

## Timeline

1123	St. Bartholomew's hospital was opened in London.
1164	Henry II introduces the Constitutions of Clarendon.
1170	Thomas Becket is assassinated. The controversial points in the Constitutions of Clarendon are removed.
1174	Henry II walked barefoot to Canterbury Cathedral, allowing monks to punish him due to his involvement in the murder of Thomas Becket.
1300	There are over 12,000 monks in England.
1348	The Black Death begins in England killing one third of the population.

## Key People

<b>The Pope</b>	The Pope is the leader of the Catholic Church. He lives in Rome. In the Medieval Period, he would issue orders to be followed by priests which would change the lives of people in England. Henry II believed the Pope had too much power.
<b>Henry II</b>	Henry II became King of England in 1154 and died in 1189. He was responsible for the murder of Thomas Becket in 1170. He believed that the Church had too much power and wanted to challenge this.
<b>Thomas Beckett</b>	Thomas Becket became the Archbishop of Canterbury in 1162, but was murdered eight years later. He was good friends with Henry II before he became the Archbishop, but this relationship grew difficult due to Becket's religion.



Doom paintings from the medieval period showing life in Hell.

## Key Terms

<b>Medieval Period</b>	The Medieval Period is also known as the 'Middle Ages'. This was the period between the 5th century and the 15th century.
<b>Catholic Church</b>	The Catholic Church was the only form of Christianity in the Medieval Period. Also referred to as 'the Church.'
<b>Latin</b>	A language associated with the Romans. In the Medieval Period, the Bible was written in Latin.
<b>Priest</b>	A priest in the Medieval Period was a religious leader in charge of performing religious ceremonies.
<b>Parish</b>	England is divided into thousands of local areas by the Church. These are called parishes.
<b>Monk</b>	A member of a male-only religious community who vowed to live in poverty. They vowed to serve God.
<b>Monasteries</b>	A building occupied by a community of monks.
<b>Dissection</b>	The act of cutting into something to learn more. The human body was not allowed to be dissected during the Medieval Period due to the church.
<b>Constitutions of Clarendon</b>	A set of laws attempting to restrict the power of the Church in 1164. For example, they wanted to punish criminals in the King's court rather than the Religious Court.
<b>Archbishop of Canterbury</b>	In the Medieval Period, this was the leader of the Church in England. They took orders from the Pope.
<b>Tithe</b>	A payment made to a parish priest as a form of tax.
<b>Flagellants</b>	A person who whips themselves for religious purposes. During the Black Death, Flagellants wanted to whip themselves to avoid getting the plague.
<b>Last rights</b>	A religious service provided to people before they die.
<b>Lollards</b>	This was a group of people who believed that the Church should help people to live a life of poverty and live like Jesus.

## Importance of the Church

### 1. The Church in Everyday Life:

- Churches served as meeting places for towns and villages due to the poor conditions in homes.
- In 1066, there were around 1000 monks in England. By 1300, there were over 12,000.
- Villagers gave one-tenth of all the food they grew to the parish priest. This was known as the tithe.

### 2. The role of the Church in Medicine:

- The Church established around 700 hospitals between the years 1000 and 1500. These were ran by priests instead of doctors.
- The Church encouraged prayers instead of medicine to heal.
- The Church prevented the development of medicine by banning dissection.

### 3. Challenging the Church – The case of Thomas Becket:

- In 1164, Henry II introduced the Constitutions of Clarendon in an attempt to challenge the power of the Church.
- Thomas Becket, the Archbishop of Canterbury, was murdered by Knights who supported the King.

### 4. The Continuation of Church authority – The case of Thomas Becket:

- In 1173, Becket is made a Saint by the Pope and Pilgrims start to visit Becket's tomb. Stories of miracles at the tomb begin to appear.
- In 1174, to show he was sorry, Henry II walked barefoot to Canterbury Cathedral and allowed the monks to whip him.
- Henry had to give up on the Constitutions of Clarendon. He had failed to reduce the power of the Church.

### 5. The Church and Disease – Causes of the Black Death:

- People believe God was punishing people for their sins. This led to the rise of Flagellants.
- Church memberships rose as people went to pray for their soul every day to keep healthy.
- Priests administered last rights to the dying and brought comfort to the sick in their last days.

### 6. The Church and Disease – Effects of the Black Death:

- Over half of the Priests that administered last rights died as a result of it. This meant regular services could not be kept.
- The Black Death led to the rise of Lollards.
- The Flagellant movement continued despite the church opposing it. However, this was confined to very small groups of people.