

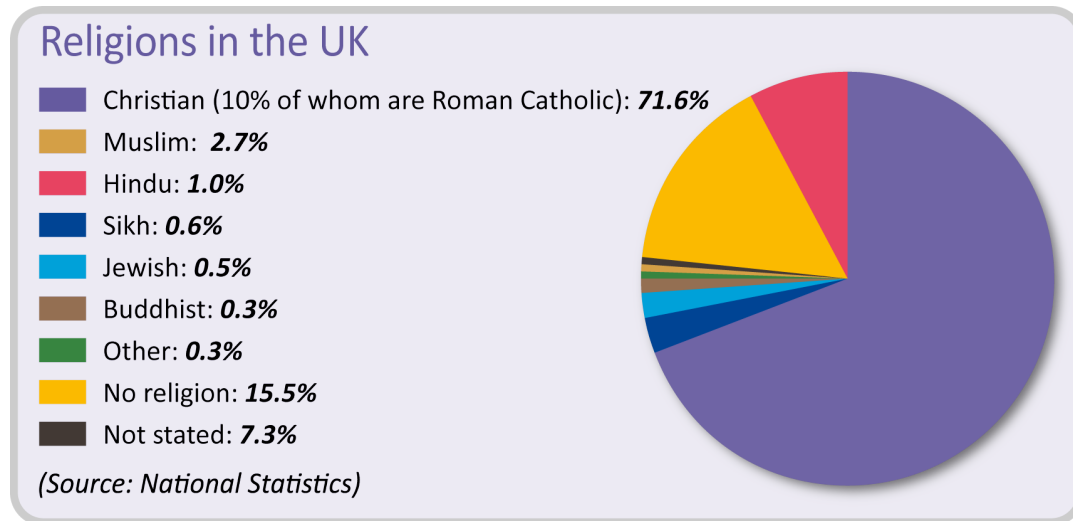
The Church of England, also known as The Anglican Church dates back to 1534 when King Henry VIII declared himself the head of the Church of England. Since then, the head of the church, along with the title Supreme Governor has been held by each King and Queen. The Church of England is described as Protestant.

The Church of England, also known as The Anglican Church dates back to 1534 when King Henry VIII declared himself the head of the Church of England. Since then, the head of the church, along with the title Supreme Governor has been held by each King and Queen. The Church of England is described as Protestant.

The spiritual leader of the Church is the Archbishop of Canterbury. The monarch has the right to choose the Archbishop of Canterbury but more usually, The Prime Minister and a committee appointed by the Church make the choice. The queen (monarch) is not allowed to marry anyone who is not Protestant.

- **Whilst the Church of England** is the recognised faith of England, there are many other religions and everyone has the freedom to practise their chosen religion or to have no religion at all (atheist).
- **There are also** other denominations belonging to the Protestant faith including Baptists, Methodists and Presbyterians. In Wales the main religions are Baptist and Methodist, whilst in Scotland, there are over a million members of the Presbyterian Church which is free from state control has no bishops and is governed by a series of courts and the most senior representative is the Moderator. In Northern Ireland, 40% of the population is Roman Catholic.

Religions and Festivals



Each region in the UK has a Patron Saint, which in the past were celebrated as holy days. These are:

England, St George's day = 23rd April
Northern Ireland, St Patrick's day = 17th March *
*{only this date is a public holiday in N. Ireland}
Scotland, St Andrew's day = 30 November
Wales, St David's day = 1st March

- **Additionally**, there are four public holidays a year called Bank Holidays. These are not religious festivals but banks, schools and some shops will close for the day.

Religious Festivals

- **Christmas is the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ.** Christmas Eve is on the 24th December and **Christmas Day is the 25th December.** Many families celebrate Christmas by exchanging gifts and decorating the house with festive lights and a Christmas tree. A lot of people attend church services at this time. Children love Christmas and as part of the celebrations, children believe that an old man, **Father Christmas (or Santa Claus)**, with a long, white beard, dressed in red will travel from the North Pole on his sleigh, driven by eight reindeer, to deliver presents to every child in the land. Relatives visit one another and eat a meal which traditionally, consists of turkey, followed by Christmas pudding. Sometimes people kiss under the mistletoe. Boxing Day, the 26th December is when tradesmen, gardeners and servants used to receive money or, a Christmas box in appreciation (thanks) for their hard work.
- **Easter celebrates the resurrection (rebirth) of Jesus Christ.** Having been put to death on the cross (crucified), Jesus later arose from the dead to prove to his followers, that life was ever lasting. Many devoted Christians believe that this is the most

important event in the Christian calendar. **Easter can take place at any point from March 22nd to April 25th.**

- **Easter Sunday** falls after the ecclesiastical (religious) full-moon. This bears the same astronomical relationship to the full moon that occurred at the time of Christ's resurrection.
- **Traditionally**, Easter is celebrated by giving Easter eggs, which do not have a specific religious link but are symbolic of new life.
- **Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent** and occurs 40 days before Easter. Lent represents the 40 days Jesus spent in the desert, where he was tempted by the Devil (Satan). Traditionally, Lent marks the season of fasting and prayer before Easter. In modern times, Christians will abstain (go without) a certain food, such as chocolate, for this period.
- **Shrove Tuesday (or Pancake Day)** is the day immediately before Ash Wednesday. This is when households used up tasty ingredients, before the start of Lent the following day.

These are the main Christian festivals. Other religious festivals are widely recognised and learned about in schools by children. These include: Eid Ul-Fitr, Divali and Yom Kippur.

Other Traditions

- **New Year is not a religious festival. New Year's Eve is the 31st December**, the last day of the calendar year. People traditionally celebrate the arrival of the New Year with parties. At the stroke of midnight, people cheer and a drink toast to the New Year. Some people carry out rituals to secure good luck in the family home for the forthcoming year. For example a piece of coal might be brought in to the house to represent warmth and shelter. In Scotland New Year is called Hogmanay.
- **Valentine's Day is on February the 14th.** Cards and gifts are sent by lovers. Sometimes a card might be sent unsigned from a secret admirer.
- **Mother's Day** (sometimes called (Mothering Sunday) takes place 3 weeks before Easter. Cards and flowers are given to mothers by their sons and daughters, even if they are adults as a symbol of love and gratitude.
- **April Fool's Day** falls on **April 1st**. People may play tricks and jokes on each other up until midday. Occasionally, the media (newspapers, radio and television) make up fake stories to fool people.
- **Halloween** takes place on **October 31st**. Children dress up in frightening costumes and pumpkins are carved into scary lanterns, traditionally thought to scare away evil spirits. Children might go to houses to play 'Trick or Treat' where usually they will be given sweets.
- **Bonfire Night (or Guy Fawkes Night)** takes place on **November 5th**. In **1605**, Guy Fawkes and a small group of Catholics, plotted to kill the King and blow up the Houses of Parliament. Soldiers arrested them before they could put their plans into action. Traditionally, families attend bonfires when sometimes a home-made figure or 'Guy' is burned and to watch fireworks to celebrate the gang being caught.



The capital of England is London which is built along the River Thames.

- **Remembrance Day** is held on the **11th November**. Traditionally, a two minutes silence is held at 11 am. This is because the First World War ended on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month (1918). Remembrance Day has become the time when all soldiers who have fought bravely to defend the UK are remembered. Artificial **poppies** are sold to raise money for veterans (retired/wounded survivors) and relatives of the men (and occasionally women), killed in combat.

In rural villages there are other traditions that take place and are dependent on the local members of the community, for example well-dressing and morris dancing (a traditional folk dance).

Sporting Events

Britain is very proud of its long standing tradition with sport and team events. The main annual events are as follows:

- **The Grand National**, which is a horse-race held at Aintree, Liverpool
- **Wimbledon** is a famous tennis tournament
- **The F.A Cup Final** is a famous football tournament
- **Rugby and cricket** are two other favourite team-sports
- **The Open Golf Championship**

Religions, Customs and Traditions Test Questions

1. Which is April Fools' Day?

- 1st April
- 11th April
- 15th April
- 31st April

2. Which of the following is a public holiday?

- St Valentines Day
- Boxing Day
- April Fool's Day
- Birthday

3. What Christmas dish is made from suet, dried fruit and spices?

- Yorkshire Pudding
- Dumplings
- Christmas Pudding



The spiritual leader of the Church is the Archbishop of Canterbury.

4. Who is the spiritual leader of the Church of England?

- The Peers
- The Queen
- The Archbishop of Canterbury
- The Pope

5. What is the established Church in Scotland?

- The Protestant Church
- The Presbyterian Church
- The Edinburgh Ecclesiastical
- The Church of Scotland

6. What do people do on the 1st April?

- Go horse-racing
- Attend church
- Play tricks on one another
- Make pancakes

7. How many Bank Holidays are there in the UK each year?

- 3
- 4

8. St David is the Patron Saint of?

- England
- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- Wales

9. What are the Grand National, FA Cup, the 'Open' and Wimbledon?

- Famous sporting events
- Shops in London
- Famous places
- Bank holidays

10. Where does Santa Claus come from?

- South Pole
- North Pole
- Poland
- Iceland

11. Why is Boxing Day so called?

- Sport, especially Boxing is played on this day
- Servants received money in a Christmas box
- All of the boxes that Christmas presents came in, are thrown away
- Everyone opens their Christmas presents

12. What percentage of the UK population stated that they were Christian?

- Over 60%
- Over 70%
- Over 80%
- Over 65%

13. Where is St Patrick's Day celebrated on the 17th of March?

- Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland
- England
- Scotland
- Wales

14. What is Bonfire Night sometimes called?

- Remembrance Day
- Guy Fawkes night which commemorates the Gunpowder Plot in 1605
- Fire work night
- Halloween

15. The story of Santa Claus originates from America and Canada:

- True
- False, it's from Germany, Holland and Sweden
- False, it's from Italy
- False, it's from Australia

16. Easter eggs symbolise new life and the coming of spring.

- True
- False

17. Where did the tradition of playing jokes on one another on April 1st originate?

- Germany
- France
- Holland
- Asia

18. Which group of people form the largest minority group?

- Indian
- Pakistani
- Black Caribbean
- Bangladeshi

19. When did the Gunpowder Plot take place?

- 5th November 1505
- 5th November 1605
- 5th November 1705
- 5th November 1805

20. What is Wimbledon Championships?

- Rugby Tournament
- Cricket Tournament
- Tennis Tournament
- Snooker Tournament

21. When is Mother's Day?

- The Sunday, 1 week after Easter
- The Sunday, 3 weeks before Easter
- The Sunday, 2 weeks before Easter
- The Sunday, 1 week before Easter

22. What percentage of the UK population is Buddhist?

- 0.3%
- 0.4%
- 0.5%
- 0.6%

23. What is the correct order of the National Days?

- St George's Day, St David's Day, St Patrick's Day, St Andrew's Day
- St David's Day, St Patrick's Day, St George's Day, St Andrew's Day
- St Patrick's Day, St David's Day, St Andrew's Day, St George's Day
- St David's Day, St Patrick's Day, St Andrew's Day, St George's Day



The queen (monarch) is not allowed to marry anyone who is not Protestant.

24. Remembrance Day, November 11th remembers those who died in both World Wars and in later conflicts.

True

False

25. What is the largest religion in the UK after Christianity?

Buddhism

Sikhism

Hinduism

Islam

26. What are the name and the date of the National Day of Wales?

St Andrew's Day, 30 November

St Francis's Day, 19 June

St George's Day, 23 April

St David's Day, 1 March

27. Compared to England and Wales, what ratio of People regularly attends Church in Scotland?

Almost twice as many

Almost triple the amount

Half as many

About the same

28. In the UK, what is the official church of the state?

The Church of England

The UK Church

The Catholic Church

None of these

29. New Year always occurs on January 1st in Britain.

Yes, that correct

No it's celebrated on the 1st December

30. The Grand National is a famous motor race.

True

False



*Christmas Eve is on the
24th December and Christmas
Day is the 25th December.*

31. When did the Anglican Church come into existence?

- 1299
- 1534
- 1699
- 1723

32. On St Valentine's Day, traditionally:

- Secret admirers give unsigned cards
- Boyfriends and girlfriends exchange cards and presents
- Husband and wives exchange cards and presents

33. What is Christmas day?

- The birth of Jesus Christ
- A non religious holiday
- The death and re-birth of Jesus Christ

34. What do couples traditionally do under the mistletoe?

- They exchange gifts
- They leave gifts for children
- They kiss
- They hug

35. What is Boxing Day?

- Refers to a time when servants used to receive money
- When people collect boxes to recycle
- When people watch boxing championship

36. Bank Holidays have no religious significance in the UK.

- True
- False

37. Remembrance Day is celebrated on:

- 1st November
- 11th November
- 24th November
- 25th November

38. According to the 2001 Census 75% of the UK population reported that they had a religion?

- True
- False

39. When is St Valentine's Day?

- January 1st
- 25 December
- February 14th

40. What is a New Years tradition in Scotland?

- Last footing
- First footing
- Door opening

41. People Serve _____ for the Christmas Dinner.

- Turkey
- Lamb
- Chicken
- Beef

42. According to some theories, on what folklore is the Father Christmas based?

- Irish folklore
- Dutch, German and Swedish settlers' folklore
- Welsh folklore
- Russian folklore

43. St Andrew's Day is the national day of _____ .

- England
- Scotland
- Wales

44. Who is the patron saint of England and on which date is the feast day?

- St George 23rd April
- St Patrick 17th March
- St David 1st March
- None of these

45. St David is the Patron Saint of?

- England
- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- Wales



***Easter** celebrates the resurrection (rebirth) of Jesus Christ.*

46. What time do people hold a two minute silence on Remembrance Day?

- 9am
- 10am
- 11am
- 12am

47. The Church of England is also called:

- The Scottish Church
- The Welsh Church
- The Anglican Church

48. What is New Year called in Scotland?

- Ground Hog Day
- Hogwarts
- Hogmanay

49. 2 seconds silence is observed on Remembrance Day.

- True
- False

50. What is the second largest religion in the UK?

- Islam
- Sikhism
- Judaism
- Hinduism

51. What percentage of the British population is Roman Catholic?

- 7%
- 10%
- 15%
- 19%

52. Who is the patron saint of Northern Ireland and on which date is the feast day?

- St Patrick 17th March
- St Andrew 17th March
- St David 25th September
- St George 1st October

53. What year did the first Census of the United Kingdom take place?

- 1801
- 1851
- 1861
- 1901

54. When is April Fools' Day?

- 1st April
- 11th April
- 15th April
- 31st April

55. Which of the following is a public holiday?

- St Valentines Day
- 1st January
- April Fool's Day
- Birthday

56. What is traditionally eaten at Christmas?

- Duck
- Turkey
- Pheasant

57. What is celebrated on 31st October?

- Guy Fawkes night
- Valentine's Day
- Halloween
- Remembrance Day

58. The 14th of February is Mother's Day.

- True
- False

59. What do people do on April 1st?

- Send cards
- Attend church
- Wear poppies
- Play tricks until 12 noon



Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent and occurs 40 days before Easter.

60. How many weeks before Easter is Mother's Day?

- 3
- 4

61. St David's Day (Wales) falls on which of these dates?

- 1st March
- 17th March
- 23rd April
- 30th November

62. When is Remembrance Day?

- July 4th
- 1st April
- 25th December
- 11th November

63. Who is Santa Claus?

- The English name for the Pope
- Another name for Father Christmas
- A German leader
- Another name for Guy Fawkes

64. When is Christmas Eve?

- 25th December
- 26th December
- 24th December
- 1st January

65. When might children dress up and go play 'trick or treat'?

- Bonfire night
- April Fool's Day
- Boxing Day
- Halloween

66. When is St Patrick's Day celebrated?

- 23rd April
- 17th March
- 30th November
- 1st March

67. What is Guy Fawkes Night sometimes called?

- Remembrance Day
- Bonfire night
- Fire work night
- Halloween

68. Traditionally Santa Claus wears a red outfit and has a long white beard.

- True
- False

69. Easter is another Christian festival.

- True
- False

70. What percentage of Chinese live in the UK?

- 0.4%
- 0.3%
- 0.2%
- 0.1%

71. 92% form what percentage of the UK population?


- Indian
- Pakistani
- Black Caribbean
- White British

72. 1.1 million _____ people live in the UK?

- Pakistani
- Indian
- Bangladeshi
- Black Caribbean

73. Where do the largest ethnic minority groups live?

- England
- Scotland
- Wales
- Northern Ireland



New Year is not a religious festival.
New Year's Eve is the **31st December**,
the last day of the calendar year.

74. What percentage of ethnic minority groups lives in Wales?

- 3%
- 2%
- Less than 1%
- 9%

75. What percentage of the UK population is Roman Catholic?

- 15%
- 0.4%
- 71%
- 10%

76. Which Patron Saints day comes last?

- St George's Day
- St Andrew's Day
- St Patrick's Day
- St David's Day

77. 15.5% of the population stated they did not have a religion.

- True
- False

78. What percentage of the population is Muslim?

- 15%
- 5%
- 2.7%
- Less than 2%

79. What are the name and the date of the National Day of Northern Ireland?

- St Andrew's Day, 30 November
- St Patrick's Day 17th March
- St George's Day, 23 April
- St David's Day, 1 March



Valentine's Day is on February the 14th. Cards and gifts are sent by lovers. Sometimes a card might be sent unsigned from a secret admirer.

80. In England the official church of the state is?

- The Anglican Church
- The Church of England

81. The Church of England is called The Anglican Church in other countries.

- True
- False

82. In the UK, what percentage of the population stated they were Jewish?

- 2.7%
- 5%
- 0.5%
- None of these

83. January the 1st is always New Year's Day.

- Yes, that is correct
- No it's celebrated on the 1st December

84. Wimbledon is a famous horse race held annually.

- True
- False

85. When did the Anglican Church come into existence?

- 1300's
- 1500's
- 1600's
- 1700's

86. St George is the Patron Saint of:

- Scotland
- Wales
- England

87. What is Boxing Day?

- The day after Christmas
- A sporting tournament
- The death and re-birth of Jesus Christ

88. What do couples exchange on Valentine's Day?

- They exchange gifts
- They leave gifts for children
- They send flowers to their mothers
- They kiss under the mistletoe

89. Who was Guy Fawkes?

- A Catholic who led the gun powder plot
- A friendly gentleman who brings gifts at Christmas
- A Patron Saint

90. Wimbledon is a tennis tournament.

- True
- False

91. Halloween is celebrated on:

- 30th November
- 1st April
- 31st October
- 25th November

92. According to the 2001 Census 75% of the UK population reported that they were Christian.

- True
- False

93. What is another name for New Year in Scotland?

- Mahogany
- Hogmanay
- Moghanay

94. People eat pancakes on Shrove Tuesday?

- True
- False



Britain is very proud of its long standing tradition with sport and team events

95. Hanukkah is a festival from which faith?

- Protestant
- Jewish
- Buddhist
- Catholic

96. St David is the Patron Saint of:

- England
- Scotland
- Wales

97. Who is the head or Supreme Governor, of the Church of England?

- The Prime Minister
- The Queen
- The Archbishop of Canterbury

98. The spiritual leader of the Church of England is:

- The Prime Minister
- The Queen
- The Archbishop of Canterbury

99. The Prime Minister and a committee appointed by the Church usually select the Archbishop.

- True
- False

100. What percentage of the population in Northern Ireland is Roman Catholic?

- 15%
- 40%
- 71%
- 10%

Answers:

1	April Fool's day
2	Boxing Day
3	Christmas pudding
4	The Archbishop of Canterbury
5	The Presbyterian Church
6	Play tricks
7	4 Bank Holidays
8	Wales
9	Famous sporting events
10	North Pole
11	Servants received money
12	Over 70%
13	N Ireland and the republic of Ireland
14	Guy Fawkes night
15	False, it is from Germany, Holland and Sweden
16	True
17	France
18	Indian
19	Hogmanay
20	5th November 1605
21	Famous Tennis Tournament
22	the Sunday three weeks before Easter
23	03%
24	St David's Day, St Patrick's Day, St George's Day, St Andrew's Day
25	True
26	Islam
27	St David's day 1st March
28	Almost twice as many
29	The Church of England
30	False
31	1534
32	Secret admirers give unsigned cards

33	The birth of Jesus Christ
34	They kiss
35	Refers to a time when servants used to receive money
36	True
37	11th November
38	True
39	14th February
40	First Footing
41	Turkey
42	Dutch, German and Swedish settlers' folklore
43	Scotland
44	St George 23rd April
45	Wales
46	11 am
47	The Anglican Church
48	Hogmanay
49	False
50	Islam
51	10%
52	St Patrick 17th March
53	1801
54	1st April
55	1st January
56	Turkey
57	Halloween
58	false
59	Play tricks until 12 noon
60	3 weeks
61	1st March
62	11th November
63	Another name for Father Christmas
64	24th December
65	Halloween
66	17th March

67	Bonfire night
68	True
69	True
70	04%
71	White British
72	Indian
73	England
74	2%
75	10%
76	St Andrew's Day
77	True
78	27%
79	St Patrick's Day 17th March
80	The Church of England
81	True
82	05%
83	Yes, that is correct
84	False
85	1500's
86	England
87	The day after Christmas
88	They exchange gifts
89	A Catholic who led the gun powder plot
90	True
91	31st October
92	False
93	Hogmanay
94	True
95	Jewish
96	Wales
97	The Queen
98	The Archbishop of Canterbury
99	True
100	40%