of the ecclesiastical courts is infrequent; the most used is the consistory court, the main function of which today is in deciding the outcome of opposed applications for faculties to introduce changes in the fabric of churches.

Cranmer

A towering figure in the history of the Church of England. He lived (1489-1556) at the time of the Reformation and was Archbishop of Canterbury 1532 – 1536. He had enormous influence on the shape of the reformed Church of England and its liturgy. He was martyred for his faith.

Creed, The Apostle's

The Apostles' Creed (Latin: *Symbolum Apostolorum* or *Symbolum Apostolicum*), sometimes entitled *Symbol of the Apostles*, is an early statement of Christian belief—a creed or "symbol". The Apostles' Creed was based on Christian theological understanding of the Canonical gospels, the letters of the New Testament and to a lesser extent the Old Testament.

Crockford

An invaluable reference book, containing the names and brief CVs of all ordained men and women in the Church of England and of all the cathedrals and parishes. By its aid, you can track down what has happened to George—or, these days, Georgina - since they were ordained. And it gives details of the patronage of parishes, so you know who you are going to have to deal with when you apply for a living. Each annual edition contains a preface, written anonymously by an author chosen by the publishers, that deals with a matter or matters of current moment in the church.

Crossroads Mission (Northern Bishops)

In May 2014 the Northern bishops agreed that they would support a weekend of mission in each of the dioceses of the northern province (Archbishop of York) in turn. Bishops bring teams of people to support local parishes in holding outreach events. The first was held in Sheffield Diocese in September 2015, Diocese of Blackburn in September 2016, Durham Diocese in March 2017, followed by Newcastle in 2018.

Crown

The Crown is concerned with the Church of England in three ways (at least!). The monarch is the Supreme Head of that church; the Crown is involved in the appointment of bishops and other senior clergy; and a number of parishes have the Crown as patron. The function relating to appointments is largely in the hands of the Prime Minister's Secretary for appointments, who is also involved in the Crown's patronage. The broader position is spelled out in Article 37. See Articles of Religion.

Curate

The name most used for clergy when newly ordained to a parish. In fact, they are technically assistant curates, for the incumbent is the curate, acting as he does, on behalf of the bishop, who is responsible for the cure of souls in his diocese.

Deacon

At the successful conclusion of his training, an ordinand is made deacon to serve in a specific parish, usually for a three year appointment. He cannot, in fact, be made deacon without the promise of a post in a parish, and is said to serve his title there. After a year of such service, during which he will be undergoing post-ordination training, he will be ordained priest and will continue in the same parish until his period of contract is completed or extended. In his first year as deacon, the curate is not authorised to preside at a service of Holy Communion (that authority is given when he is ordained priest); nor is a deacon authorised to pronounce the absolution or blessing. Not all deacons proceed with ordination to the priesthood; some remain permanent deacons.

Dean

These come in various categories. Thus "rural dean" is a clergy person appointed to look after the clergy in a defined geographical area known as a deanery and also to preside, with a lay chairman, over the relevant deanery synod. In some dioceses the rural dean is known as the "area dean". "Dean" tout court refers to the clergyman who is the head of a cathedral chapter and in whom the affairs of the cathedral are focussed. Some cathedral deans are known as provosts. But there is one more – the Dean of the Arches – but he is so different as to warrant an entry of his own. Cathedral deans are addressed as "The Very Reverend the Dean of..."

Deanery

A geographical area in a diocese within which parishes are grouped for pastoral and administrative purposes under the care of a rural or area dean. Also, confusingly, the name given to the residence of a dean of a cathedral! The Diocese of Blackburn has fourteen deaneries

Deanery Synod

These consider matters concerning the Church of England, bring together the views of the parishes of the deanery and act as a channel of communication between parishes and Diocesan Synod. Deanery synods elect representatives to Diocesan Synod and General Synod. Membership is as follows: House of Clergy - All Clerks in Holy Orders (clergy) benefited or licensed by the Bishop who reside or work within the deanery. All Clerical members of the General or Diocesan Synods resident in the deanery. One or more Clerks in Holy Orders holding permission to officiate, one for every ten such Clerks resident or habitually worshipping in the deanery, elected or chosen from amongst their own number. House of Laity Lay members of the General and Diocesan Synods whose names are entered on the roll of any parish in the deanery. Deaconesses and other full-time lay workers licensed to work in any part of the deanery. Parochial representatives elected by the Annual Meetings of the parishes.

Dignitary

A rather horrible outdated word still sometimes used of senior clergy – canons, deans, archdeacons, bishops and archbishops, but the sooner it is dropped, the better.

Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC)

Advises on matters affecting churches and places of worship, such as architecture, archaeology, art and the history of places of worship, the use and care of places of worship, and their contents and the care of churchyards. The DAC advise the Archdeacons and Chancellor on the approval of faculties

Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee (DMPC)

Responsible for the task of approving pastoral reorganisation, taking account of available clergy numbers and making use of new patterns of ministry. It is also responsible for finding appropriate alternative uses for churches that are closed for public worship

Diocesan Secretary

Accountable to the chair of the Diocesan Board of Finance and acts as the Company secretary. In **Blackburn Diocese**, the Diocesan Secretary leads the Central Services teams including; finance, HR, safeguarding, communications.

Diocesan Synod

The role is to consider matters affecting the Church of England in the diocese, act as a forum for debate of Christian opinion on matters of religious or public interest, advise the bishop where requested, deal with matters referred by General Synod, agree the Parish Share Budget for the diocese, and select eligible persons to the Boards and Committees of the diocese. The synod usually meets three times per year. Membership comprises ex-officio members, including the Bishops, Archdeacons and general Synod representatives, clergy and lay members elected by their respective Houses in Deanery Synods, upto 5 persons each co-opted by the House of Clergy and Laity and a maximum of ten members nominated by the Diocesan Bishop. Elected members serve for three years.

Diocese

Some would regard the diocese as the primary unit of the Church of England. Others would put the parish in this position. Be that as it may, the diocese is a specific geographical area over which the bishop exercises his pastoral oversight. It is also known as a see. Here is a list of them with the dates of their foundation:

Bath and Wells 909 Exeter 1050 Ripon & Leeds (now West Yorkshire & The Dales) 1836

Birmingham 1905 Gloucester 1541 Rochester 604

Blackburn 1926 Guilford 1927 St Albans 1877

Bradford 1919 Hereford 676 St Edmundsbury & Ipswich 1914

Bristol 1542 Leicester 1926 Salisbury 1075

Canterbury 597 Lichfield 664 Sheffield 1914

Carlisle 1133 Lincoln 1072 Sodor & Man 446

Chelmsford 1914 Liverpool 1880 Southwark 1905

Chester 1541 London 314 Southwell & Nottingham 1884

Chichester 1070 Manchester 1847 Turo 1877

Coventry 1918 Newcastle 1882 Wakefield (now part of West Yorkshire & the Dales) 1888

Derby 1927 Norwich 1094 Winchester 676

Durham 635 Oxford 1542 Worcester 679

Ely 1109 Peterborough 1541 York 627

Europe 1980 Portsmouth 1927

Doctrine

The doctrine of the Church of England is well expressed in Canon A5, as follows: "The doctrine of the Church of England is grounded in the Holy Scriptures, and in such teaching of the ancient Fathers and Councils of the Church as are agreeable to the said Scriptures. In particular such doctrine is to be found in the Thirty Nine Articles of Religion, the Book of Common Prayer and the Ordinal".

Easter
One of the festivals at which every communicant member of the Church of England is expected to participate in a celebration of Holy Communion. It is the annual celebration of the bodily resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ from the dead, an event for which the evidence is overwhelming. Although focussed one Easter Sunday, Easter, like Christmas, is a season rather than a single day.
Ecclesiastic(al)
To do with the church. Thus ecclesiology is the study of the church – its theology, structures, governance and practices. Clergy are sometimes called ecclesiastics, often with derogatory implications.
Ecclesiology
Usually refers to the theological study of the Christian Church. The word was an English neologism of the later 1830s; however; and, within a few years, it was defined as the science of the building and decoration of church buildings; it may still be used in this sense.
Electoral Roll
This is the basic list in every parish of all those entitled to vote on elections within the Church of England. Those entitled to have their names on this roll have to be 16 years of age or more and they must reside in the relevant parish or be regular worshippers in church whose roll they wish to join. The roll is completely renewed every six years, at which point all members have to re-apply for membership or else their names will be deleted. By this means, the continuing validity of the roll is maintained.
Elements
The bread and wine used in the Holy Communion are known as the elements. The Church of England prescribes that both bread and wine should be received by both clergy and laity (see Article 30).
Enquirers' Courses
It is recognised that running regular enquirers'/nurture courses is a vital element in encouraging church health and growth. There are a number of courses that are available: Alpha - (Written by Holy Trinity, Brompton) Consists of a series of talks addressing key issues relating to the Christian faith, with emphasis on the Holy Spirit. Teaching is talk/DVD followed by discussion Christianity Explored - (Written by All Soul's, Langham Place) Seven sessions based on Mark's Gospel. Mixture of DVD and group discussion Emmas - (Developed in northern Parish). Fifteen session extensive discipleship programme including explanation and exploration Pilgrim - (Church of England) - Look at issues of faith by contemplation and discussion. Two stages 'Follow' and 'Grow'. Six sessions in each Start - (Leading Your Church in to Growth) Six session basic introduction based on Luke's Gospel. Mix of DVD, chat, discussion activities and reflection.
Eucharist
An alternative name for the Holy Communion service, meaning thanksgiving. More commonly used by high church believers than by evangelicals.
Evangelical
Used of people to describe those who hold a set of doctrines derived from the Scriptures. The doctrines include the inspiration and authority of the Scriptures, the Holy Trinity, the atonement and justification by faith, the divinity of Christ, the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, the bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ and his return to judge the world. Evangelicals have a high regard for Scripture, believe firmly in personal conversion and are active in spreading the gospel.
Evangelism
The active preaching of the gospel of salvation in Christ. An essential activity of the church, and one to which some Christians are individually called and for which they are individually gifted. In one sense, all Christians are called to be "ready to give an answer for the faith" and thus positively to act as witnesses to their Lord and this witness may well result in conversions. Evangelism is, however, proactive and deliberate rather than reactive.
Faculty
Faculty jurisdiction is the process that allows the Church of England to care for alterations to its buildings outside the secular Listed Building system. If a parish wishes to make alterations to the church, discussions must take place with the appropriate archdeacon. If the changes proposed are minor, the archdeacon himself can authorise them; if they are major, the proposals must be submitted to the Chancellor of the diocese who will authorise the work, if approved, by the issue of a legal document known as a faculty. The Chancellor will be advised on technical matters by the Diocesan Advisory Committee, a voluntary body, usually serviced by a member of the diocesan staff and having as members appropriate professionals such as architects, surveyors, and structural engineers. It is reckoned that this faculty system is more rigorous than the secular system it replaces; it certainly is a privilege the church is fortunate to deploy and is well worth using conscientiously. The system includes provision for the hearing of objections to the proposals and for their resolution.
Finance
The Church of England has two main sources of funds – that which is controlled by the Church Commissioners and that which comes from the regular – and, one hopes, generous – giving of its members. Other sources in the past included the income from tithe lands owned by individual parishes and parochial endowments and have been taken over centrally by the Church Commissioners.
Flowers
Where would the Church of England without the flowers that decorate its Holy Tables? And the flower arrangers that provide them? Much loving care and devotion to the Lord of the church goes into these weekly displays that serve to embellish the church's worship.
Flying bishops
These came into being in 1993/ at the time of approval of the ordination of women to the priesthood. Their official title is "Provincial Episcopal Visitors". Parishes were allowed to resolve not to accept the ministry of women priests and not to accept as their bishops any who were prepared to ordain women. Their pastoral oversight was to be provided by bishops whose episcopal care was exercised on a parish by parish basis rather than geographically. These bishops are known as flying bishops! There are two in the southern province and one in the northern.
Font
One of the four important pieces of furniture to be found in a church, the other three being the Holy table, the lectern and the pulpit. The font is the vessel (and its support) in which the water used in baptism is contained. Originally and symbolically it was situated near the main entrance, signifying its role in the admission of new members into the church.
Freehold
Once an incumbent has been appointed to a parish, he or she can be removed only on grounds of gross immorality or total pastoral breakdown. This tenure is known as "freehold", and is also enjoyed by the higher clergy. It is not enjoyed by a priest-in-charge of a parish in which presentation has been suspended. Freehold is said to give an incumbent independence, and to prevent his removal by, for example, a bishop for reasons other than those mentioned above. The existence of freehold is frequently under attack, as an outdated anomaly; there are many, however, who regard it as still necessary or, at least, desirable. As a result of prolonged discussion, the General Synod has passed the Ecclesiastical Offices (Terms of Service) Measure 2009, coming into effect on 31 January 2011, one of the consequences of which will be to remove the freehold for all new appointments after that date. See Common Tenure.
General Synod
For all practical purposes this is the governing body of the Church of England. It was set up under the Synodical Government Measure 1969. It consists of three houses – of bishops, of clergy and of laity. The house of bishops consists of all the diocesan bishops together with a number of suffragans elected by their colleagues. The other two – the House of Clergy and the House of Laity – are elected within the dioceses, whose representatives they are, the electorate being the deanery synods in each diocese. The number from each diocese is based on the total number on the electoral roll of the diocese. (As one would expect in a body like the Church of England, there are a number of extra – and ex-officio – members). Currently (2010) there are 53 bishops, 205 clergy and 207 laity. The synod meets two or three times a year, each time for a few days, and conducts practically all its business with all three houses meeting together. Only rarely do any of the houses meet separately. Usually the vote on any business is a vote of the synod as a whole, but there are arrangements for a vote to be taken by houses for a few specified types of motion or when this is asked for by the synod itself. In such cases, a motion, to be deemed to have been carried by the synod, has to be carried in all three houses. See also Convocations.
Gift Aid
a scheme enabling registered charities to reclaim tax on a donation made by a UK taxpayer, effectively increasing the amount of the donation (currently by 25%) from eligible donors (who need to pay at least the same amount of income or capital gains tax as the amount that is being claimed and complete a Gift Aid declaration form).
Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme (GASDS)
A charity may be able to claim 25% on cash donations of £20 or less, without a donor signing a Gift Aid declaration. Up to £1,250 can be claimed in a tax year (ie on donations of up to £5,000). From 6 April 2016, you can claim up to £2,000 in a tax year.
Group
With the decline in the number of ordained clergy, the Church of England has taken a number of steps to cope with the ensuing problems. These are enshrined in the Pastoral Measure 1968 and its successor in 1983. One of the steps was to give power to a diocese, subject to various procedures, to bring together specified parishes into a group. The aim was to encourage these to work together more closely, to pool resources as seemed wise, and to draw on one another's strengths. For their success they depend very much on the goodwill of the parishes concerned, and of course parishes do not like losing their independence. Where such goodwill exists and the resources of the group are not curtailed too much, groups are known to be successful and to save money. See also Team and Group Ministries Measure 1995.
Growth
What every incumbent longs for! And every bishop! Much time, energy and prayer have been expended at every level in the Church of England over many decades in efforts to achieve numerical growth, beginning with the ground-breaking report "Towards the Conversion of England" published at the end of the war in 1945. The object of much of the liturgical revision of the last thirty or forty years was the same – to make the church more user friendly. The decline in total numbers on the electoral rolls of the parishes has, however, continued, although many individual churches are growing. It is difficult, however, to identify a pattern for success in this regard. Faithfulness in preaching the gospel must remain the prime aim of the church, and faith that God in His sovereignty will honour that faithfulness in the ways He plans.
Henry VIII
Humanly speaking, one of the main instruments of the reformation in this country because of his disagreement with the Pope about his marital affairs. Perhaps a prime example of God's ability to turn the wrath of man to praise Him! 'Nuff said!
High Church

A label used to describe those who have a high view of the church and tend towards Roman Catholic doctrines. In practice, they tend to give greater weight to the authority of church tradition than to that of the Scriptures and are also described as anglo-catholic for this reason.

Holy Communion

The liturgical service which is a memorial of the institution of the Lord's supper by the Lord Jesus Christ on the night of His betrayal. Indeed, its alternative name is the Lord's supper. At present, full participation in it is restricted to those who are confirmed members of the Church of England or who, being baptised in the Name of Father, Son and Holy Ghost, are communicant members of denominations with which the Church of England is in full communion. The Book of Common Prayer requires communicant members to attend at least three times a year, one of these attendances being at Easter. Debate continues about the admission to this service of unconfirmed children who have been baptised, on the grounds that baptism is the only rite of admission into membership of the church that is laid down in the Scriptures.

Holy Eucharist

See Holy Communion

Host

from Latin: hostia, meaning "victim" (the consecrated bread)

House of Bishops

One of the three Houses of the General Synod. All members of the House of Bishops are members of the General Synod. The House of Bishops also meets separately from the Synod to discuss issues of episcopal ministry, mission and national issues affecting the Church of England. There are two types of bishop in the Church of England:

Diocesan bishops are the chief pastors of their diocese. An Archbishop is a diocesan bishop who has pastoral responsibility not only over his diocese, but also over a collection of dioceses called a province. Other bishops - primarily suffragan bishops but also some assistant bishops - are appointed to work with a diocesan bishop in the exercise of their pastoral responsibility for the diocese. Four suffragan bishops are Provincial Episcopal Visitors (also known as 'flying bishops') with a special responsibility to support parishes that have petitioned under the Episcopal Ministry Act of Synod 1993. In addition to meeting as part of the General Synod the House of Bishops meets normally twice a year in May and December.

House of Clergy

The General Synod has 467 members. It comprises the Convocations of Canterbury and York, joined together in a House of Bishops and a House of Clergy, to which is added a House of Laity. Membership of the House of Clergy comprises the Lower House of the Convocation of Canterbury and the Lower House of the Convocation of York joined into one House. It consists of clergy (other than bishops) who have been elected, appointed or chosen in accordance with Canon H 2 and the rules made under it (including deans, proctors from the dioceses, forces and university constituencies, and clerical members of religious communities) together with ex officio members and up to five co-opted members.

House of Laity

The House of Laity consists of members from each diocese of the two Provinces elected by lay members of the deanery synods (or annual meetings of the chaplaincies in the case of the Diocese in Europe) or chosen by and from the lay members of religious communities, together with ex officio members.

House of Lords

26 bishops of the Church of England sit in the House of Lords. Known as the Lords Spiritual, they read prayers at the start of each daily meeting and play a full and active role in the life and work of the Upper House. The Archbishops of Canterbury and York and the Bishops of London, Durham and Winchester are ex-officio members of the House of Lords. The remaining 21 places on the Bishops' Bench are not determined by diocese, but are occupied by those English diocesan bishops that have served the longest. They sit as individual Lords Spiritual, and as such they have much in common with the independent Crossbenchers and those who are not party-affiliated. Their presence in the Lords is an extension of their general vocation as bishops to preach God's word and to lead people in prayer. Bishops provide an important independent voice and spiritual insight to the work of the Upper House and, while they make no claims to direct representation, they seek to be a voice for all people of faith, not just Christians.

Hymns

The singing of hymns is a prominent constituent of worship services in the Church of England, as it is in the services of most denominations. It is one feature of church life that draws the denominations together, for in their denominational hymnbooks they make free use of one another's hymns. E.g. in the most recent edition of the Baptist Hymnal, a present-day Anglican bishop is the third most represented author. The first two are Charles Wesley, a Methodist, and Isaac Watts, a Congregationalist.

Incumbent

The general name given to the minister of a benefice, charged with the cure of souls in a parish. He/she may be entitled vicar or rector, or, in some circumstances, perpetual curate.

Intercessions

An important constituent of Anglican services, in which the needs of the world are brought before Almighty God and his blessing invoked. They are often made by lay people and can be a valuable way of involving them in the liturgy. Common Worship gives considerable freedom in the composition of intercessions, and to that extent encourages topicality. It is an important way of showing the relevance of the Christian faith to everyday life.

Initial Ministerial Education (IME)

Initial Ministerial Education (IME) for the clergy comprises the two to three years before ordination to the diaconate (known as IME Phase 1, formerly IME 1-3) and the years of the initial curacy (IME Phase 2, formerly IME 4-7). IME for licensed lay ministers (Readers) increasingly follows a similar pattern.

Installation

Name of the service in which a canon takes up a role in a cathedral. Cathedrals have seating called stalls in which the canon is literally in-stalled.

Interegnum

describes the time between a vicar leaving a parish or benefice and the appointment of their successor.

Jesus Shaped People

is a comprehensive and all-embracing programme - with resources for adults, children and young people. It can benefit a wide spectrum of churches, particularly those set in social housing estate communities. It builds on FIVE key priorities in the life and ministry of Jesus: PEOPLE, TEACHING, TEAM BUILDING, PRAYER, PROPHETIC CHALLENGE. The five priorities are explored through interactive small groups studies, dynamic preaching and lively worship. Each of the themes takes three weeks, making a fifteen-week programme in total.

Kerygma

Preaching or proclamation of the Christian gospel

Ladyewell, shrine of

Ladyewell is a shrine of our Lady, the Blessed Virgin Mary and Martyrs of Lancashire adorned with historical facts dating from 11th century. It has been a locus of contact between God and his people around the globe. It is a historical centre of pilgrimage that draws many pilgrims. It is located to the east of Preston, Lancashire

Laity

The collective noun for all the faithful members of the church who are not ordained! Apart from their attendance at services, the laity carry out an immense range of tasks related to the effective work of the church, and now have recognition within the governance of the church through the synodical structures that came into being with the passage of the Synodical Government Measure 1970.

Lambeth Palace

is the residence of the Archbishop of Canterbury in London - a place of huge historical importance, it's also where the Archbishop lives, works and prays.

Lambeth Quadrilateral

The common ecclesiological and theological basis of the Anglican faith. It upholds the Holy Scriptures as containing all things necessary for salvation; the Creeds (and in particular the Apostles' and Nicene) as a sufficient statement of faith; the Sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion; and the historic episcopate.

Leading Your Church in to Growth (LYCiG)

is a four day course for teaching, inspiring and equipping ordained and lay leaders. Now in its twentieth year, it is specifically designed for clergy and lay leaders from across different traditions and denominations who are looking for help and encouragement in leading their churches into growth. The course takes the form of an open seminar with interactive talks, practical exercises, workshops and time and space for personal reflection.

Lectern

The piece of furniture that was to be found in every church and from which the Scripture lessons were read at Morning and Evening Prayer. With the loosening of liturgical worship and the consequent re-ordering of the interiors of many churches, the lectern is not always to be found. (See also Pulpit).

Lectionary

An important constituent of every Anglican service is the reading of Scripture. The lectionary sets out to provide a list of readings that, if followed, cover most of the Bible over a three year cycle. They relate to the topics appointed for the Sundays throughout the year and also to the collects that are similarly prescribed.

Lessons

The rather outmoded name given in the Book of Common Prayer to the portions of Scripture to be read at services. The Alternative Service Book and Common Worship both use the word "reading", which is clearly to be preferred.

Liberal

The group within the Church of England that cannot accept that the Bible is inerrant and therefore its final authority. Nor can they accept the authority of tradition, as the catholic wing does. They look to human reason as the final authority, although taking full account of both Scripture and tradition. See also evangelical and catholic.

Licence

To officiate in a parish requires a licence from the appropriate bishop, whether as an incumbent or, for example, to preach, conduct weddings or funerals. Retired clergy often are licensed to officiate in the parishes to which they have retired.

Liturgy

<p>One of the characteristics – many would say strengths – of the Church of England is that its services are intended to have a recognisable structure – ie they are liturgical – and to that extent to be predictable. Indeed, in the days when the Book of Common Prayer was the only authorised source of all the services, a worshipper could attend a service in any parish church and find that the service was the same as that which he was used to in his own church. Common Worship (see Prayer Books) has so many possible compilations for every service – as a matter of deliberate policy – that it is most unlikely that a worshipper, visiting another church, will find the services identical with what he is accustomed to back home. Nevertheless, it provides a valuable flexibility and is in modern English, both gains for practical use. The General Synod has a liturgical commission whose purpose is to bring to the synod proposals for revision of existing services or for new services to meet new needs.</p>
<p>Living</p> <p>The term dates from the grant of benefices by bishops to clerics in holy orders as a reward for extraordinary services.[14] The holder of a benefice owns the "freehold" of the post (the church and the parsonage house) for life. Such a life freehold is now subject to certain constraints. To comply with European Regulations on atypical workers, the parson's freehold is to be phased out in favour of new conditions of service called "common tenure".</p>
<p>London</p> <p>The third diocese in seniority after Canterbury and York. Also the first diocese to delegate, by law, substantial Episcopal powers to suffragan bishops in terms of independent responsibility in their areas. It only covers London North of the Thames, and not all of that – Chelmsford and St Albans cover parts. London South of the Thames is mainly under the jurisdiction of Southwark.</p>
<p>Lord's Supper</p> <p>The basic name for what the Church of England usually calls Holy Communion. See also Eucharist.</p>
<p>Lord's Table</p> <p>One of the doctrinal changes introduced at the Reformation related to the Mass, which was no longer to be regarded as a re-enactment of the death of Christ on the cross. No longer was the minister to be regarded as a sacrificing priest. To make this as clear as possible, Cranmer in the new Book of Common Prayer removed all references to an altar, with its sacrificial connotation, and referred to that piece of furniture as the Lord's Table. It is the table on which the bread and wine are placed for the service of Holy Communion and at which the minister presides at that service. See also Articles 28 and 31.</p>
<p>Low church</p> <p>The antithesis of high church. Those of this persuasion place less emphasis on rites and ceremonies, and, more positively, look to the Scriptures as the source of their doctrine. Whilst high church is still in use, low church has become less in vogue; those of this persuasion do not downgrade the place of the church in God's economy.</p>
<p>Measure</p> <p>When General Synod passes a resolution that needs the force of law in order to take effect, it needs the final approval of Parliament. It is known as a Measure eg The Pastoral Measure 1968, and becomes part of the law of the land, enforceable, if necessary, by the courts.</p>
<p>Minster</p> <p>A large church, originally a mission centre in a diocese in the Saxon church, gradually superseded with the growth of population and the parish system. Some eg Southwell are now cathedrals.</p>
<p>Mission</p> <p>One talks about the mission of the church. Some mean, by this term, its evangelistic mission, in obedience to Christ's commission to his disciples. Others think of it in terms of helping to improve the lot of the poor and disadvantaged. It really covers these two inseparable objectives, which interact and provide mutual credibility.</p>
<p>Missionary</p> <p>An outdated term that used to be applied to those who were sent out from this country to convert the heathen! It is no longer acceptable and has been replaced by other terms such as "mission partners".</p>
<p>Mothers' Union</p> <p>Is an international Christian membership charity that aims to demonstrate the Christian faith in action through the transformation of communities worldwide. They are working with people of all faiths and none in 83 countries to promote stable marriage, family life and the protection of children through praying, enabling and campaigning. The aims and objectives are: To promote and support married life, To encourage parents in their role to develop the faith of their children, To maintain a worldwide fellowship of Christians united in prayer, worship and service, to promote conditions in society favourable to stable family life and the protection of children, To help those whose family life has met with adversity</p>
<p>National Church Institution (NCI)</p> <p>The National Church Institutions of The Church of England consists of seven distinct organisations, including the Archbishops' Council, the Church Commissioners for England and the Church of England Pensions Board. Each NCI has its own leadership team and culture.</p>
<p>Occasional Preacher</p> <p>People who have undergone a course of preparation (9 evenings or 3 Saturdays) and who have the Bishop's permission to preach up to 5 times a year in their own benefice under the guidance of the incumbent.</p>
<p>Ordinand</p> <p>A candidate for ordination</p>
<p>Ordinary</p> <p>An extraordinary word, used of archbishops and bishops because they have the exclusive right in their own persons to exercise ecclesiastical jurisdiction within the areas for which they are accountable. The last thing these people are is ordinary in the common meaning of the word!</p>
<p>Ordination</p> <p>This is the route by which a layman or lay woman becomes ordained into the ministry of the Church of England. Carried out by the bishop of the diocese in which the ordinand will be, or is, serving. The service is traditionally held in the diocesan cathedral in early July to coincide with Pentecost. Technically, only priests are ordained; deacons are "made", but the distinction is rarely observed these days.</p>
<p>Organist</p> <p>A person appointed to play the organ (in parishes where they have one!) and often as choirmaster as well. Such people are increasingly being referred to as "Director of Music". Often voluntary, they continue to provide an indispensable service to the worship of the church. Sadly, in cases where, on the appointment of an organist, a parish or an incumbent fail to agree a well-defined job description, friction can occur. There is now a measure that guides this important relationship.</p>
<p>Oxford Movement</p> <p>A movement that began in Oxford around 1833, partly as a reaction to the Evangelical revival of the preceding decades. It had as its main purpose a re-emphasis on Catholic doctrines and traditions which had become less prominent in the preceding century.</p>
<p>Parish</p> <p>For long thought to be the glory of the Church of England, the parish system still has many advantages. The whole country is covered by a system of individual parishes, each a defined geographical area, so that every member of the population lives in a parish and has, as a consequence, the right to be married in the parish church and to be ministered to by the incumbent of the parish. Conversely, the incumbent has the duty of ministering to the population of the parish. This made excellent sense when parishes were more or less self-contained, in the sense that the population lived, worked, made their recreation, were born, married and died within the same community. Even in the larger towns this made sense, but as a meaningful concept it began to show signs of strain during and after the Industrial Revolution. Nevertheless, the idea that every member of the population has a Church of England ordained man or woman responsible, at least in theory, for their spiritual welfare is a noble one and not lightly to be abandoned. The changed social structure allied to the shortage of ordained clergy has led to a number of initiatives intended to modify the simple parochial system in a manner intended to be helpful. (See Teams and groups; plurality; presentation, suspension of; Pastoral committees)</p>
<p>Parish Mission Support</p> <p>A team within the Diocese of Blackburn. exists to serve the churches and communities of Blackburn Diocese. The range of work covered by the department is represented by the 'Five Marks of Mission'. To proclaim the good news of the kingdom, To teach, baptize and nurture new believers, To respond to human need by loving service, To seek to transform unjust structures of society, To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the earth. These five marks can be summarised as Tell, Teach, Tend, Transform and Treasure.</p>
<p>Parish Share</p> <p>A request from the Diocese to a parish to fund a) parish clergy salary, national insurance and pensions, b) clergy housing c) central diocesan administrative and support services d) training of ordinands and curates e) national church. The share calculation method varies between dioceses. In the diocese of Blackburn there is a formula that takes account of a) what proportion of an incumbent a parish benefits from, b) regular weekly attendance (crude assessment of the 'ability to pay) and c) a socio-economic multiplier in the range 70-125 (requiring parishes in wealthier areas to pay more than the average). There is no legal or 'contractual obligation' on a parish to pay share. However, as this is the main income for a diocese, significant underpayment by parishes will ultimately lead to financial challenges (even if a diocese has significant reserves).</p>
<p>Parochial Church Council</p> <p>Since the passing of the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1921, the laity have had a formal place in the government of the church. This was confirmed in the Synodical Government Measure 1970, in which the procedures of election to a PCC and the powers of a PCC are spelled out: it is made clear that PCC and incumbent must cooperate in the running of a parish.</p>
<p>Parson</p> <p>Loosely used as a title for all parish clergy, but strictly only applicable to incumbents, who are the "personae" or local representatives of the church.</p>
<p>Pastoral Measure</p>

<p>This is the measure under which a number of possibilities are opened for the reorganisation of parishes. It is, to a large extent, a reaction to the diminishing number of ordained clergy and, therefore, of parish priests. Each diocese has the duty of electing a Pastoral Committee to which proposals for reorganisation have to be referred for discussion and, if deemed appropriate, recommended to the bishop. The possibilities include bringing parishes together in teams or groups, suspending the appointment of a new incumbent following a vacancy, or, as a consequence of reorganisation, making a church redundant. The committee consists of both clergy and laity and includes the bishop or his representative and the archdeacon in whose archdeaconry the proposed reorganisation lies. Certain recommendations of a Pastoral Committee have to be approved by the Privy Council before they can be effected. Reorganisation results, sometimes, in truly magnificent announcements like the following, from the "Church Times" of 13 August 2004: "The Revd XYZ, assistant curate in the Daventry, Ashby St Ledgers, Braunston, Catesby, Hellidon, Staverton, and Welton Team Ministry, to be Assistant Priest of Market Overton, remaining also Assistant Priest designate of Oakham with Hambleton and Egleton and Braunston with Brooke, with particular responsibility for Langham, Market Overton, and Ashwell (Peterborough)". See Pastoral Measure 1968 and Pastoral Measure 1983</p>
<p>Patron</p> <p>Every parish has its patron, who may be an individual, a corporate body, the bishop, the archbishop, the Crown. Who actually is the patron is a matter of the history of the parish and of its origins. Many originated as the giver of the church itself, their reward being the right to present the incumbent of the parish to the bishop for ordination. In these days, their most important remaining duty is the presentation of the individual selected to be the new incumbent of a parish when a vacancy occurs. In this situation the patron is joined by others – the bishop or his representative, the rural (or area) dean, a representative of the wider church, and two people chosen by the PCC of the parish under consideration. That group can decide how to go about their task – whether, for example, to advertise the vacancy, how to interview candidates – although there are some necessary steps on the way. For a full statement see Patronage (Benefices) Measure 1986.</p>
<p>Patronage</p> <p>This has to be dealt with, but I'm glad it comes well down the alphabet! It has been a source of concern within the Church of England for more than a century, but is quiescent at the moment. Patronage is essentially the exercise by the patron of his right to present the new incumbent of a parish for appointment by the diocesan bishop. A revision in 1980 of the arrangements then in force resulted in new arrangements that have proved more satisfactory in practice, not least in the involvement of the parish in the appointment process. Probably the more important gain is the requirement that, unless the patron is a communicant member of the Church of England or of a church in communion with it the patron must appoint someone who meets this requirement to act for him. There has been a widespread view that the whole ethos of patronage is out-dated (certainly if one were devising today a system for appointing clergy to parishes one would be most unlikely to arrive at the current system). The problem has always been to come up with any new arrangement that can command the support it would need to be accepted. Although it can no longer be sold, as it once could, the right of patronage is treated from a legal standpoint much like property; it can, for example, be bequeathed. See Patronage (Benefices) Measure 1986.</p>
<p>Peculiar</p> <p>Used of a church that is outside the parochial system, into which the vast majority of churches fit. Peculiars are practically all royal peculiars, the appointment of whose minister is directly in the hands of the Sovereign. Examples are Westminster Abbey and St George's Chapel, Windsor.</p>
<p>Petertide</p> <p>refers to the Sunday nearest to St Peter's Day on June 29th and to the period around that day. In the Anglican Church Petertide is the major one of two traditional periods for the ordination of new priests (the other being Michaelmas, around September 29th)</p>
<p>Plurality</p> <p>The Pastoral Measure 1968 made provision for an ordained minister to be the incumbent of more than one parish. The resulting situation is known as a plurality, but is resorted to as little as possible for obvious reasons.</p>
<p>Prayer books</p> <p>Note the plural! Once upon a time, only one prayer book was used throughout the Church of England and its use was compulsory. Fundamentally, it was the work of Archbishop Cranmer at the time of the Reformation, and was notable for its protestant theological basis, not only in the actual liturgy itself, but also in the rubrics (instructions to the officiant). Early in the twentieth century, steps were begun to modernise its language in order to make it more acceptable to the worshipper of that time. A revised prayer book (which, it must be said, as well as modernising the language moved back to pre-reformation theology) was drafted and put before Parliament for approval (before the advent of synodical government any changes in the doctrine and practices within the Church of England had to be approved by Parliament in order to become effective). The new prayer book (known as the 1928 prayer book) was, after heated debates, turned down and the possibility of modernisation had to wait another three decades. It became practicable with the establishment of synodical government, first in a series of so-called experimental services authorised for a specific period. These, after trial and amendment, were collected in the Alternative Service Book of 1980, now superseded, after further substantial liturgical revision, by Common Worship published in 2000. The Book of Common Prayer remains a defining document in the theology of the Church of England.</p>
<p>Prebendary</p> <p>In some cathedrals, the honorary canons are known as prebendaries.</p>
<p>Preferment</p> <p>A rather horrid word, used of the process by which a clergyman moves from being an incumbent to a "higher" role such as canon, archdeacon, dean or bishop. Mostly avoided these days.</p>
<p>Presentation, suspension of</p> <p>Another tool provided by the Pastoral Measure 1968 for use when a diocese is considering pastoral reorganisation in an area. Should a vacancy occur in one of the parishes under consideration, the diocesan Pastoral Committee may recommend suspension of presentation until the consideration is completed. The minister thus appointed is known as the priest-in-charge. Suspension of presentation retains a measure of flexibility in the situation that would be lost by the appointment of a new incumbent with the concomitant freehold. It must be said that the power to suspend presentation is viewed in a somewhat jaundiced manner by those who claim to have seen it used in a manipulative manner.</p>
<p>Priest</p> <p>A deacon becomes a priest after serving for one year as a curate</p>
<p>Priesting</p> <p>The service in which a deacon becomes a priest after serving for one year as a curate. The service is usually held in the curate's host parish in early July</p>
<p>Prime Minister</p> <p>Mentioned here because he is the mouthpiece of the Crown in appointments to incumbencies and to higher clergy. In these appointments he is aided by his Secretary for Appointments.</p>
<p>Protestant</p> <p>As distinct from catholic, one whose doctrine is that of the reformation, with its emphasis on justification by faith.</p>
<p>Province</p> <p>The Church of England is divided geographically into two provinces, that of Canterbury (the senior of the two) with 30 dioceses and that of York with 14. A province is the jurisdiction of an archbishop.</p>
<p>Psalms</p> <p>In the days when the Book of Common Prayer set the agenda for all the services of the church, there were appointed psalms for every service of Morning or Evening Prayer and the whole Psalter was covered in this way every month. Psalms play a much less part in the worship services today, although a number of modern hymns and songs are firmly based on them, if not metrical versions of them. As the hymnbook of the Old Testament, the psalms played an important part in Jewish worship and, arguably, still have much to offer for modern worship and, perhaps even more, for Christian spirituality.</p>
<p>Pulpit</p> <p>A once prominent item of church furniture, but much less so in modern churches and in older churches that have undergone refurbishment. The pulpit was the place from which the sermon was delivered, a constituent part of the services of the church that was regarded as sufficiently important to warrant having an item of furniture associated with it. For that reason, the pulpit raised the preacher above the congregation so that he could be heard more easily, and for the same reason some pulpits were equipped with sounding boards above them. See also font, Holy Table</p>
<p>Quota</p> <p>See parish share</p>
<p>Reader</p> <p>After undergoing appropriate rigorous training, lay people may be made "readers", an authorised office that entitles them, subject to the bishop's permission, to lead worship, preach, take funerals and carry out other functions usually performed by clergy. Readers are a vital source of ministry in these days of shortage of ordained clergy. Many parishes would not be able to function effectively without them.</p>
<p>Rector</p> <p>Historically, in parishes in which the great tithes were payable to the incumbent, the incumbent was termed the rector of the parish. See also vicar.</p>
<p>Reserved Sacrament</p> <p>During the Liturgy of the Eucharist, the elements of bread and wine are considered to have been changed into the veritable Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. The manner in which this occurs is referred to by the term transubstantiation, a theory of St. Thomas Aquinas, in the Roman Catholic Church. Members of the Orthodox, Lutheran, and Anglican communions also believe that Jesus Christ becomes really and truly present in the bread and wine, but they believe that the way in which this occurs must forever remain a sacred mystery. In many Christian churches some portion of the consecrated elements is set aside and reserved after the reception of the Holy Eucharist, referred to as the reserved sacrament. Common reasons for reserving the sacrament include for it to be taken to the ill or housebound,</p>
<p>Rubric</p> <p>A term associated with the Book of Common Prayer, it refers to the instructions that are interspersed in the actual liturgical content of services. They include, for example, guidance on whether the congregation should stand or sit or kneel at particular points in a service and all other necessary "stage directions". The word has largely dropped out of common use with the gradual disappearance of the use of the Book of Common Prayer. but more recent prayer books necessarily contain a minimum amount of such direction.</p>
<p>See</p> <p>An alternative name for a diocese. The word "see" comes from the Latin word "sedes", meaning "seat", which refers to the Episcopal throne (cathedra).</p>
<p>See, The</p> <p>The name of the monthly magazine produced by the Diocese of Blackburn available to parishes in paper form, or on-line</p>

Stipend
An incumbent has the free use of the parsonage house of his parish and is paid a regular income, known as a stipend. This is, in theory, enough to relieve him of financial anxiety without allowing him to live in luxury! Stipends are regulated nationally, as are the emoluments of all other clergy.
Stipendiary
One in receipt of a stipend.
Suffragan
An assistant bishop in a diocese, often given specific responsibility for a geographical area or area of work e.g hospitals.
Synod
A body of clergy and laity representing an appropriate electorate with powers of decision making in ecclesiastical matters. The Church of England has established synods at national, diocesan and deanery levels. See also Synodical government.
Synodical government
With the passing of the Synodical Government Measure 1970, the Church of England entered a new era, in which decision making, by and large, passed into the hands of clergy and laity acting in cooperation by way of a new hierarchy of bodies in which both were represented, in principle in equal numbers. At the national level is the General Synod, and at diocesan and deanery levels diocesan and deanery synods, each of which is discussed separately. Each synod consists of houses, whether of bishops or clergy or laity. The clergy and laity are elected by the appropriate constituency. Voting is mainly by the synod as a whole, but provision is made for voting by houses in which case a motion, to be passed, must be passed in all houses. A classic example of this occurred in a vote in the General Synod on a motion to abolish patronage, which failed only because of a tie in the House of Bishops; it was passed in the other two houses. (See Synodical Government Measure 1970)
Team
The Pastoral Measure 1970 provided for parishes in a specified area to be linked together as a team, and made arrangements for the appointment of a team rector and team vicars, whose responsibilities might be geographical or in terms of some form of specialisation. See also group. See also Team and Group Ministries Measure 1995.
Thanksgiving
In the services introduced by the Church of England in 2000 is one called "Thanksgiving for the Gift of a Child". The title is a bit of a mouthful, but as yet no one has come up with a reasonable, single-word alternative! It is designed to meet the needs of: parents who see this as a preliminary to Baptism; parents who do not wish their children to be baptised immediately; others, who do not wish for Baptism, but who recognise that something has happened for which they wish to give thanks to God. The service of Baptism puts duties on the Parents and Godparent of the person being baptised who may not be comfortable with these. The Baptism service requires agreement to pray for children, draw them by example into the community of faith, walk with them in the way of Christ and help them to take their place within the life and worship of the Church. Thanksgiving will be more appropriate for many parents who would like a service in church to commemorate the birth or adoption of their child.
Theological colleges
Full-time training for ordinands is provided in the Church of England by a number of independent theological colleges, each with its own governing body. The syllabuses to which they work must be approved by the General Synod's Board for Ministry, and they are inspected regularly by representatives of that body. The fees payable for the education of ordinands at these colleges come from central church funds. The colleges tend to represent one or other of the three streams of theological thinking referred to in the entry under authority above. There is pressure, varying in intensity from time to time, for the colleges to lose their independence, as part of a desire to reduce the effectiveness of these individual streams of thought. A list of the most frequently attended colleges is shown below.
Resurrection Muirfield
Cranmer, Durham
Carlisle Blackburn Training Institute (C BTI)
Lancashire Cumbria Training Partnership (LCTP) [ceased to operate in 2016]
Chichester
Ripon
St John's Nottingham
Trinity, Bristol
Oak Hill
Westcott House
Ridley, Oxford
All Saints
St Mellitus
Tithes
One of the ways in which new parishes used to be endowed was through the patron's provision of property – usually land – to be owned by the parish, which would then have the use of the ensuing income. The consequence of this was a considerable variation in parish incomes, depending on the value of the tithes, and a considerable variation in the stipends the clergy. This was rectified in 1936 when the ownership of all tithe land was transferred to the appropriate diocese and at the same time clergy were paid on a uniform national scale.
Titled post
Another name for curacy
United Benefice
A combination of two or more benefices
Vacancy
A post that is not currently filled
Vacancy in See
Name given when the diocesan bishop role is vacant
Vicar
The incumbent of most parishes is known as the vicar, originally because he was appointed to carry out the duties of the rector. This distinction is no longer applicable.
Vision 2026
Is the name of the Diocese of Blackburn Vision approved by Diocesan Synod in 2015. In 2026, the diocese will be 100 years old and the Bishop of Blackburn is keen to see growth of the Church of England in Lancashire during the years to 2026. The 'strapline' is 'Healthy Churches Transforming Communities'. We desire to make the Good News about Jesus Christ more widely known, because we believe: ☩ He is the One who brings 'life in all its fullness' ☩ Healthy church communities have a positive and transformative impact on our society. We will work together to achieve this by: Making disciples of Jesus Christ ☩ Knowing the Scriptures better through reading, teaching, preaching and study ☩ Praying with greater depth and urgency for the Kingdom of God to come ☩ Giving generously of our time, talents and money to the cause of Christ ☩ Being witnesses to Jesus Christ ☩ Sharing the Gospel of salvation with confidence ☩ Holding regular enquirers courses in as many local churches as possible ☩ Showing God's love in action through projects that meet a local human need ☩ Offering thorough and accessible Baptism preparation and follow-up ☩ Planting or renewing 50 new strategic congregations by 2026 Growing leaders for Jesus Christ ☩ Supporting and equipping the current leadership for today's context ☩ Enabling missional leadership in every Christian community ☩ Liberating lay leadership for greater participation ☩ Creating the varied patterns of Sunday and weekday worship necessary to welcome all kinds of people, especially the newcomer ☩ Prioritising work among children, young people and schools to raise up a new generation for Christ
Walsingham, Shrine
Walsingham (North Norfolk) became a major centre of (Catholic) pilgrimage. In 1061, according to the Walsingham legend, a Saxon noblewoman, Richeldis de Faverches, had a vision of the Virgin Mary in which she was instructed to build a replica of the house of the Holy Family in Nazareth in honour of the Annunciation.
York
The diocese whose bishop is next senior to the Archbishop of Canterbury and is, in fact, the Archbishop of York, with jurisdiction over the Northern province, which encompasses Blackburn Diocese
Youth
Much emphasis has been placed on the need, within the Church of England, to retain the interest and commitment of young people. Statistics show losses between the number of children involved in their early years and the number of teenagers still involved. There is a sad and substantial leakage after confirmation. A recent (2002) report submitted to the General Synod had suggestions for alleviating this. It was entitled "Good new for young people" and outlined a strategy designed to retain the interest of young people in their crucial years.