BRITISH RELIGION

COUNTRIES IN BRITAIN

ENGLAND

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

The official religion of England is CHRISTIANITY, as practiced by the Church of England (Anglican).

HISTORY OF RELIGION IN ENGLAND

Britain used To be a Roman Catholic country.

In 1533, during the reign of Henry VIII, England broke from the Roman Catholic Church to form the Anglican Church.

Why did England become a Protestant country

Henry VIII, the king, wanted a divorce. He wanted a son and his wife only gave birth to daughters. He asked the Pope for permission to divorce, but was refused. Henry VIII became very angry and decided to make his own church.

Henry VIII became leader of the Church of England (Anglican Church). He had the Bible translated to English and the people who believed in this new religion were called **Protestants**.

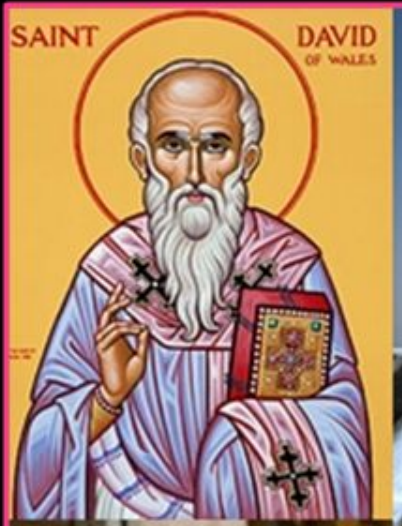
Back To being a Catholic Country

In 1553, Mary became Queen. She changed the country back to Catholicism and burned Protestants who wouldn't change at the stake (similar to a bonfire).

All change again

In 1558, Elizabeth became Queen. She changed the church back to Anglican and it has been the official religion of England since.

WALES



The church in Wales is also Anglican.

SCOTLAND

In Scotland, the official Church is the Presbyterian Church of Scotland.

Multi-Faith Society

Britain is a multi faith society in which everyone has the right to religious freedom. Although Britain is historically a Christian society. People are usually very tolerant towards the faiths of others and those who have no religious beliefs.

RELIGION IN BRITAIN TODAY

The Queen (the British Monarch) is the 'Supreme Governor of the Church of England'.

The main religion in Britain is Christianity. Most Christians belong to the Church of England or the Church of Scotland. These are Protestant Churches. There are also many Roman Catholics.

Although religious faith in Britain is predominantly Christian, most of the world's religions are also practiced. There are large Hindu, Jewish, Muslim and Sikh communities, and also smaller communities of Bahá'í, Buddhists, Jains, and Zoroastrians, as well as followers of new religious movements.

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