

Religious Education



Year 7 Essential Knowledge Organisers

These knowledge organisers outline what you need to know for each half term.

Use them to help you with Home Learning tasks or to help you consolidate your learning

How to learn knowledge from my knowledge organiser:

Look at the work, cover it over, write it out again and check it.

Look. Cover. Write. Check.

Ask someone to test you and ask you questions about the topic

Create mind maps on the topic

Create flashcards on the topic

Try writing out the key words or new vocabulary into new sentences

Create a mnemonic

Draw a diagram of the process

Read further around the subject

Year 7 Creation and Covenant (Autumn Term a)

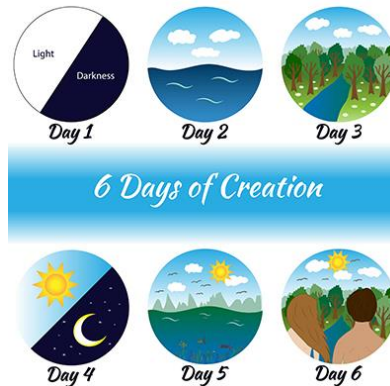
Essential Knowledge



How do we know about God?	Catholics believe in God, who is the Trinity: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Their Faith in God shapes their lives and so Catholics believe that it is important to listen to the different ways in which God speaks to them so that they can become closer to God, and live in the way that God calls them to live.	What makes Humans different to the rest of creation?	When Catholics reflect on God's creation and on human life, they often realise how amazing and beautiful this creation is. This increase their awe and love for God since God has shown power, wisdom and love in this creation.
How should we read the Bible?	Catholics believe that the Bible is the word of God. They believe the Bible is inspired, meaning that the Holy Spirit has guided the authors to write down the truth from God. Catholics believe that the Bible teaches them God's truth, but that they need to interpret the Bible to find this truth. To interpret something means to study it, in order to find its meaning.	What is our responsibility to others?	In the creation stories, God created humans to work together, but we know that this doesn't always happen in the world that we live in. The world is unfair and many people struggle. Many people believe we should improve the world we live in. Catholics believe that they have a duty to work to improve the world we live in, so that the goodness that was given by God can be experienced by everyone and so that evil and suffering can be overcome. Catholic Social Teaching is the teaching from the Catholic Church which tries to reduce human suffering caused by injustices and increase cooperation and friendship between all people.
What does Genesis 1 Teach about Creation?	The first book of the Bible is <i>Genesis</i> . The name <i>Genesis</i> means 'Origin' or where something comes from. The first two chapters in <i>Genesis</i> include two creation stories. Many Catholics explore these stories to find answers to big questions about the universe and life.	What is our responsibility to the world?	Catholics believe that both of the <i>Genesis</i> creation stories make it clear that humans have a duty to care for the earth. Many people believe we need to care for the world, and everyone and everything in it, not just for the present time but also for all future generations. In recent years, Pope Francis has stressed the importance of this in his encyclical <i>Laudato Si'</i> .
What does Genesis 2 Teach about creation?	<i>Genesis</i> 1 and <i>Genesis</i> 2 both contain the creation stories. Each is slightly different, but both give Catholics important teaching about God and creation. Catholics believe that God inspired different authors to write accounts of creation, which is why we have two different creation accounts in <i>Genesis</i> .	What is the role of prayer?	Prayer is the way in which people communicate with God. Religious believers pray in different ways, but all pray so that they can become closer to God. The Catechism defines prayer as 'the raising of our hearts and minds to God'.
What are the scientific theories about creation?	The creation stories were first shared at a time long before modern scientific explanations of how the universe began. Since the Bible was written, scientists have used the evidence they find in the world to give other answers to the question of where all life came from.	What can we learn from Sister Dorothy Stang?	Catholics believe that everyone has a responsibility to care for the environment. Some people put this responsibility at the centre of their lives, dedicating their life and work to protecting the earth. In the <i>Genesis</i> creation stories, God gave the duty of stewardship to all people. Pope Francis asked Catholics to respond to the 'cry of the earth and the cry of the poor'. Sister Dorothy Stang did this in her work to help protect the Amazon rainforest and support the people who depended on it.

Useful Terms

Revelation	How God makes himself known to human beings	Imago Dei	The Catholic belief that God created humanity in His image and likeness
Cosmology	The study of the origin and developments of the cosmos (i.e. the universe)	Stewardship	The religious belief that humans have a duty to care for God's creation
The Big Bang Theory	The most widely accepted scientific theory of how the universe began	Prayer	A way for believers to communicate with God
Creationism	The belief that the world was created exactly as it says in <i>Genesis</i>	Scientism	The belief that science has all the answers
Evolution	The most widely accepted scientific theory of how different species came to exist	Literary forms	Different types of writing, for example poetry and letters.

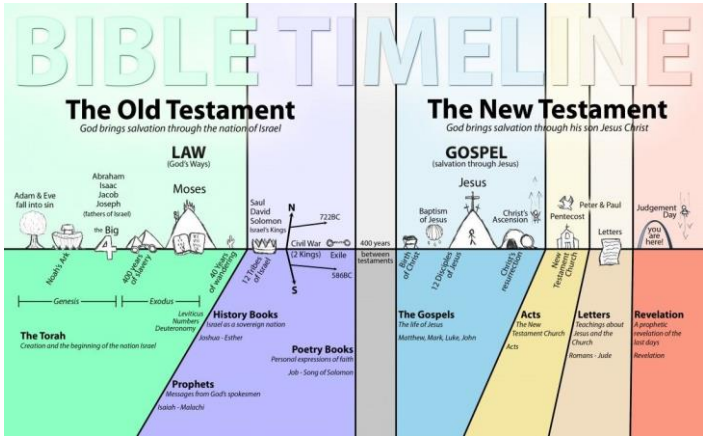




What is special revelation?	Christians believe that the Bible is very important as it contains the teachings of God and the life and ministry of Jesus-and these influence how Christians live their lives. This is why it is called Special Revelation. The Bible is like a library: it contains many different smaller books within itself. This means that Christians navigate the Bible differently from other books, so that they can find the teaching that they need. When Christians use the word 'scripture', they are referring to the Bible.	How do Christians show their reverence for the Bible?	The Bible is treated with great respect by many Christians because it is the word of God. Some Christians have family Bible. Because the Bible is the word of God, it is also central to Christian prayer and worship. In most churches the believers who gather will hear from the Bible. Passages from the Bible inspire the lyrics (words) of many well-known hymns (songs to God)
How can the Bible be understood?	The Bible is one way in which God communicates and gives humans important information. The Bible can be understood in different ways. For example: as a love story, as a journey and as a library. It was written by human authors who were inspired by God to write what was revealed to them and what they witnessed. Each book of the Bible is unique, with a different message, aim and literary form.	How do Christians use the Bible in prayer and worship?	Many Christians, including Catholic Christians, believe that the daily reading of the Bible is a way for God to speak to the heart of each Christian. Lectio divia means 'divine reading'. It is a way of praying and reading the scriptures that has been around since AD300. Many Christians use this method to help them to know and understand God's revelation to human beings. Lectio divina follows a four set approach to reading the Bible, which involves; reading, meditation, prayer and contemplation. The Rosary is another way that Catholics use scripture in prayer. The Rosary is a form of devotion to God that can help focus on key events in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. The Bible plays a central role in the celebration of Mass . Mass is a form of liturgical worship, which means a structured form of public worship. The Bible is central to the Mass and is used most clearly in the Liturgy of the Word, one of the two main parts of the Mass along with the Liturgy of the Eucharist.
How do Christians navigate the Bible?	The Bible is made up of many smaller books. These books were written thousands of years ago and originate from many place; they were not written in English. The Bible took centuries to be compiled and translated (changed into another language) into the version we read today. To help find passages easily, we use reference to the book, chapter and verse of the Bible.	How does the Bible influence peoples lives?	Biblical idioms are widely used in cultural life in the UK today. Biblical idioms reflect the historical and religious influence that the Bible has on society; over the last two thousand years Christianity has been an essential part of millions of lives. Examples of an idiom is 'An eye for an eye'. The meaning is that the punishments for a crime should be equal to the crime itself.
How do Christians make sense of scripture?	Although the Bible was written a long time ago, Catholic Christians believe that the words within it are the living words of God and that they carry as much meaning for Christians today as they did when they were first written. Catholics will ask the Holy Spirit to guide them in their interpretation of the Bible so that they can hear what God is saying to them.	Mary the intercessor	Catholics pray to ask Mary to ask her to help them. We believe that she understands all our suffering because she went through so much herself. She has her own prayer called the 'Hail Mary'. We also have hymns in her honour and special feast days. The Church devotes the month of May and October to her. We also believe that she is responsible for miracles in places such as Lourdes. We believe that she has appeared to people to help them and remind them about God
What is the relationship between sacred scripture and sacred tradition?	Special revelation is not just about God revealing himself to people through the Bible-through scared scripture. Catholics also believe that special revelation include God revealing himself through sacred tradition. Sacred tradition means the preaching of the apostles that was kept safe and handed on by the bishops, who follow in the footsteps of the apostles. The leaders of the Church, guard this carefully and hand it on faithfully. The word 'magisterium' comes from the Latin word magister, which means 'teacher'. The Magisterium is the teaching office of the Church. The Magisterium can interpret the Bible for Catholics today.		

Sacred Scripture	The writings contained in the Bible	Liturgy of the word	The community listen to the scriptures to hear what God has done and what he is calling them to do.
Tenakh	The Jewish scriptures	Magisterium	The teaching office of the Church.
Revelation	An act of revealing to view or making known.	Old Testament	God revealing himself to humanity as written in the books before the birth of Jesus, from Genesis to Malachi.
Dei Verbum	The phrase "Dei verbum" is Latin for "Word of God"	New Testament	God revealing himself to humanity as written in the books of the Bible from the Gospels to the Book of Revelation.
Sacred Tradition	The word tradition comes from the Latin word tradere which means "to hand on." Sacred Tradition is the Scripture as it is lived out in the Church.	Canon	The books accepted as Sacred Scripture by the Catholic Church.

Useful Terms



'All scripture is breathed out by God'

'The Eucharist is the source and summit of Catholic Life'

'Hail Mary, full of grace the Lord is with you'

'The Bible is the word of God'

Year 7 Galilee to Jerusalem (Spring Term a)

Essential Knowledge



STRENGTH
SERVICE
SUCCESS

What is the Incarnation?	The word 'incarnate' means 'made flesh' and the Incarnation refers to the time when God became flesh-in other words, a human being-in Jesus. This is a very important belief for Christians because it shows that while Jesus is truly human, he is at the same time, truly God.	What is meant by 'Lord'?	In Catholicism, 'Lord' is used to refer to the divine; it is a title of majesty which is used both in the Old Testament and New Testament. This title is used in a way to show that God, or Jesus, have complete authority and power and is superior to all. Some scholars think that 'Jesus is Lord' was the earliest form of Christian creed. Some Christians today think it is the only creed Christians need.
Who is Jesus, the Son of God?	Jesus is called by many titles in the New Testament. One of the most important of these for understanding the Trinity is 'Son of God'. 'Son of God' does not mean that Jesus is less than God, but rather that he is the Son of the Father: one of the persons of the Trinity, and truly God. The Baptism of Jesus is an important story as it shows Jesus being Baptised, the Holy Spirt in the form of a dove and God's voice is heard speaking 'You are my beloved Son; today I have begotten you'.	What is meant by 'Son of Man'?	In the Bible, Jesus never explicitly uses grand titles to describe himself. Sometimes he agrees with what others say he is, but when he describes himself as, 'Son of Man' is the most common title he uses. When he uses this title he is sometimes using it to refer to himself as a humble human being, and sometimes he uses it to describe his unique role in human history.
What is meant by the 'Holy Trinity'?	Christians believe that God is three persons-Father, Son and Holy Spirit-in one essence, one nature. The one God is the three persons, and the three persons are the one God. This is the doctrine of the Holy Trinity.	How is the Mass a trinitarian expression of lex orandi, lex credenda?	The central worship of the Catholic Church is called the Mass or Eucharist. The whole Mass is a trinitarian expression of lex orandi, lex credenda'. People are gathered in the Holy Spirit to become one with Christ's offering of himself to the Father. Lex orandi, lex credendi means 'the law of prayer is the law of belief'. In other words, in Catholicism, worship and belief are completely intertwined. So Catholic prayer underpin the beliefs of the Church and the beliefs of the Church (for example, belief in the Trinity) are reflected in how Catholics pray.
What is heresy?	After Pentecost the apostles spread out and converted people to Christianity in distant lands. All these new Christians belonged to the same Church, but some of them began to have new ideas about who Jesus was. Some of these ideas were different to the original teachings of the Church (these are called heresies). Therefore, meetings of church leaders began to take place in order to discuss these challenges. The First Council of Nicaea discussed the ideas of a man called Arius.	How is Jesus the model of Holiness?	For Christians, the Incarnation meant that, for the first time, people could experience the real presence of God on earth. Catholics believe that Jesus is the perfect example to follow because he is God. They look to the Bible to learn from his actions and words, to be more faithful Christians and more humble people.
What is meant by 'Christ', 'Messiah' and 'Son of David'?	In the Bible, Jesus never explicitly uses grand titles to describes himself. Sometimes he agrees with what others say he is, but when he describes himself; Son of Man' is his most common title he uses. One of the most important titles used for Jesus is 'Christ'. The word 'Christ' comes from the Greek word Christos for the Hebrew title 'Messiah', which means 'anointed one'. In Mark's Gospel Jesus is met by a blind beggar called Bartimaeus who calls out to Jesus, 'Son of David, have mercy on me!'. Once the blind beggar is healed he sees Jesus in a spiritual sense-as the anointed one, ancestor of David, and Messiah: the Christ.	St Teresa of Calcutta	Mary Teresa Bojaxhiu MC (born Anjezë Gonxhe Bojaxhiu, Albanian: 26 August 1910 – 5 September 1997), better known as Saint Teresa was an Albanian-Indian Catholic nun and the founder of the Missionaries of Charity. Born in Skopje, then part of the Ottoman Empire, at the age of 18 she moved to Ireland and later to India, where she lived most of her life. On 4 September 2016, she was canonised by the Catholic Church as Saint Teresa of Calcutta. The anniversary of her death, 5 September, is her feast day.

Useful Terms

Jesus	A popular name meaning Yeshua, God is salvation, Jesus is the only begotten Son of God and the second person of the Trinity	Heresy	A teaching or an idea that contradicts the belief of the church.
Christ	Anointed one	Arianism	The heresy promoted by Arius that Jesus and God were not the same
Lord	A title given to Jesus reflecting that he is King	Chi Rho	A Christian symbol from the first two letters of Christ
Incarnation	God becoming made flesh, fully God and fully human	Alpha and Omega	Beginning and end, the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet
Trinity	One God in three divine persons	Son of Man	Meaning human being
Creed	A statement of beliefs	Son of God	A title given to Jesus reflecting that he is the incarnation
Lex Orandi	Latin phrase meaning the law of what is prayed is the law of what is believed	Service	Helping others, putting others first, as part of a vocation or calling in life



'You are my beloved Son; today I have begotten you'.

'You will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven'.

'I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ the Only Begotten Son of God'.

'The Trinity is the mystery of God himself'

Year 7 Desert to Garden (Spring Term b)

Essential Knowledge



What is the connection between Passover, the Last Supper and the Eucharist?	The Last Supper was a meal that Jesus shared with his disciples on the night before his death, to celebrate the Jewish Passover. Catholics remember the Last Supper every time they go to Mass. The Catechism says the Eucharist is 'the source and summit of the Christian life'. This means it unites all Catholics into one Church with Christ. Catholics believe that at the end of life they will join the heavenly banquet and that the Eucharist here on earth is a taste of that banquet to come.	How do Catholics show respect and adoration to the Blessed Sacrament?	Celebrating the Eucharist in the Mass is the most important form of worship for all Catholics. One of the most significant reasons for this is that, in the sacrament of the Eucharist, Christian experience the Real Presence of Jesus. Catholics use a tabernacle to store the Blessed sacrament because it is the real presence of Jesus and must be kept safe. The Church asks believers to show reverence for Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. This is why Catholics genuflect facing the tabernacle. Believers also adore Jesus by spending a few moments of quiet time in front of the Blessed Sacrament. This is called Eucharistic Adoration.
What is the Paschal Mystery?	The Paschal Mystery is the belief that Jesus' death and resurrection brought every human being freedom from sin and a way to eternal life with God. By the term Paschal Mystery the Church means three things: The actual events of Jesus' arrest, trial, death on the cross and resurrection from the dead. The significance of those events and the ideas that Jesus' death and resurrection are made present in the life of the Church today and can be experienced by Catholics by going to Mass.	How should the Eucharist impact the lives of Catholics?	The word 'Mass' comes from missio, the Latin term for 'mission', meaning a duty or a calling. The Church teaches that when Catholics receive the body and blood of Jesus, they also receive a mission to share the love of God within the world. The body and blood also give them the strength to carry out this mission faithfully. Catholics need to act beyond their own community and concerns to what is happening globally in regards to issues of food poverty and social justice.
What are the sacraments and why are they important to Catholics?	As the apostles established the early Church, they passed on what they were taught by Jesus, which included the celebration of the sacraments. A sacrament is a sacred rite which makes God invisible, saving power visible and present to those who receive it. Through the Church, Catholics can receive seven sacraments, which are at the centre of religious life because they make the presence of Jesus in the world accessible to believers.	How do beliefs about the Eucharist differ in other Christian denominations?	When other Christian denominations celebrate the Eucharist they honour the sacrifice Jesus made on the cross, but they may celebrate and think about how Jesus is present in very different ways, showing there is a rich diversity in Christians belief and practice.
How is the Mass structured?	Catholics have celebrated the sacrament of the Eucharist since the very beginning of Christianity. The way Mass is celebrated today still reflects traditions and beliefs that can be traced back to the early Church led by St Peter and the apostles. There are four sections to the Mass. The Introductory Rites, The Liturgy of the Word, the Liturgy of the Eucharist and the Concluding Rite form the four sections.	How has the Eucharist impacted the lives of people throughout history?	Eating together is one of the most common themes of the Gospels. Jesus taught his followers to feed the hungry, and in the Eucharist prayer; Catholics thank God for the gifts of food and drink which bring them together with God as a Christian family. The current world food crisis therefore means that Catholics don't just feel an ethical duty to help those in need, they feel a religious duty too. The Charity CAFOD raises awareness about the current food crisis; as well as working with local communities to provide food, water and other practical help to those in need.
Why is the Eucharist important to Catholics and how is this demonstrated?	The Catechism of the Catholic Church calls the Eucharist 'the sacrament of the sacraments', and in fact all forms of Catholic worship, revolve around the Sacrament of the Eucharist. In the Eucharist, Catholics believe that human beings come as close to God as is possible on earth.	Blessed Carlo Acutis	Carlo Acutis (3 May 1991 - 12 October 2006) was an English-born Italian Catholic schoolboy and amateur computer programmer. He was best known for documenting Eucharistic miracles around the world and cataloguing them all onto a website that he created in the months before his death from leukaemia.

Useful Terms

Passover	When God liberated the Israelites from slavery in Egypt	Orthodox Church	Christian Churches that have their origin in the Eastern areas of ancient Christianity.
Sacraments	An outward sign of an inward grace, instituted by Christ.	Baptist	The Baptist tradition is a Protestant tradition in which the Bible is central.
Hosts	Thin wafers used at the sacrament of the Eucharist	Ciborium	A sacred vessel for holding the Eucharist
Transubstantiation	The conversion of the bread and wine into the body and blood of Jesus at the consecration	Eucharistic Miracle	A miracle that involves the eucharist
The Lords supper	A title for the Eucharist, referring to the Last Supper when Jesus instituted the Eucharist	Tabernacle	A box at the front of a Catholic Church containing the Eucharist
Adoration	Deep love and respect	Monstrance	An open container in which the blessed sacrament is displayed for worship



The Eucharist is 'the source and summit of the Christian life'.

The Eucharist is 'the sacrament of the sacraments'

'This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me'.

Year 7 To the Ends of the Earth (Summer Term a)

Essential Knowledge



What do Catholics believe about the Holy Spirit?	Christians believe hat there is one God, who is three persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Each person of the Trinity is God and so the Holy Spirit, the third person of the Trinity is fully and truly God. The Holy Spirit plays an important role in the life of the Church and in guiding and helping individual Christians in their lives.	What are the symbols of the Holy Spirit?	Symbols are used to help humans understand ideas about God that they might find difficult to grasp. There are lots of different symbols of the Holy Spirit that Catholics use to explore and understand the Holy Spirit such as water, anointing and the seal, Fire and Wind, Cloud and Light and the Dove.
What beliefs about the Holy Spirit are in the Nicene Creed?	In order that Catholics understand the importance of the Holy Spirit, the Catholic Church gives clear teaching about who the Holy Spirit is, the role of the Holy Spirt and the place of the Holy Spirit as one of the persons of the Trinity. This come in part through the Nicene Creed, the declaration of faith for Catholics.	Artistic expressions of Pentecost	Art has been used throughout history to depict stories from the Bible, not only because art helps to communicate the meaning of Bible stories, but also because it can help people to deepen their understanding of these stories. The story of Pentecost is very dramatic, so it has inspired many pieces of art work.
Why did Luke write his Gospel?	St Luke is believed to have written both Luke's Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles. Luke's Gospel tells us about the Life, death and resurrection of Jesus. Acts of the Apostles tells us about the time that the apostles and Mary, Jesus' mother, received the Holy Spirit, as well as how the early Church grew.	What do Catholics mean by 'Church'?	In the Niece Creed, it states that they believe in the holy catholic Church and the communion of saints. These teachings convey the Church is a community open to all people who worship Jesus and that this community is made up of all Christians-those who are alive and those who have already died. The Church is the people of God- a special nation or community. The Church is also the Body of Christ-Jesus is the head of the body and Christians are united together acting and speak like Jesus in the world.
The Holy Spirit in Luke's Gospel.	Jesus' time on earth showed God's power and love to humans. God's power and love meant that the impossible through Jesus, helping people see that Jesus was the incarnate Son of God, which gave them the faith and courage to follow Jesus. If we explore stories about Jesus, from before he was born to when he rose to heaven, we see that the Holy Spirit is present at important moments in Jesus' life.	The Sacrament of Confirmation.	Receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation is important in the life of a Catholic no matter when they celebrate this sacrament. Through this sacrament the candidate is sealed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit, which helps each candidate to live as God calls them to.
What happened at Pentecost?	One of the opening stories in Acts is the apostles receiving the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. The apostles had gathered to celebrate the Jewish festival of Shavuot, when the Holy Spirit came down and they were transformed from being worried and fearful, to full of confidence and able to spread the word of God.	The gifts and the fruits of the Holy Spirit	The gifts of the Holy Spirit are wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord. They are granted to us during our baptism and perfected through the Sacrament of Confirmation. They complete and perfect the virtues of those who receive them. The fruits are the actions that the gifts produce. They are charity, joy, peace, patience, benignity, goodness, longanimity, mildness, faith, modesty, continency, and chastity. They are a manifestation of God's divine character in Christians.

Useful Terms

Holy Spirit	God's presence in the world. Term used by Christians for God's spirit.	Pentecost	The Church's birthday, celebrated 50 days after Easter and 10 days after the Ascension.
Nicene Creed	a statement of beliefs for Catholics.	Acts of the Apostles	The 5 th book of the New Testament, containing accounts of how the apostles began the early Church.
Ruah	a Hebrew word meaning wind or breath; God's Spirit that was breathed in Adam to bring him to full life.	The Gifts of The Holy Spirit	Seven spiritual gifts given by the Holy Spirit during the sacrament of confirmation: wisdom, understanding, counsel, might, knowledge, piety and fear of the Lord
Evangelist	is someone who spreads the Good News about Jesus; also the title used to refer to the Four Gospel writers: Matthew Mark, Luke and John.	Confirmation	Confirmation is a sacrament of initiation. It confirms the vows made for candidates at Baptism and allows them to be a full member of the Church.
Service	Helping others, putting others first, as part of a vocation or calling in life	Pilgrimage	A journey made for a spiritual purpose.
Ascension	40 days after his resurrection, Jesus ascended (body and soul) into Heaven.	Godparent	A practising Catholic, chosen to help nurture the faith of a person being baptised.



I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life'.

Love your neighbour with all your heart, mind, soul and strength and love your neighbour as yourself'

'Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ'

'Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit'



- Origins**
 - Muslims believe there is ONE God, it is a monotheistic religion, they can learn about him by reading their **holy book called the Quran**, this guides them on how to live a good life by following the Five Pillars of Islam, these are certain ACTS a Muslim must carry out.
 - Islam is a peaceful religion with 1.8 billion followers worldwide, **they come together to worship in a Mosque**
 - They have great respect for **The Prophet Mohammed who started Islam – he was Allah’s messenger and helped to spread the word of God.**
 - Mohammed was born in 570AD in Makkah – where the Kaaba an important temple is. It wasn’t a very nice place to live in – it was ruled by bullies and people worshiped so many Gods. Sadly Mohammed's parents died and he was orphaned but despite this he became a shepherd then business man.
 - One day when he was in a cave he saw an angel and was given the Quran and so he spend the rest of life teaching about Allah.**
- The Quran**
 - The Quran is the Muslim holy book which contains the word of God, guidance and teachings, there are 114 chapters in the Qur'an, which is written in Arabic. **It was given to The Prophet Mohammed on the Night of Power** – which is celebrated during Ramadan
 - The Prophet Mohammed was meditating in a cave and praying to Allah for guidance, the angel Jibril appeared in front of him and gave him a scroll with the words of Allah written on it. But Mohammed couldn’t read! The angel said to Mohammed three times ‘Read! Read! Read!’ and a miracle happened, suddenly Mohammed could read and understand the words of Allah. Mohammed’s wish had come true, he was guided by Allah and spent the rest of his life receiving direct teachings and recording them, after 23 years he collated them which form the same Quran you can buy today.
- Mosques**
 - The mosque is a place to gather for prayers, to study and to celebrate festivals. It can also be used as a school and community centre. Mosques all over the world share a number of similar features; they often have a minaret and a dome, sometimes they are surrounded by an arcade or have a school called a Madrasa. Muslims do not have to perform the Salat in a mosque except on Friday at mid-day. **Before entering a mosque, Muslims must remove their shoes.** It is normal for men and women to pray in different areas of the mosque. There are no priests in Islam, but most mosques have an Imam. **The simplest mosque would be a prayer room with a wall marked indicating the direction of Mecca, which Muslims should face when praying.**
- Hajj**
 - Once a year, Muslims of every ethnic group, colour, social status, and culture **gather together in Mecca and stand before the Kaaba praising Allah together.** It is a ritual that is designed to promote the bonds of Islam by showing that everyone is equal in the eyes of Allah.
 - The Hajj makes Muslims feel real importance of life here on earth, and the afterlife, by stripping away all markers of social status, wealth, and pride. In the Hajj all are truly equal. The Hajjis or pilgrims wear simple white clothes called Ihram. During the Hajj the Pilgrims perform acts of worship and they renew their sense of purpose in the world. Mecca is a place that is holy to all Muslims. It is so holy that no non-Muslim is allowed to enter. For Muslims, the **Hajj is the fifth and final pillar of Islam.**

- The Five Pillars of Islam**
 - The Five Pillars of Islam are the five acts that every Muslim must do to live a good and responsible life, they are:**

Shahadah: "There is no God but Allah, and Muhammad is his messenger." Reciting this statement three times in front of witnesses is all that anyone need do to become a Muslim. A Muslim is expected to recite this statement out loud, with total sincerity, fully understanding what it means.

Salat: Salat is the obligatory Muslim prayers, performed five times each day by Muslims. It is the second Pillar of Islam. All Muslims try to do this. Muslim children as young as seven are encouraged to pray. The prayer ritual, which is over 1400 years old, is repeated five times a day by hundreds of millions of people all round the world. Carrying it out is not only highly spiritual but connects each Muslim to all others around the world

Zakat: Zakat is the compulsory giving of a set percentage of one's wealth to charity. It is regarded as a type of worship and of self-purification. Zakat is the third Pillar of Islam. Zakat is the giving of 2.5% of one's wealth each year to benefit the poor.

Sawm: Sawm is fasting. It's the fourth of the Five Pillars of Islam. Muslims are required to fast during Ramadan, the ninth month of the Islamic calendar. During the 29/30 days of Ramadan all adult Muslims must give up the following things during the hours of daylight: - Food or drink of any sort of Smoking, including passive smoking - Sexual activity. Muslims who are physically or mentally unwell may be excused some of these, as may those who are under twelve years old, the very old, those who are pregnant, breast-feeding, menstruating, or travelling.

Hajj: See separate section.
- Ramadan**
 - Ramadan is the **holy month of fasting** – when Muslims do not eat or drink during daylight hours – they eat before the sun comes up and after it has gone down. **It is important to them as it helps bring them closer to Allah and become better people by giving to charity and spending more time with friends and family.** Muslims believe that their good actions bring a greater reward during this month than at any other time of year, because this month has been blessed by Allah.
- Islamic Dress**
 - Some Muslim women choose to wear a head or body covering, the main types are Hijab, Niqab, Chador and Burka. They all cover the head but differ in how much of the rest of the body they cover. All coverings are worn in front of male non-family members and in public, they are removed at home. * Muslim women choose to cover themselves as in the Quran it teaches to dress modestly ‘And say to the believing women that they should lower their gaze and guard their modesty; that they should not display their beauty’ they are not forced to wear them but do so to express their religion.

Useful Terms

<u>Islam</u>	The religion
<u>Muslim</u>	A follower of Islam
<u>Allah</u>	The Arabic word for God
<u>Quran</u>	The Islamic holy book
<u>Prophet Mohammed</u>	The human founder of Islam and messenger of God
<u>Prophet</u>	Someone who communicates with God
<u>Mosque</u>	The Islamic place of worship
<u>Five Pillars</u>	The five acts a Muslim must do to live a good and responsible life

<u>Shahadah</u>	The declaration of faith – becoming a Muslim
<u>Salat</u>	Performing ritual prayers in the proper way five times each day
<u>Zakat</u>	Paying a charity tax to benefit the poor and the needy
<u>Sawm</u>	Fasting during the month of Ramadan
<u>Hajj</u>	A pilgrimage to Mecca
<u>Ramadan</u>	Fasting for one month during daylight hours
<u>Fasting</u>	Not eating or drinking
<u>Id-ul-Fitr</u>	Celebrates the end of Ramadan
<u>The Night of Power</u>	When the Quran was given to Mohammed

Quote	Topic
<i>‘Say: Allah, he is the one’ Quran</i>	Allah
<i>‘There is no God but Allah, and Muhammad is his messenger.’ Shahadah</i>	Five Pillars
<i>‘Allah knows what is in every heart’ Quran</i>	Quran
<i>‘Show forgiveness, enjoin kindness, avoid ignorance’ Quran</i>	Quran
<i>‘And say to the believing women that they should lower their gaze and guard their modesty; that they should not display their beauty’ Quran</i>	Islamic Dress