

Year 5

RE Knowledge Organiser

Topic:

Christianity

Links to other year groups: Year 2-4 elements of Christianity including symbols, places of worship, Easter story.

Key Vocabulary:

Worship - The feeling or act of showing respect, loyalty or love.

Christmas - means "Feast day of Christ". This is a Christian holiday that celebrates the birth of Jesus. The day known as Christmas Day is celebrated on the 25th day of December.

Easter - the Christian celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is the oldest Christian tradition. It is also considered to be the most important date on the Christian calendar.

Crucifixion - killing somebody by fastening them to a wooden cross and leaving them to die.

Resurrection - rising from the dead

Cross - The Christian cross is the most well-known religious symbol of Christianity.

Crucifix - a cross that includes a representation of Jesus's body.

Gospels - the four accounts of Jesus Christ's life, death and teachings in the New Testament books of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

Parable - a simple story used to illustrate a moral or spiritual lesson, as told by Jesus in the Bible.

Saint - a person who has been recognised by the Roman Catholic Church as having lived a holy life.

Advent - an important part of the Christian calendar. It means 'coming' and it is the period before Christmas which celebrates the birth of Jesus. It is all about preparing for Christmas Day. Advent starts on the Sunday nearest to 30th November.

CHRISTIANITY: How did it begin?

Christianity is one of the world's major religions. It is the world's largest religion, with approx. 2.4 billion followers. Christians (like Jews and Muslims) believe in one God, who created the world and all that is in it. Jesus Christ, who was crucified around A.D. 30 in Jerusalem, is the founder of Christianity. Jesus Christ was a middle eastern preacher and healer who lived approx. 2,000 years ago. Christians believe that Jesus Christ was sent down to earth to save people, by taking their punishment and dying on the cross

Important beliefs & teachings:

- Christians believe that God created the Earth and everything in it in 6 days, resting on the 7th - the story of creation tells Christians that at first everything was dark, until God intervened and created matter.
- Christians believe that God can be seen in three ways, known as the Holy Trinity: The Father (creator of the world), The Son (who came to earth as Jesus) and The Holy Spirit (God's power within Christians).
- In the Bible, ten 'commandments' are shared, which Christians should aim to live their lives by.
- Jesus was sentenced to death for calling himself The Son of God. He had a final meal with his disciples (known as 'The Last Supper') before being crucified. He is said to have died for the sins of man.

Special Book:

The **Bible** is the holy book of Christians. It contains the **Old and New Testaments**. The Old Testament is similar to the Jewish Bible and was written before Jesus' birth. The New Testament contains stories about Jesus, written by those who knew him.



Place of Worship / How people worship:

Christians can pray in any place, but the most common location is in a purpose-built building called a **church**. Churches can be very different - old, new, plain or highly decorated. Often, the floor plans of churches are shaped in a cross. -Church services often include hymns, prayers and readings from the Bible. Common church features include altar tables, lecterns, pulpits, fonts and stained glass windows. A **cathedral** is a Christian church that is the home church of a bishop. **Bishops** oversee many churches in a particular region, so the cathedral is often larger and more decorative than the others. The Christian spiritual leaders are called priests, vicars or ministers.



Key Symbols/People:

- Christians believe that **Jesus** was the son of God. He was born to ordinary parents, Mary and Joseph, in Bethlehem. Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus on 25th December - Christmas Day. Jesus travelled around, teaching people about God and helping the sick. He chose 12 men to travel with him. They were his special companions and are known as **the disciples**.

- There are many different denominations (types) of Christians. All Christians were once Catholics, but other groups branched off many years ago. The biggest Christian denomination is still **Catholicism**. To Catholics, the **Pope** is Christ's representative on earth. Other major groups include Protestants (incl. Anglican/ Church of England faiths) and Orthodox.



	Brief lesson sequence:
1	How did Christianity begin? The history of the early church.
2	What places of worship do Christians use? What is a church? What is a cathedral? Are there any famous places of worship in our locality? What are the common features of a church? What spiritual leaders work there?
3	What evidence is there that Jesus was a real person who existed? What do the different sources say?
4	How did Jesus die? Why is Jesus's death important to Christians?
5	What is the resurrection? Why is it important to Christians?