Key Concepts			
Punishment	The consequences or penalty for someone that has committed a crime.	**Absolutism**	The belief that there are certain actions which are always right or always wrong.
Sin	An act against God	**Relativism**	The belief that certain actions are right or wrong depending on the situation or circumstances.
Forgiveness	The act of pardoning someone for the offences they've caused you. Overlooking a person's faults.	**Eucharist**	Meaning "thanksgiving". The sacrament in which Roman Catholics remember the Last Supper.
Salvation	The belief that through Jesus' death and resurrection humanity has achieved the possibility of eternal life.	**Evangelisation**	Spreading the "Good News" which can be translated as "Gospel" The sharing of the Gospel and life of Jesus with others.

Internal & External Features of a church

Both the internal and external features of a Catholic Church are symbolic and represent different beliefs associated with the Catholic faith. The various objects that are found within a church building link to Catholic beliefs about salvation, redemption, life after death and forgiveness of sins. The design of the church building is also important as each church has common features that reflect their faith in God and Jesus.

Altar

Baptismal Font

Tabernacle

Crucifix

Lectern

Church

Internal Features of a church building	External Features of a church building
This **altar** is a table often made out of stone. The Eucharist, takes place at the altar. The priest **blesses the bread and wine** here. The "Altar" reminds Christians of the **sacrifice and death** of Jesus on the cross. The altar is also a table, reminding Catholics of the **Last Supper.**	Traditionally, churches **face towards the East**. For the first Christians, it was customary to pray facing toward the **Holy Land**, where Jesus was born, lived, died and rose again. Also the sun rises is the east and is a **reminder of the resurrection of Jesus bringing new life.**
Near the altar is a stand called a **'lectern' or 'ambo'**. It is from here that the priest, deacon or reader reads from. At the **Liturgy of the Word** scripture is read from here. Catholics believe that at mass they are nourished and fed by listening to the word of God.	It is also common for churches to be **cruciform (cross shaped).** This is to signify the importance of the death of Jesus that **achieved salvation.**
The **baptismal font** is a big stone bowl filled with water where baptism takes place. Baptism is the **first sacrament** by which a person **becomes a Christian.** During baptism a child has their **original sin** washed away and welcomes them into the body of Christ.	Churches are often very tall with **domes or vaulted ceilings.** This creates a space which is pointing up showing a connection with **God and heaven.**
A **tabernacle** is a safe-like place in which the **consecrated host (bread)** are kept. The host is stored here so that it can be taken to the sick and those who are unable to come to church. It is also a focus for **private prayer and devotion**. Catholics will **genuflect (go down on one knee),** towards the tabernacle in honour of the presence of Jesus.	Towers and steeples represent **prayer and worship** rising up to **heaven**, a sign of what takes place inside the building. Catholics believe that prayer and music helps raise **"our hearts and minds to God".**
In Catholic churches there is always a **crucifix**, a cross with an image of the crucified Christ on it. It is usually on or near the altar. It serves as a reminder of the **suffering and death of Jesus.** Catholics believe that the death of Jesus was the price he paid for their **salvation.**	Very often **stained glass** is used in churches. They usually display **stories from the Bible** or lives of the saints. Modern churches, after the 2nd Vatican Council, were all facing the altar so the congregation were more involved in the Mass. Some churches are now circular to show all can share in the Mass.

Exam Practice

c) Explain how Catholic beliefs about salvation influence the design of churches (8)