

BELIEFS ABOUT GOD

- Christianity is **MONOTHEISTIC** (one God)
- No physical form
- Neither male nor female
- **"IN THE BEGINNING THERE WAS THE WORD"**
- God is **OMNIPOTENT**: All powerful
- God is **BENEVOLENT**: All loving
- God is **JUST**: Fair
- **"NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE WITH GOD"**

THE TRINITY

- God is: **THE FATHER, THE SON THE HOLY SPIRIT.**
- The **FATHER** created the universe and everything in it.
- The **SON** was Jesus who was fully God and fully human.
- The **HOLY SPIRIT** is the unseen power of God at work in the world.
- The Trinity shows the nature of God for Christians, God is **ONE** but can do **ANYTHING**, be **HUMAN** & a **SPIRIT** simultaneously

CREATION

- **"IN THE BEGINNING GOD CREATED THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH"**
- The Bible tells the story of how God created the **UNIVERSE** and **EVERYTHING** in it over 6 periods of time.
- It involved both the **FATHER** and the **HOLY SPIRIT**, reinforcing the **TRINITY.**
- It shows that God is **OMNIPOTENT** and can do anything
- This is something our minds cannot fully comprehend; it is part of God's mystery.

THE RESURRECTION & ASCENSION

- There are different versions of this story but generally
- Jesus was placed in a tomb on Friday evening
- It was a Holy Day so no-one could prepare the body on Saturday
- When Mary Magdalene went to see the body on Sunday the tomb was empty
- Jesus physically appeared to Mary and some of the disciples several times
- This is called the **RESURRECTION**
- Jesus's body was then taken up to Heaven. This is called the **ASCENSION**
- It shows : The power of good over Evil, that all people can go to Heaven, without it there would be no Christian faith

SIN AND SALVATION

- **SIN**: An act which separates humans from God
- Eve committed the first sin by disobeying God in the Garden of Eden
- Not all sin is illegal but sins like rape and murder are
- People may sin through greed and laziness
- The Devil tempts people to sin
- **SALVATION** is to be saved from sin, and given eternal life with God
- You can be saved through good work and the grace of Jesus

JUDGEMENT

- God decides the fate of all people when they die
- God will take into account the lives of the people he judges
- Christians need to be good and accept the sacrifice Jesus made
- Remember: The parable of the sheep and the goats. "Whatever you do for the least of my brothers it is as if you did it for me"

THE CRUCIFIXION

- Jesus was nailed to the cross by the Roman Governor
- Even though Jesus was the Son of God he wasn't spared the pain and humiliation
- He was fully human and suffered as a human
- A guard at the crucifixion spoke with him and acknowledged he had done no wrong
- "Truly this man is the Son of God"
- This is important today as it shows:
 - **Suffering is part of life**
 - **God through Jesus knows suffering**
 - **It gives confidence that sins can be forgiven**

HEAVEN AND HELL

- Heaven is being with God so therefore Paradise
- Hell is Gods absence
- Catholics believe in Purgatory; neither heaven nor hell but a place to await Gods judgement
- It is your soul that goes into the afterlife
- Some Christians believe all good people go to heaven
- Some Christians believe heaven is only for the people who have been baptised

JESUS & THE INCARNATION

- The Gospel's make it clear that Mary did not conceive Jesus sexually.
- In the story an Angel appears to tell Mary she is pregnant.
- Mary is told she will have Gods son as God has willed it
- Jesus is God made flesh; this is called the **INCARNATION "THE WORD BECAME FLESH"**
- When Jesus was baptised a voice said **"YOU ARE MY BELOVED SON"**

