



How to ...

Be an Anglican

In true BBC style – ‘other Christian denominations are available’

The Anglican Communion

Today the Anglican Communion is 38 autonomous national and regional Churches plus six Extra Provincial Churches and dioceses; all of which are in Communion - in a reciprocal relationship - with the Archbishop of Canterbury, who is the Communion's spiritual head.

There is no Anglican central authority such as a pope. Each Church makes its own decisions in its own ways, guided by recommendations from the Lambeth Conference, Anglican Consultative Council, the Primates' Meeting and the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Anglicans and Episcopalians have always worked and worshipped together across national borders to support each others' lives and ministry. The insight, experience and wisdom contributed to joint endeavours by Anglican Communion members from all provinces means that the Communion can pack a real punch at national and international levels. Examples of such collaboration can be found in the Communion's Networks, in projects such as Anglican Witness, the Anglican Alliance, in its International Commission on Unity, Faith and Order and on the Anglican Communion News Service.

It has always been a strength of the Anglican Communion that such co-operation continues and flourishes despite significant disagreements on certain issues. Other Christian traditions look to the Anglican Communion to learn from its ability to have good disagreements. Projects such as Continuing Indaba and Living Reconciliation testify to how reconciliation is at the heart of our Communion.

You can find out more about **the Worldwide Anglican Communion** at:
<http://www.anglicancommunion.org/identity/about.aspx>

The Church of England

In England the Anglican Church is the Church of England. It has a vision to be a Christian presence in every community.

Further information about the Church of England can be found here:
<https://www.churchofengland.org/about-us.aspx>

The Diocese of Bristol

The Church of England comprises two Provinces, Canterbury and York. Each province is broken down into dioceses. There are 41 in England (42 including the Diocese in Europe). Each of the English dioceses has a structure of boards and councils responsible for different aspects of the Church's work, e.g. Ministry, Mission, Education, Social Responsibility.

Information about the Diocese of Bristol can be found on our website www.bristol.anglican.org

What does it mean to ‘be an Anglican’

The following page on the CofE website includes links to information on the history of the Anglican church and an article on what being an Anglican means to the Archbishop of York.

<https://www.churchofengland.org/our-faith/being-an-anglican.aspx>

Attending an Anglican Church

You can find a church near you by searching the A Church Near You website which currently lists 16,500 churches and 53,000 services: <http://www.achurchnearyou.com/>

Once you have found a church you can find out more about it and its services by visiting their website or getting in touch with the clergy at the church.

Further Links

Here are some additional links providing information about Anglicans and what they believe:

<http://anglicansonline.org/basics/>

http://franciscan-anglican.com/An_Explanation_and_Guide_to_Anglicanism.pdf

<http://christianity.org.uk/>

<http://www.itsjesus.com/>

Finally

You can find out more about churches within the Diocese of Bristol by following us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [Youtube](#).

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