BBC

Mormons at a glance

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The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was founded in 19th century America and has over 12 million members world-wide.

Mormonism has been **present in the UK** since 1837 and has currently 190,000 members.

- The church is called The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, or The Church of Jesus Christ.
- Mormons believe their church is a restoration of the Church as conceived by Jesus and that the other Christian churches have gone astray.
- The church was founded by **Joseph Smith** (1805 1844).
- It was then developed by **Brigham Young** who migrated with the new Mormons to Salt Lake City in 1847.
- Mormons believe that God has a physical body, is married, and can have children.
- They also believe that humans can become **gods** in the afterlife.
- Mormons are strongly focused on traditional family life and values.
- They **oppose** abortion, homosesxuality, unmarried sexual acts, pornography, gambling, tobacco, consuming alcohol, tea, coffee, and the use of drugs.
- One of the more common misconceptions is that The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints advocates **polygamy**. However, this was discontinued over a century ago and the Church excommunicates anyone who practices it.