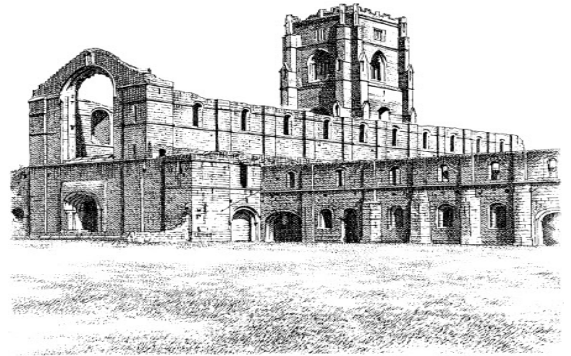




# Key words – Medieval monasteries

## A pre-visit activity

There are many specific key words linked to the lives of monks in the medieval monasteries like Fountains Abbey. Try to match up the word on the left with its definition / description on the right.



abbey

The man in charge of an abbey; the word means 'father'

abbot

A group (order) of monks who strictly follow the rules of St. Benedict

altar

A large, loose hood a monk wore as part of their habit (clothes)

Cistercian

A single building where monks or nuns live

confession

A man who has taken vows and lives as a member of a religious community

cowl

The sacred table in a Christian church

lay-brothers

A separate group of men linked to the abbey who worked the land, looked after the animals, and took vows of obedience to the abbot

monastery

Admitting / owning up when guilty of doing something wrong

monk

A group of buildings where monks (or nuns) live with an abbot (or abbess) in charge



National  
Trust

# Key words – Medieval monasteries

## A pre-visit activity

nave

A man hoping to join the monastery

novice

A vow that monks took promising to be poor and have no possessions

obedience

The man second in charge of an abbey

postulant

The monks walking together in lines

poverty

Prior

An honour given to a Christian who is in heaven because they lived a holy life

processing

The part of the church which goes from the entrance to the crossing

psalm

The shaved top of a monk's head

saint

A sacred song or hymn from a book in the Bible

tonsure

A new monk who is training

A vow that monks took promising to follow all the rules

