ENTERING A CHURCH

Entering Church Not Dedicated to Prayer

You may enter parts of a church (meeting room, social hall, cemetery, etc.) or monastery as long as they are not dedicated for prayer.

Entering Church Sanctuary No Longer Used for Prayer

You may enter a church sanctuary that is no longer used for prayer.

Entering Dual-Use Church

If a church is used only infrequently for prayer services, a Jew may enter the church at other times but not during prayer services.

EXAMPLE You may enter the Sistine Chapel, in Vatican City.

REASON The Sistine Chapel was built as a church and even though it is sometimes used as a church, it is primarily an art museum.

Standing in Church Doorway

You may stand in the doorway of a church as long as:

- The doorway is at least 7 feet away from the sanctuary, and
- You do not enter a sanctuary used for prayer services.

Standing in Church Shadow

You may stand in the shadow of a church.

Deriving Benefit from Church Sanctuary

You may not derive any benefit from a church sanctuary.

Buying from Church or Salvation Army

You may buy goods from a church, Salvation army, etc.

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