

Artefacts:

Sarcophagi:

Expresses Passion narrative, helps people identify with suffering of Christ in last rites

Reinforces Jesus' 'victory over death'

Symbolisms:

Romans giving Jesus a crown, mocking him as 'king of the Jews' was reclaimed to denote Jesus' victory over death

Pilate washes his hands to retract responsibility associated with killing the son of God

Eagle & God of Jupiter = victory over death, 'light overpowering sin'

Paschal candle:

Lit in Easter service 2 commemorate Jesus' triumph over death till Pentecost and in baptism using holy water as they both cleanse of original sin

Symbolisms:

Flame: 'light of Christ' overcoming the 'darkness of sin' via the atonement

Alpha & Omega: eternal nature of Christ

Year: marked with current year, Jesus is eternal (Revelations)

Cross: faith in the resurrection

Both denote hope of life after death and in turn the net good of the atonement. Allude to resurrection at the end of time, catholics too will share Jesus' 'victory over death.'

But Sarcophagi was more popular when literacy rate was low, now less commonly used.

Funerals are celebratory

Catholics agree:

Faure's Requiem expresses death as a 'happy deliverance', reflecting the tranquility of life's trials being left behind

Cross on coffin denotes impact of the atonement, gives hope for we too will 'share Jesus' 'victory over death'

Song of the Angels: 'the angels will lead you to the bosom of Abraham where Lazarus is poor no longer': draws parallels with the Old Testament showing the power of the new & eternal covenant, references particular judgement, upholds Beatitudes: 'poor in spirit will inherit the kingdom of God'

Jews disagree:

Solemn time; shirts are ripped, denoting immense grief (like Jacob did in Genesis)

Shiva morning period reflects immense grief as no: parties or reading of the Torah (for it rejoices the heart) is permitted
No flowers at tombs (signify life), instead rocks (like Abraham did for his wife Sarah)

Little Torah commentary about olam ha ba, one's fate is sealed regarding the resurrection in the Messianic age

Conclusion: agree, memories of people live on through their deeds. Grievers find comfort in the prospect of eternal rest for the deceased ('requiem' = rest!)

Music is the best way to reflect on life after death:

Agree:

Faure's requiem describes death as a 'happy deliverance', in which one feels the tranquility of life's trials being left behind

Song of the Angels: 'carried to the bosom of Abraham where Lazarus is poor no longer', alludes to particular judgement (hope in the resurrection in which man will share Jesus' 'victory over death') & upholds the 'new and eternal covenant', solidifying the net good generated by the atonement

Disagree:

Funeral symbolisms express belief in the resurrection, functioning as a source of hope for grievers

Symbolisms:

Cross: belief in the atonement & the salvation that arose from it

Paschal candle: Jesus is the light that 'overpowered sin', we too shall share Jesus' 'victory over death'

Pall covers coffin: alludes to particular judgement at the hands of a God 'abounding in mercy and steadfast love', we are all equal in death before the eyes of God

Conclusion: music is the ultimate vehicle of expression for the grief associated with the death of loved ones, it expresses the otherwise inexpressible depth of loss many are accustomed to whilst professing a belief in the immortality of the soul

Catholics have to evangelise in a multi faith society

Agree:

Matthew: 'make disciples of all nations' through the Great Commission

Pope Francis' 2013 Evangelium Vitae = joy of the gospel

Duty to extend salvation to all by spreading the gospel, St Cyprian talks about the 'necessity of faith' in attaining salvation

Disagree:

Religious pluralism in society is on the up according to Census reports, forcing beliefs upon others can lead to religious intolerance & tension Should focus on spreading the gospel through the works of CAFOD as the 'church is poor and for the poor'

CCC 847: 'seek God out with a sincere heart' = still worthy of salvation if you're not Catholic