

# Medieval Christian Church



What role did the Church play in the  
lives of regular people during the  
Middle Ages?

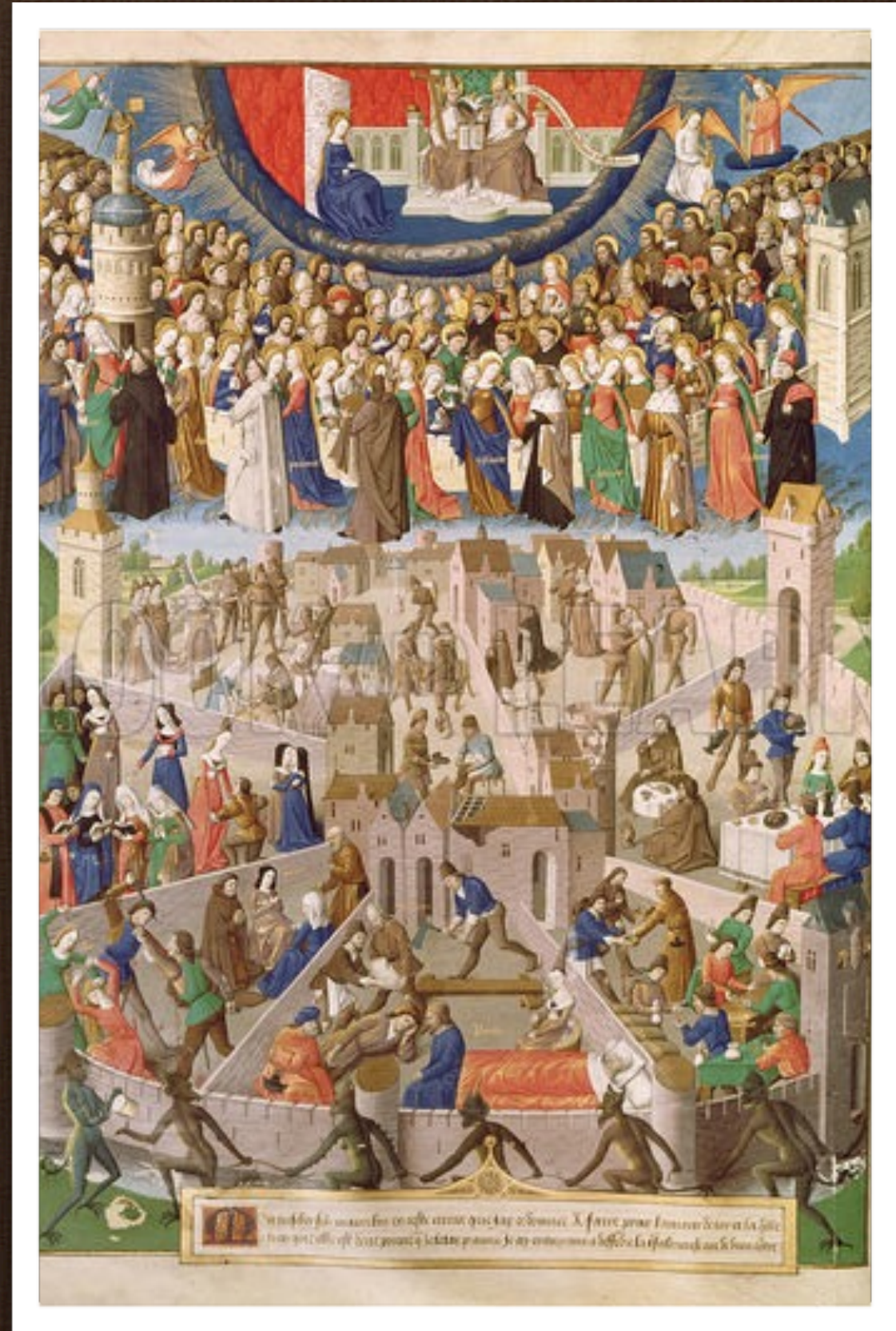


# I. *Medieval Church Practices*



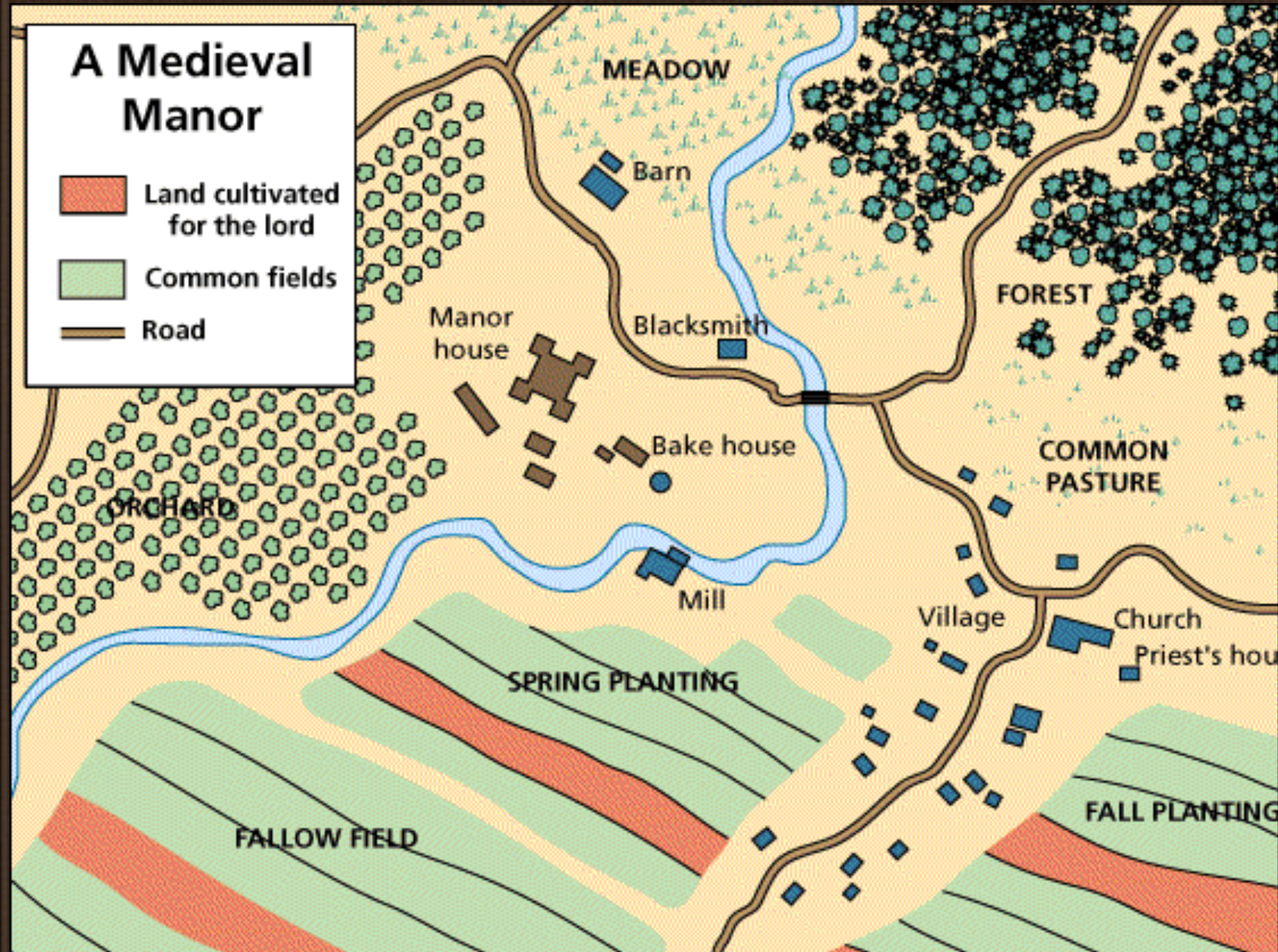
# A. Continues to Spread

1. Life was hard and short—  
“City of God” was appealing
2. Nearly all of Western Europe was Christian by 800 C.E.





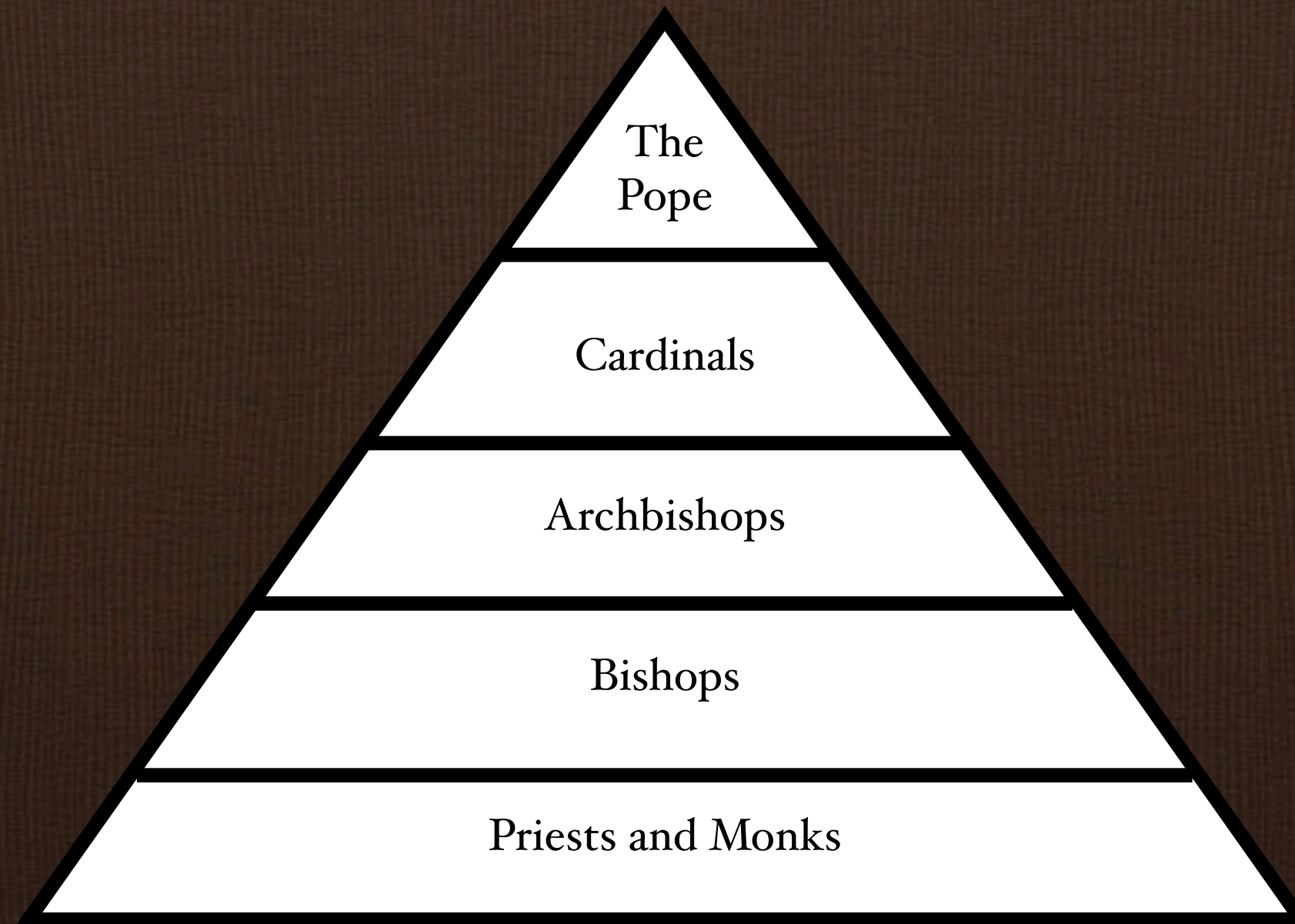
# B. Christian life



1. Birth, marriage, and death all associated with the church
2. taught basic prayers and went to church at least every week
3. Follow church law
4. Paid a "tithe" (tax) to the church in order to be promised entry to heaven



# C. Power of the Medieval Church





# C. Power of the Medieval Church

1. Receive all kinds of gifts land, animals, money, crops, anything of value
2. Excommunication – Exclusion from the Church, including sacraments, prayers, and privileges
3. Popes could influence kings
4. Heresy – going against the Church
  - i. Illness – punishment from God



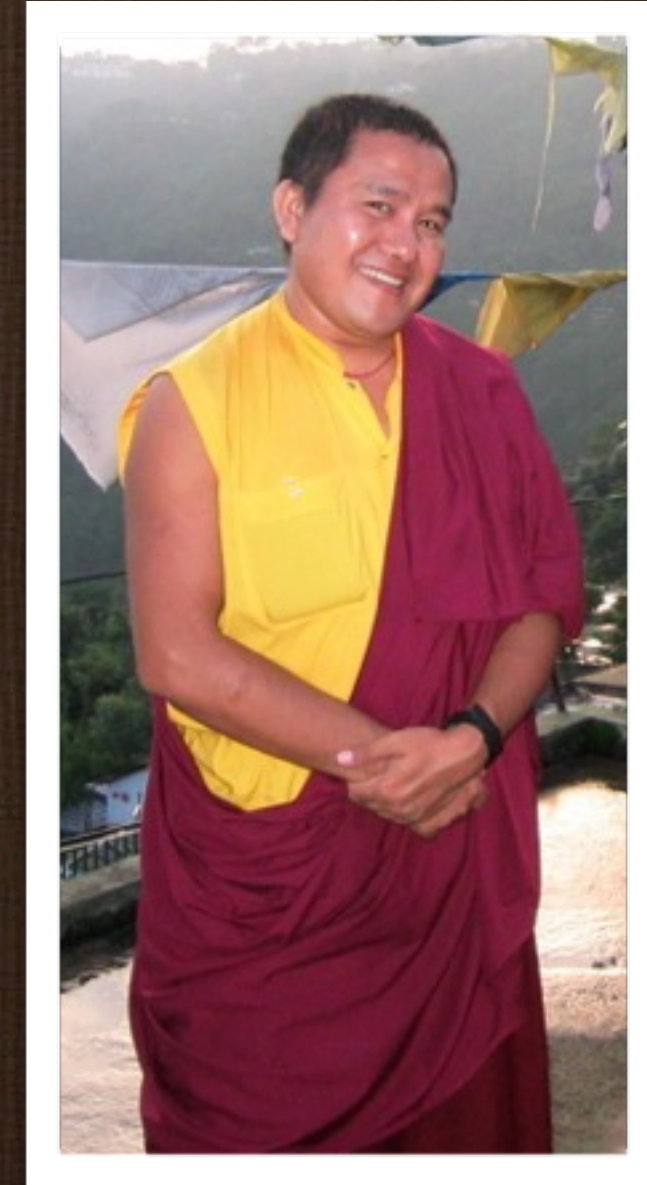


What is the significance of monasteries and convents in the Early Middle Ages?



## II. Monasticism

A. Monk: a member of a religious community of men typically living under vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience.





Why did people become monks?

*“Monasticism replaced martyrdom as the most perfect way to imitate Christ and confess one’s faith.”*

-Western Heritage, p. 207



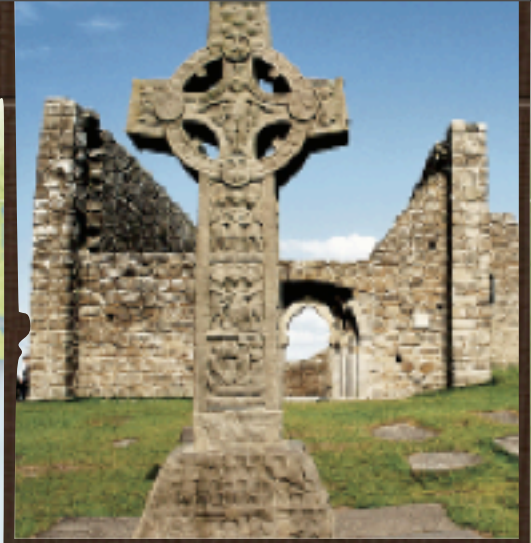
# MISSIONARIES AND MONASTERIES IN EUROPE



- Monastery
- c. 539 Date of monastery's founding
- ➔ Route of missionary
- (c. 863) Date of missionary's journey



Benedict of Nursia, who created the Benedictine Rule, is shown praying with monks in this painting from the 1500s.



Celtic monasteries were famed for their strictness, scholarship, and missionary efforts.





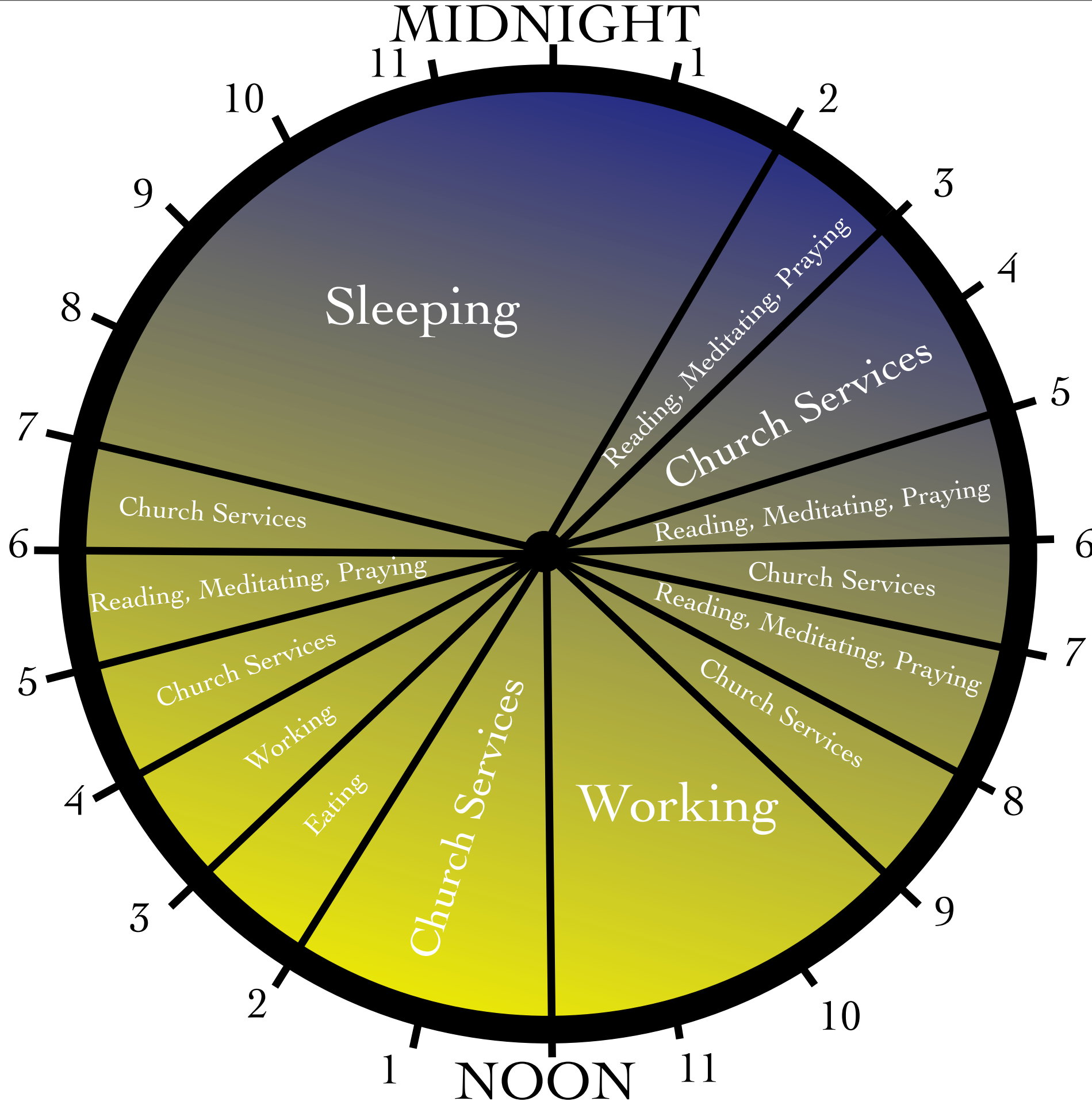
## B. Information about Medieval Monks



1. Life apart from society based on labor, worship, and scholarship
2. only education in the Middle Ages
  - a) copied ancient manuscripts by hand
  - b) trained the only readers/writers
  - c) leaders became political advisors



# E. Benedictine Monks



1. What time did a Benedictine monk get up in the morning?
2. At what time did a monk go to sleep in the evening?
3. How much time did a monk spend sleeping?
4. According to the "clock," how many meals did a monk eat in one day?
5. During what hours did a monk work?
6. What did a monk do when he first arose in the morning?