HOLY COMMUNION

Christianity Practices

1. Which of the following is not a name for Holy Communion?

[1 mark]

- A) Eucharist
- B) Divine Community
- C) Mass
- D) The Lord's Support

2. Give two practices that happen at most Holy Communion services.

[2 marks]

Eating bread/drinking wine, prayer, singing hymns, reading from the Bible, a sermon

3. Explain two contrasting ways of celebrating Holy Communion.

[4 marks]

Catholic: bread is eaten, wine is drunk, prayers are said for the community, the world and the dead, the sign of peace is shared, three readings from the Bible are read and a Psalm and a homily

Orthodox: bread is chosen from the congregation and split into 4 parts. 3 parts are consecrated one is left to be divided and handed to church attenders on the way out. The priest says the prayers of consecration and distributes the bread and wine to Christians on a spoon

Anglican: Same as Catholic but no prayers for the dead

Non-Conformist: sometimes non-alcoholic wine. "Open table" so everyone is welcome. Bread is often passed around the congregation for Church members to tear a piece off. The wine is often in small cups

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4. Explain two ways that Christians could worship God in private.

[5 marks]

Praying privately> Jesus prayed in private> Jesus taught "when you pray, go into your room and close the door"

Reading the Bible> Studying it to hear God's voice> "All scripture is God-breathed" Singing songs to God at home etc

5. 'Holy Communion is the best way to worship God.'

[12 marks]

Some Christians agree:

You are obeying Jesus instructions "do this in memory of me". You are saying thank you for the crucifixion (Eucharist/thanksgiving). You are coming together as a body of believers, united by Jesus. You are recreating Jesus' death symbolically. Catholics believe in transubstantiation > the bread and wine become the body and blood of Christ> this means you are becoming one with him.

Some Christians disagree:

Jesus taught the most important commandment is "Love the Lord your God and love your neighbour as yourself" > it is more important to be loving to others> the sheep and the goats. It is more important what your heart is saying> you could go through the motions of communion without really believing it/ thanking God.