



Prior Knowledge

Rites of passage

These are significant points in life, often followed by a changed way of living.

Baptism

Holy water is put on baptised people by a church leader as a symbol of being cleansed and made ready for a new life for God.

Holy Communion

Christians make a promise to continue their life following God. Most Christians do this at 8/9 years old. It is where most Christians remember the body and blood of Jesus that was broken and poured at the Last Supper.

Marriage

A marriage is a public show of love and commitment.

Many Christian marriages have vows, promises, rings and a celebration with family and friends to show their commitment to God and each other.

New Knowledge

Why are rites of passage important in the life of a believer?

Rites of passage, such as baptisms, marriages and funerals, are held in local churches. Whole communities are often involved in these events and they're important to all Christians involved.



What is a Christian Confirmation?

When Christians are around 14, they are considered old enough to understand being a Christian so they are allowed to redo their baptism and re-join the church of their own choice. This is called a Confirmation.

Sponsor – a confirmed Christian who helps the person prepare for a confirmation.

Oil of Chrism – the Bishop makes a sign of the cross on the forehead.

Renewing Baptism vows/promises – Done again so the person confirming can agree to re-joining the church.



What happens at a Christian Funeral?

A funeral is where Christians can say a final goodbye to someone they have lost.

- **The entrance** – once the friends and family have arrived at the venue, people will carry the coffin to the room/burial site. A priest or minister will sprinkle holy water over the coffin or casket and read a passage from the bible.
- **Hymns, Psalms and prayers** – throughout the service there will likely be a number of hymns and prayer readings. These will have been picked by the family.
- **Mass** – a priest or minister will deliver Holy Communion. Not all Christian funerals will include a mass.
- **Rite of Committal** – this is performed by a priest or minister at the final resting place.
- **Burial** – here the friends and family are given the chance to say their final goodbyes.