

Contents

Introduction 7

1 In the beginning – Christianity in Roman and Saxon London 13

Roman London * South-east England in the 5th to 7th centuries AD * St Paul's Cathedral, AD 604–1087 * Lundenwic and its churches * Barking Abbey * Lundenburh: the reoccupation of the Roman town * The emergence of local churches * Westminster Abbey

2 Church, synagogue and people – Londoners and their places of worship 33

The religious landscape * Judaism * Religion in daily life * St Paul's Cathedral – Old St Paul's * Discovering parish churches * Civic and corporate chapels * Private chapels and palaces * Personal religion

3 Sacred spaces – London's monasteries 63

Medieval monasteries * Monks and canons * Nuns and sisters * The appearance of monastic buildings * 'Our Daily Bread': evidence of food and diet in monastic houses * The arrival of the friars * Declining standards

4 Hospitals and hospitality – charitable care in London 83

The role of the medieval hospital * Hospitals in London * St Mary Spital * Caring for guests and other forms of charity

5 The Crusades and Military Orders 95

The Crusades and their impact * The Knights Templar * The Knights Hospitaller * The later history of the Military Orders

6 The last things – death, burial and remembrance 105

Medieval death * Burial practices * Burial in times of crisis – plague, famine and 'bad deaths' * Monuments and commemoration

7 Destruction, reform and transformation – the end of the medieval Church 125

The Reformation * The Dissolution of the monasteries * St Paul's Cathedral and the stripping of the altars

Further reading and places to visit 137

Index 141

Acknowledgements 144