

# Christianity

Key Vocabulary	
God	Christians believe God is the creator of the universe.
Jesus	The Son of God. Christians believe that Jesus died for their sins and offered them salvation.
The Trinity	The three separate forms that God is known by. God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
Sin	A deliberate action that goes against God's will.
Salvation	To be saved from sin.
Incarnation	Incarnation means 'made flesh'. It is the Christian belief that God became a man in the person of Jesus,
Covenant	A promise.
Grace	Short prayer of thanksgiving.

## Prior Learning

**Christians** believe that God created the universe in 7 days. The **Creation story** is told in **Genesis**.

Jesus, who Christians believe is the Son of God, was born on **Christmas** Day. Easter celebrates Jesus' death and resurrection. Christians believe that Jesus died for their sins and offered them salvation.

Baptism is a ceremony that symbolises a commitment to living a life as a Christian. This usually takes place when a person is old enough to make this commitment. Babies may also be christened and welcomed into God's family.

## Festivals

**Holy Week** The week leading up to Easter Sunday. The week begins on **Palm Sunday** and includes the events of **The Last Supper**, Jesus' arrest in **Gethsemane**, Jesus' crucifixion on Good Friday and his resurrection on Easter Sunday. Holy week is also the last week of Lent.

**Pentecost** Celebrated 50 days after Easter that commemorates the gift of the **Holy Spirit** among the Apostles. It is seen as the start of the Christian church.

## Key Learning

During Creation, God made **Adam and Eve** and created the **Garden of Eden** for them to live in. He asked Adam and Eve not to eat the fruit from a tree. However, the serpent tempted Eve to eat it. Both Adam and Eve ate the fruit and were banished from the garden. This is seen as **'the fall'** and the **'original sin'** against God.

Seeing how wicked people had become, God sent a huge **flood** to destroy everything on earth. He trusted **Noah** and his family to build an **ark** and take care of two of each animal. Rain fell for **40 days and nights** and everyone had to stay in the ark for several more months while the earth slowly dried out. After, God sent a **rainbow**, a promise that he will never do such a thing again.

Christians believe that God wants to help people to get close to him again. He gives them guidelines such as the **10 commandments** and offers forgiveness when they fall short.

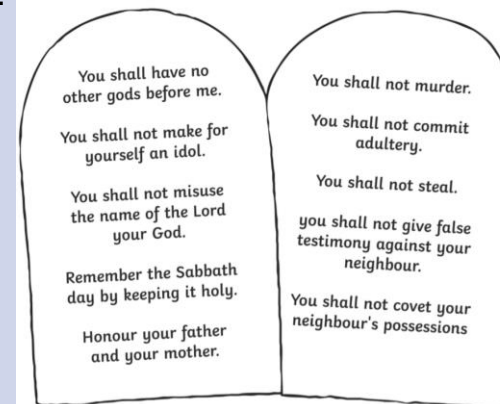
Four main types of Christian prayer:

**Intercession** – asking for help

**Thanksgiving** – offering thanks

**Confession** – asking for forgiveness

**Adoration** – praising God



Pause and reflect:  
How can we look after the world around us?

## Key Vocabulary

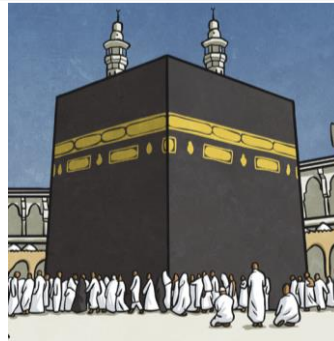
Muslim	A follower of the religion of Islam.
Allah	The Arabic name that Muslims use for God. Muslims believe that there is only one God called Allah.
Five Pillars of Islam	The five things that Muslims are expected to do.
Salah	The second pillar of Islam. Muslims must pray 5 times a day, facing the direction of Mecca.
Mecca	Mecca is an important place to Muslims. It is where Muhammad was born and the direction that Muslims face when they pray five times a day.
Hajj	Muslims are expected to make a pilgrimage to Mecca once in their lifetime. This is called Hajj.

## Prior Learning

Muslims believe that there is only one God called Allah. Muhammad was his most important prophet.

The Islamic holy book is called the Qur'an. Muslims pray five times a day, sometimes this may take place in a mosque.

The main beliefs of a Muslim are outlined in the 'Five Pillars of Islam'. They refer to faith, prayer, charity, fasting during Ramadan and making a pilgrimage to Mecca.



# Islam

## Key Learning

**Salah** is the second pillar of Islam. Salah is the Arabic word for prayer. Prayer is when a person talks to their God. When Muslims pray, they perform a series of physical actions. Each set of physical actions is known as a **rak'ah**. Before prayer, they must wash (**Wudu**) themselves and then face Mecca. Muslims also bow (**Ruku**) and say a series of phrases, or chants to highlight how powerful and important Allah is. Muslims pray five times a day, with Friday prayers being the most important.

**Hajj** is the fifth pillar of Islam, where all Muslims are required to perform a **pilgrimage to Mecca** in Saudi Arabia at least once in their lifetime. They have to be fit and financially secure in order to go, if they can't someone may go on their behalf.

The Muslim holy book is called the Qur'an. They believe that the beginnings of the **Qur'an** were revealed to Muhammad, the final prophet on what is now known as the '**Night of Power**'. It is celebrated during the month of Ramadan.

Islam teaches that a knowledge of right and wrong is intrinsic to human nature. Muslim teachings say that individuals should know, without having to be informed, which actions are evil and will contribute to the suffering of others, and which actions are good. This inner sense of right and wrong is called **fitrah**.



Pause and reflect:

If you had to make a special journey, what would you take with you?



## Key Vocabulary

Hindu	Someone who follows the religion of Hinduism
Brahman	The creator, the one true God for Hindus, who has many different forms.
Deity	Form of God in different Incarnations. There are lots of different deities who are worshipped.
Trimurti	Three main male deities; Brahma (creator), Vishnu (protector) and Shiva (destroyer).
Rangoli	Art form in which patterns are created on the floor, usually during festivals.
Mandir	A special place for Hindus to worship.
Puja	An act of worship/prayer.
Murti	Image or statue of a deity.



## Festivals

**Diwali** Diwali is the 'festival of lights' and is celebrated in late autumn. Diwali celebrates good's victory over evil with lots of lights around homes. Fireworks, presents and new clothes are used to celebrate.



**Holi** Holi is the 'festival of colours' and marks the beginning of spring with bonfires and lots of singing and dancing. Old rubbish is burnt to mark a fresh start and colour is thrown on people.

# Hinduism



## Key Learning

Hindus recognise one God, **Brahman**. The gods and goddesses of Hinduism are different personalities of Brahman. Hindus can pray to different gods and goddesses for help with different needs.

Hindus will go to a **mandir** to pray and worship. Some mandirs are very tall buildings. Hindus believe it brings them closer to heaven. In a mandir, there are shrines and lots of murtis for different gods. Offerings are brought to the murtis. Hindus also take part in **mantras**, words that are learned and repeated to help with worship or m

Most Hindus also have a small shrine in their home where they worship daily. This worship is called **puja**. The shrine will contain at least one image (**murti**) of their gods and also have a puja tray which holds items used during worship.



Puja is an opportunity to have a conversation with Brahman in order to ask for his advice or give thanks/praise. During prayer, Hindus use many holy texts and scriptures. The **Vedas** are found in the Shruti holy book, passed on orally for centuries, originally created by Brahma. Some texts provide Hindus with guidance whilst others speak of myths and legends relating to the deities.

Brahman exists in everything so it is important to respect all living things. Some Hindus may choose to lead a vegetarian lifestyle.

Pause and reflect:

How are the beliefs of a Hindu similar to those of another faith?

