


<h1>S</h1>	<h1>SAINTS</h1>	<p>What's it all about? Holy people, saints: what makes them great? 'In a time of crisis, when hope seems lost, heroes will rise'. Are saints Christianity's superheroes? The word 'saint' means 'holy person' and in one sense all Christians are saints, believing that God makes them holy. But some are exceptional: there are over 10,000 examples recognised by the Catholic Church, some very famous, others only remembered locally in one place. Take an example or two to develop your understanding of the concept.</p> <p>Saint Francis of Assisi lived in Italy about 850 years ago, rejecting his family's wealth he followed Jesus into poverty. He sought peace with both animals and members of other religions.</p> <p>Julian of Norwich (a holy woman, born over 650 years ago in 1342) recorded her 'Revelations of Divine Love' after prayer led to her recovery of good health. Her visions are the earliest book written in English by a woman.</p> <p>England's Patron Saint, George, was originally from Lebanon, where he achieved fame as a dragon slayer. Other national Saints include Andrew, for Scotland, David, for Wales and Patrick, for Ireland. There are special days for Saint Valentine (Feb 14th) and Saint Nicholas (6th December, Santa!). Many Christians believe these saints are in heaven and can relay their prayers to God and help believers on earth. Tests for modern saints include living a good life and interceding with God for miracles. Tough tests, passed recently by Saint Teresa of Kolkata. So, does it make sense to call the Saints 'Christianity's superheroes'?</p>
 <p>Saints are the holy people of Christianity and often provide exemplars for Christians to copy and think about: they are role models.</p> <p>Is it true that all humans find inspiration from others?</p>	<p>Key Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do we all need role models and other humans to inspire us? • Are the Saints of Christianity more than role models? • How does a person become a Christian saint? • Do saints have to be perfect? • Sometimes a person who has been named as a saint is found to have done something wrong. What might happen then? • Who do you recognise as exemplary, a role model or an inspiration? 	<p>Classroom or homework tasks: Pick a saint, any saint... Select a saint (your teacher might narrow the choice a bit for you) and do a bit of research to find out about their life. Answer these 5 questions about them:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What made this person an exceptional Christian? 2. How did this person follow Jesus' teaching and example? 3. Why do you think this person is remembered today? 4. How might Christians in today's world be inspired by this life story? 5. What two questions would you like to ask this saint? <p>Your own sources of inspiration ~ pick three to compare Select three people – from history or alive today – who you admire a lot and say why you chose them. How do they compare to the saint you studied above? Similarities? Differences?</p> <p>Suggested outcomes: students can...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Give an informed account of the life and impact of a Christian saint. ▪ Give reasons for their views about role models and inspiring leaders. ▪ Handle information and ideas effectively by explaining similarities and differences between saints and their own chosen examples of inspiring people.
<p>Which religions and beliefs?</p> <p>Christianity</p> <p>Clip available here: www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/religious-education-ks3-a-z-of-religion-and-beliefs-s-is-for-saints/zfqdmfr</p>		

S is for Saints

In Catholic Christianity thousands of Saints are like spiritual role models, examples of how to follow God.

List seven saints and two facts about each from the programme:

A.

B.

C.

D.

E.

F.

G.

My chosen saint is:

Saint:

1. What made this person an exceptional Christian?
2. How did this person follow Jesus' teaching and example?
3. I think this person is remembered today because...
4. Christians in today's world might be inspired by this life story...
5. What two questions would you like to ask this saint?

Three people I admire:

Who do you recognise as exemplary, a role model or an inspiration?

Describe their life and justify your opinion of this person. Begin your essay here and continue on another page.