KS2 Christianity: Worship, Pilgrimage & Sacred Places



What is the great significance of the `Eucharist' to Christians?

ENQUIRE into the importance of Eucharist or 'giving thanks' to God for Christians How many ways are there to say thank you? Is it important to thank people?

Imagine it is Mother's Day – Sunday 14th March

How many ways could you say thank you to your mum?

Mum

Thank you for everything, for the kindest things you do.

> Thank you for being there, and putting me in front of you.

I wish I said it more, I Love You every day!

Can you say thank you without words?

Why is it important to remember? and showing me the way.

How would mum feel if you forgot?

How did Buzz Aldrin give thanks on the moon?

When Buzz Aldrin landed on the moon, he had something to open and get out. What do you think it was? His 'thank you' involved doing something. He gave thanks in a way that is very meaningful to many Christians.

What did he do?

Click <u>here</u> to watch a video and gather some ideas.



Communion on the Moon

Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin were the first men to walk on the moon in the Apollo 11 space mission. Michael Collins, the third member of the group, was in charge of the command module, essential for their return to earth, which circled the moon while Armstrong and Aldrin landed. The moon lander touched down at 3:17 Eastern Standard Time, Sunday July 20th, 1969.

Aldrin had brought with him a tiny communion kit, given to him by his church, which had a silver chalice and wine vial about the size of the tip of his finger. During the morning he radioed, "Houston, this is Eagle. This is the LM pilot speaking. I would like to request a few moments of silence. I would like to invite each person listening in, whoever or wherever he may be, to contemplate for a moment the events of the last few hours, and to give thanks in his own individual way."

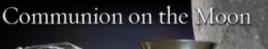
"In the radio blackout," he wrote later, "I opened the little plastic packages which contained the bread and the wine. I poured the wine into the chalice our church had given me. In the one-sixth gravity of the moon, the wine slowly curled and gracefully came up the side of the cup. Then I read the Scripture, 'I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever abides in me will bring forth much fruit."

Communion on the Moon

"I had intended to read my communion passage back to earth, but at the last minute Deke Slayton had requested that I not do this. NASA was already embroiled in a legal battle with Madelyn Murray O'Hare, the celebrated opponent of religion, over the Apollo 8 crew reading from Genesis while orbiting the moon at Christmas. I agreed reluctantly..." Houston This is Eagle

"Eagle's metal body creaked. I ate the tiny Host (wafer of bread) and swallowed the wine. I gave thanks for the intelligence and spirit that had brought two young pilots to the Sea

of Tranquillity. It was interesting for me to think: the very first liquid ever poured on the moon, and the very first food eaten there, were the communion elements."





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an geons said.

"I am the vine, you are the branches. Who can remain in me, and I in him, will been much fruit; for you can do nothing without me. "

When I consider the hearing, the work of the fingers, the moon and ll sters, which then has ordered; What is man, that they art mindful of him? and the Source New, that then visited

Why is the 'Eucharist' or 'communion' so important to Christians?

'Eucharist' means 'thanksgiving'; it is a church service when Christians give thanks for bread and wine in memory of Jesus. Another name is 'Holy Communion'. Click <u>here</u> to watch a video explaining about this.

Buzz could just have said a thank-you prayer but he took Holy Communion as his act of thanksgiving. The other astronaut showed respect but didn't join in.

- Why did Buzz believe Holy Communion was so important?
- Why did the other astronaut not join in?

Why is the 'Eucharist' or 'communion' so important to Christians?

TASK: The wine is served in a chalice. Your task is to design your own chalice that could be used for Holy Communion. Think about all the symbols or representations of Christianity that you could include. Here are some ideas:

