

## KEY STAGE 2 TRANSITION

### Knowledge organiser

#### Who is God?

- God is the source of all that is, all that has been and all that will be. God is **infinite**, that is, has no beginning and no end.
- God is love (1 John 4:8), and all that is **good** flows from God.
- Christians sometimes call God 'Father'.

#### How do we know about God?

- Christians believe there are ways in which God is made known to humans. This is called **revelation**.
- One of the ways people learn about God's revelation is in the Bible.
- People reason that **Creation** points to a Creator. Christians believe existence itself is proof of God.

#### What is the Bible?

- The **Bible** is a collection of texts that came together over thousands of years – including stories, poems, prayers, and letters – that tells the story of God's relationship with humankind.
- The Catholic Church teaches that the Bible's many authors felt God guided their writing, so the Bible is the **inspired word of God**.
- The Christian Bible is in two parts, the Old Testament and the New Testament.
- The **Old Testament** is drawn from the Hebrew **scriptures** (holy texts) and contains stories of the Jewish people's experiences of God's revelation.
- The **New Testament** is a Christian text which includes accounts of Jesus and his followers, the apostles, and some of their letters to the first Christian communities.

#### What does the Bible tell us about God?

- In the Old Testament, the first books tell the stories of how God created everything and why people chose to turn away from God (**the Fall**).
- The Old Testament also tells how God continued to love humanity and made a series of promises called **covenants** to restore humanity's relationship with God.
- The Old Testament contains many different texts. Some of them are the teachings of **prophets and prophetesses**, people who felt moved by God in their hearts to make the will of God known. They announced the coming of a saviour or Messiah.
- Christians believe the Holy Spirit inspired the prophets and that the promised Messiah is Jesus.
- The New Testament includes stories of Jesus Christ in the Gospels, the acts of Jesus' apostles following his resurrection, letters from some apostles to the first Christian communities and a vision of a new heaven and earth.

#### Who is Jesus Christ?

- Christians believe God became man and was born more than 2,000 years ago to a woman named Mary in Bethlehem as a baby named **Jesus**. Jesus is also known as the Son of God.
- Christ means 'the anointed one' in Hebrew. Jesus is called 'Christ' because he is believed to be the Messiah who restores humanity's broken relationship with God.
- The story of Jesus is found in the four **Gospels**, written by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.
- Each Gospel is slightly different, but they tell the central events of Jesus' life (his teachings and miracles), death and **resurrection** (when he rose from the dead).
- They all recount how the night before his crucifixion, Jesus broke bread, shared wine with his apostles, and asked them to do this in his memory.
- Christians believe Jesus took on the sins of all humanity when he died on the cross, and in rising from the dead, **he restored humanity's relationship with God**.

#### Who are the apostles?

- The **apostles** were a group of twelve companions of Jesus drawn from his wider group of followers (disciples).
- According to the Bible, following Jesus' resurrection, the apostles received the gifts of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.
- Jesus appointed Peter as the apostles' leader, and Catholics regard him as the first **Pope**.
- The Acts of the Apostles tells of how they founded the first Christian communities, and the New Testament also includes some of the apostles' letters to these communities.
- When they receive the Sacrament of **Confirmation**, Catholics join the apostles in announcing the good news of Jesus.

#### Who is the Holy Spirit?

- The **Holy Spirit** is God.
- Catholics believe that the **one God is a communion of three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit**. This belief is expressed in the mystery of the **Holy Trinity**.
- There are descriptions of the Holy Spirit in the Bible in powerful images such as fire or earthquakes and gentle images like a dove or stillness.
- Catholics believe that they meet the Holy Spirit in the sacraments of the Church.

#### What is the Catholic Church?

- The Catholic Church is built on the foundation of the apostles.
- The leader of the Church is the Pope. Jesus chose Peter to be the leader of the apostles and he is considered the first Pope.
- The Church is the community of people who have chosen to belong to Christ and receive the sacraments. The Church is universal, open to everyone.
- The first sacrament is **Baptism**. A baptised person is a Christian and part of the Body of Christ.
- Sacraments are meeting points with God. The Catholic Church has seven sacraments.

#### What does the Catholic Church teach?

- The beliefs of the Church are summarised in the **Creed**, a statement of twelve beliefs about God, which is said by Catholics at Mass each Sunday.
- Catholics gather to celebrate **Mass** on Sundays, listening to the words of the Bible and celebrating the Sacrament of the Eucharist. The **Eucharist** remembers Jesus' actions sharing bread and wine the night before he died.
- Catholics believe Jesus himself is present in the bread and wine, and by eating and drinking the Eucharistic meal, they join with Jesus and each other in communion as the Body of Christ.

