

The Coronation of King Charles III

6 May 2023



1. As the pupils enter

Have the [webpage open](#). Play the mp3 file of [Zadok the Priest](#).

2. Introduction

Today we are finding out about the coronation of King Charles III on 6 May 2023. The coronation is the special event at which Charles was be crowned king. It is a ceremony rooted in long-standing traditions that has great significance for the history of the UK. As you watch the video, try to remember any facts you hear, and also think about why the coronation is important.

3. Play the video

Duration: 4' 26". Final words: '...as I have, throughout my life.'

4. Time to talk

You could begin with some factual questions about the coronation to aid pupils' recall of the video and their understanding of it:

- *When did the coronation happen?* (6 May 2023)
- *How old is the coronation chair?* (Over 700 years old)
- *How heavy is the St Edward's Crown?* (Over 2kg!)
- *What did the Archbishop of Canterbury do during the ceremony?* (Anointed King Charles and placed the crown on his head)
- *What does the 'coronation regalia' include?* (The orb and sceptre)
- *What events happened to celebrate the coronation?* (A concert at Windsor Castle; the Coronation Big Lunch; the Big Help Out)

You could then invite a broader consideration of the significance of the coronation by asking:

- *What are the monarch's responsibilities? Why is the monarch important?* (Look for an awareness that the monarch has a role in government, both in the UK and in some other common-wealth countries around the world, and is a figurehead. Pupils may also suggest things specific to King Charles, such as doing important work with charities or raising awareness of environmental issues or meeting people across the UK.)
- *Why do you think the coronation follows traditions that stretch back several hundred years?*
- *Why do you think the importance of 'community' was celebrated across the coronation weekend? What would you like to do in your local community?* (You could use this as an opportunity to discuss school / local events.)



[Webpage with video](#)

5. Opportunity to sing

An opportunity to sing your chosen song. Suggestions on the webpage.

6. Opportunity to reflect

Much about the King Charles's coronation was the same as previous coronations, because so much of the ceremony followed ancient traditions... But much about his coronation was quite different...not least because technology allowed more people to share in the event than ever before... The coronation was an opportunity to celebrate and to connect with our local community. Think how you might like to help in your our community... For Charles the coronation marked the day when he was crowned king... But it also marked a new new chapter in the history of our country: a new era for us all.

7. Opportunity for prayer

Use your usual form of address and:
*We thank you for King Charles III.
As we think about his coronation, help us to appreciate both the traditions of our communities and the new ways we can connect with each other.
We thank you for the opportunity to spend time with our families and communities in this new era for our country. Amen.*