

Britain:  
Anglo-Saxons through the  
Norman Conquest

# Terms

- Celtic Christianity
- Anglo-Saxons
- Heptarchy
- Synod of Whitby
- William the Conqueror
- Norman Conquest
- Domesday Book
- Bayeux Tapestry

# Anglo-Saxons

- Viking invasions beginning 300s of Roman Britain
- After Romans left – push the Celts out.
- By 600s 7 kingdoms – Heptarchy
  - Saxons
    - Essex
    - Sussex
    - Wessex
  - Angles
    - East Anglia
    - Mercia
    - Northumbria
  - Jutes
    - Kent

# Heptarchy

- 6<sup>th</sup> Century – Kent
- 7<sup>th</sup> Century – Northumbria
- 8<sup>th</sup> Century – Mercia
- 9<sup>th</sup> Century – Wessex
  - 830 King Egbert of Wessex calls himself King of all England

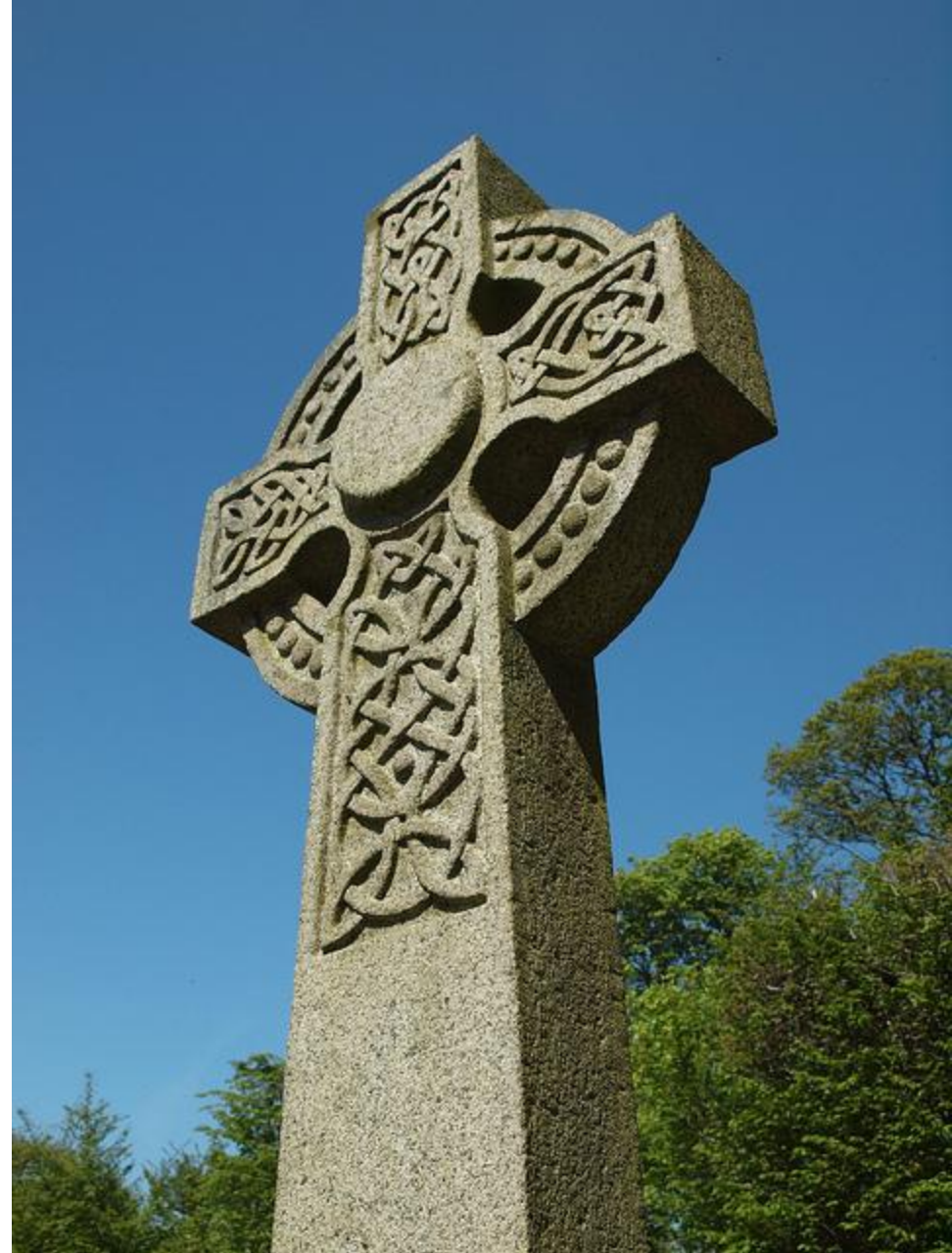


# Celtic Christianity

- Ireland and St. Patrick (400s)
- Style of monasticism
  - Tonsure
  - Female and Male monks – Convent in Kildare
- Female Saints – St. Brigid
- Illuminated Manuscripts – Book of Kells
- Different date for Easter
  - 664 Synod of Whitby and King Oswy of Northumbria



Book of Kells c. 800 AD,  
Folio 292r



Celtic Cross headstone: Castle Grounds, Antrim

# Invasions of the Danes

- 8<sup>th</sup> Century – Mercia
- Invasions from the Danes
- 9<sup>th</sup> century – Wessex
- 870 Danes push into Wessex
  - King Alfred and the Danegeld
  - Thegns
  - Rotational System for Army
- 878 Alfred goes to war against Danes
  - Wessex and the Danelaw



# The *witan*

- *Witan* – Group of society leaders normally responsible for electing the king
- Cnut 1016-1035
- Edward the Confessor 1042 - 1066



# Norman Conquest 1066

- Harold and Tostig
- William of Normandy (1066-1087)
- Battle of Stamford Bridge Sept 25, 1066
- Battle of Hastings October 14, 1066
- Why Normans won
- Bayeux Tapestry
- Motte-and-Bailey castles
- Norman Style
- Domesday Book 1086

# William's legacy

- Sons
  - Robert Curthose – Duke of Normandy
  - William Rufus – King of England
  - Henry – Paid a sum of money to renounce claim to either
- William Rufus (William II) 1087-1100
- Henry I – Both King of England and Duke of Normandy
- Characteristics of Anglo-Saxon government gone

# Bayeux Tapestry



# Motte-and-Bailey Castles



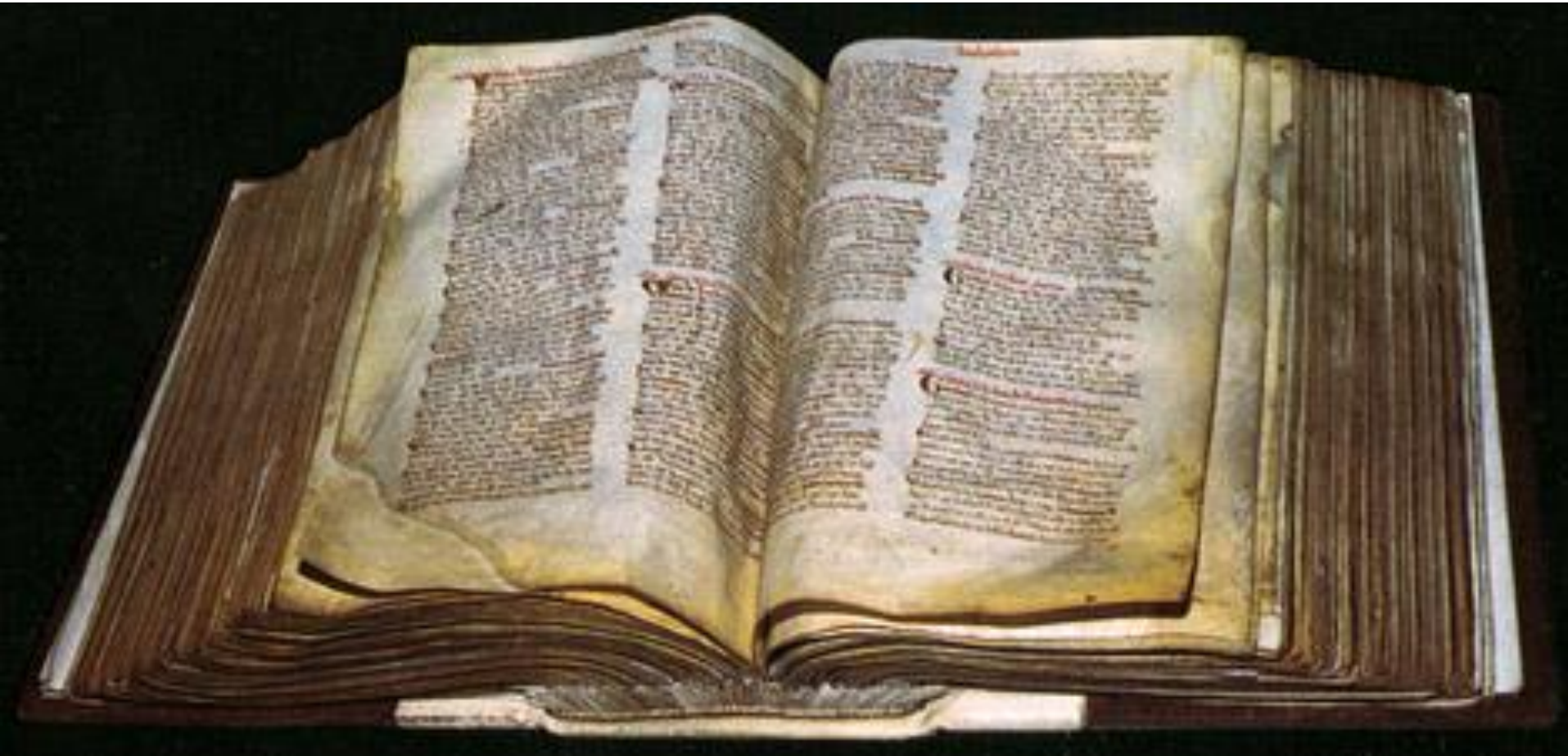
# Norman Style Architecture



Church: St. Mary the Virgin – completed c. 1170, Oxford, UK

Photo by: Christina McClellan

# Domesday Book



<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/domesday/images/fig01-Domesday-Book.jpg>