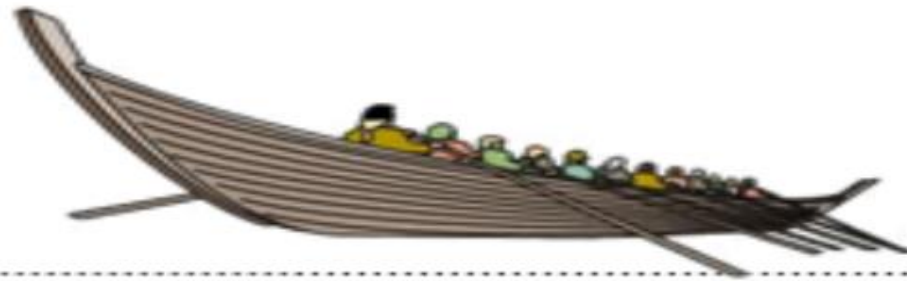


L.O. Describing the religious diversity of past society.



**Why did the Anglo-Saxons  
convert to Christianity?**





# **Christianity**

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- **In Roman Britain, many people had been Christians.**
- **After they left, Christianity continued in places where the Anglo-Saxons did not settle, such as Wales and the west.**
- **Christian monks such as St Patrick and St Columba taught the 'Celtic' form of the Christian religion.**





# **Christianity**

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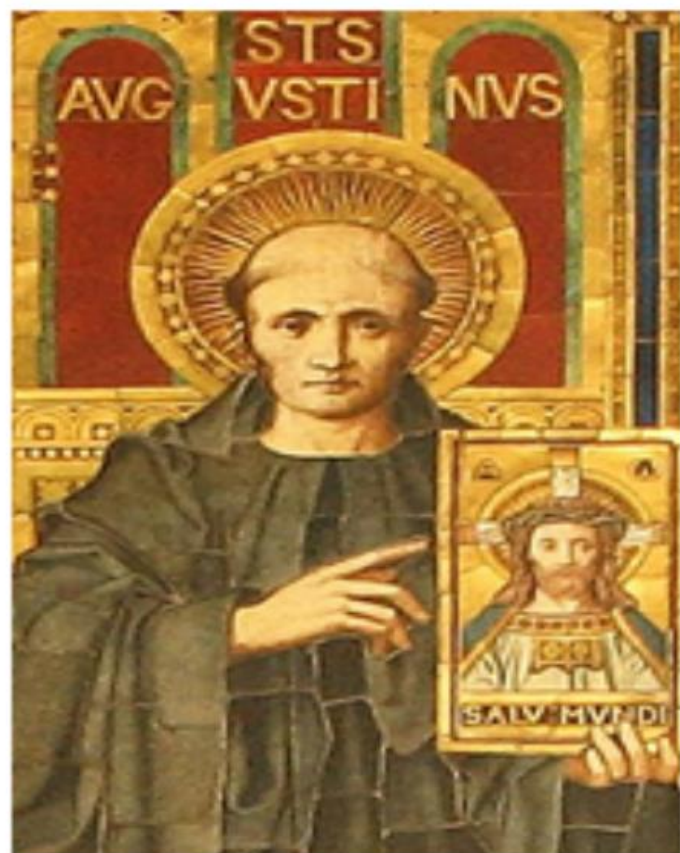
- **In AD597 the Pope in Rome decided it was time for the pagan Anglo-Saxons in Southern Britain heard about Christianity.**
- **He sent a monk called Augustine to Kent, to persuade the king, Ethelbert, to become a Christian.**
- **He was probably chosen as his wife was a Christian.**



# St Augustine



- **St Augustine was born in circa. 604.**
- **He was a prior at a monastery in Rome before he was chosen by the Pope to go to Britain.**







# **Christianity**

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- **According to legend, Augustine met King Ethelbert under an oak tree.**
- **When the oak was felled in the 1800s, it was replaced by a cross to commemorate the event.**
- **A nearby river was where Augustine is supposed to have performed his first baptism.**



# **Christianity**

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- **Within a year, Ethelbert had converted to Christianity, and although he did not force his people to do so, many of them were also baptised.**
- **Augustine become the first archbishop of Canterbury.**
- **Further missionaries brought Christianity to the rest of the Anglo-Saxon kingdoms.**





# **Christianity**

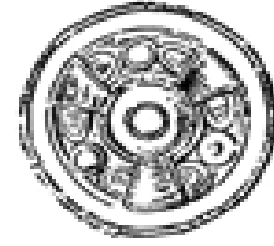
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- **Ethelbert gave Augustine land just outside the city of Canterbury, where he built a church and monastery.**
- **One purpose was to provide a home for Augustine and his brother monks.**
- **It was also to be used as a burial place for abbots, archbishops and kings of Kent.**
- **This is now know as St Augustine's Abbey.**



# Christianity



- **The Pope gave orders that pagan temples should be converted into Christian ones and that pagan celebrations should also be made into Christian ones.**
- **Over the next 100 years, many Anglo-Saxons turned to Christianity.**
- **Churches, usually built of wood, were built in Saxon villages all over Britain.**





# **Synod of Whitby**



- **In 664 the Synod of Whitby was held.**
- **It was here that the decision was made by the Anglo-Saxon kings to follow the Roman rather than Celtic practise.**
- **It was agreed that the church should answer to the Archbishop of Canterbury and Pope, rather than the local king.**



# Monasteries

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- **Monasteries were centres of learning, where monks and nuns spent their time in prayer, study and worked in fields and workshops.**
- **Monasteries were the only schools in Anglo-Saxon England.**
- **In the monasteries, monks copied out books by hand and decorated the pages in beautiful colours.**





# Task



- 
- **Using the information from the PowerPoint, complete the leaflet about the Anglo-Saxon conversion to Christianity.**



# Why did the Anglo-Saxons convert to Christianity?

L.O. Describing the religious diversity of past society.

## St Augustine



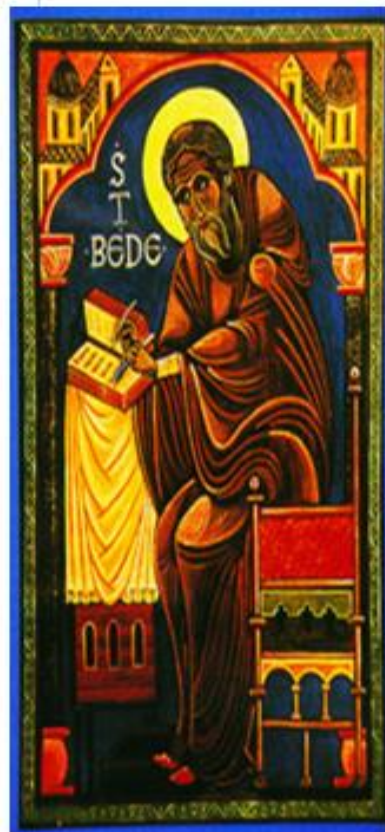
St Augustine was a \_\_\_\_\_ who was born in circa \_\_\_\_\_ AD. He was sent to \_\_\_\_\_ (by the Pope) to convince the King (\_\_\_\_\_) to convert to Christianity. He was chosen because his \_\_\_\_\_ was a Christian.

## St Augustine's Cross

Is a cross which marks the \_\_\_\_\_ where legend has it that St Augustine met \_\_\_\_\_ Ethelbert (under an \_\_\_\_\_ tree). He was baptised in a near by \_\_\_\_\_.

St Augustine's Abbey  
Ethelbert gave Augustine some \_\_\_\_\_ to build a monastery.

This was a \_\_\_\_\_ for monks to live and also a place where religious people would be b\_\_\_\_\_.



## How Britain Turned Christian

The Pope \_\_\_\_\_ that everyone should turn from \_\_\_\_\_ into Christians.

Over the next 100 \_\_\_\_\_, many Anglo-Saxons \_\_\_\_\_ to Christianity.

In 664, The Synod of W\_\_\_\_\_ was ordered. The Saxon Kings decided that Christian rather than Pagan practice would be \_\_\_\_\_.



# Why did the Anglo-Saxons convert to Christianity?

L.O. Describing the religious diversity of past society.

## St Augustine

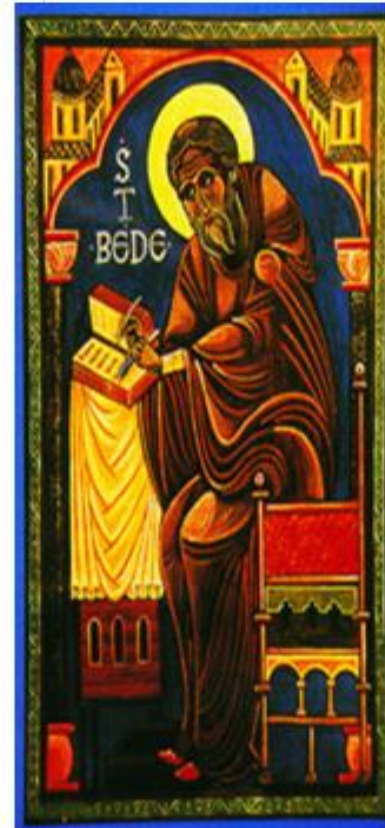


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St Augustine's Abbey  
Ethelbert gave Augustine some land to build a monastery. This was a place for monks to live and also a place where religious people would be baptised.



## How Britain Turned Christian

The Pope ordered that everyone should turn from Pagans into Christians.

Over the next 100 years, many Anglo-Saxons converted to Christianity.

In 664, The Synod of Whitby was ordered. The Saxon Kings decided that Christian rather than Pagan practice would be followed.

(or similar)

