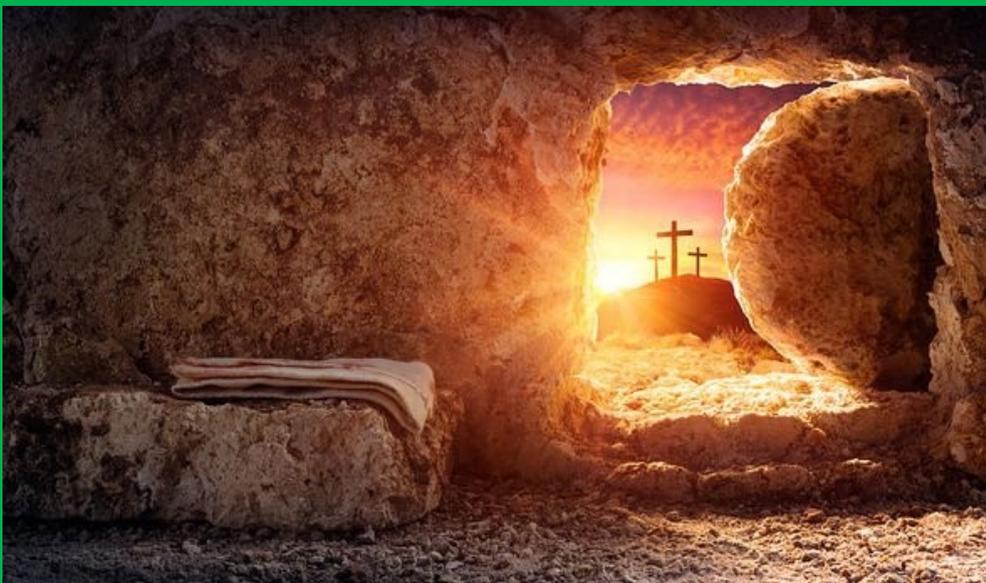


Year 9 - RE
Knowledge Booklet
Term 2
Biblical Literacy 4

Name:

Class:



Overview

- Jesus Christ was crucified some time between the years of 30-33CE in the province of Judea.
- Christians believe that he suffered this death to atone for the sins of mankind.
- Because of this, the day on which he died is remembered each year as Good Friday ('Good' because Jesus took upon himself our punishment).
- They also believe that he was resurrected two days after his crucifixion, and appeared to his followers. Jesus' resurrection is celebrated on Easter Sunday.

The week leading up to his death contains a number of important events, that Christians strive to remember.

Christ on the Cross, a 1620 painting from Peter Paul Rubens



Entry to Jerusalem and The Last Supper

Entry to Jerusalem, commemorated on Palm Sunday



- Two or three years after he began preaching, Jesus decided that he must travel to the ancient Jewish capital city of Jerusalem to preach the Gospel.
- At this time, the area was under the control of the Romans, and the Jewish longed to overthrow their Roman rulers.
- Jesus entered the city at the time of Passover, when there were lots of Jews commemorating how Moses had previously led them to freedom. They were longing for a new leader.
- Jesus deliberately entered the city on a donkey (not a camel or horse) to show that he wanted to serve, and not lead. However, the crowds soon grew excited that the 'Prophet of Galilee' was amongst them.
- Cloaks and branches were laid before him, which would have annoyed the ruling Roman soldiers.

The Last Supper, commemorated on Maundy Thursday

- Once in Jerusalem, Jesus' preaching became more intense. He was provocative with those that were wrongdoing, to drive home his message.
- He knew the consequences, telling his disciples that he would be crucified. It was arranged by the authorities to arrest Jesus. Judas agreed to betray him.
- The Last Supper took place at the Passover Festival. The meal was Jesus' last with his twelve disciples, and so the mood was fairly sombre.
- Jesus shared that one of the disciples would betray him, and Judas walked out into the darkness.
- Jesus took the traditional Passover unleavened bread and wine, and explained that the bread was his body and the wine was his blood. He asked the disciples to eat and drink them in his memory.
- After the meal, Jesus took them to the Garden of Gethsemane to await his arrest.



Big Questions:

- What was Pontius Pilate's problem?
- What happened at the Crucifixion of Jesus?
- What happened on the third day after Jesus' crucifixion?
- Why did Jesus die?
- What life-changing experience happened to Saul on the road to Damascus?



The Garden of Gethsemane and The Crucifixion

The Garden of Gethsemane

- In the garden, Jesus prayed whilst the disciples slept.
- The gospels describe how Jesus descended into anguish, grief and sorrow – he was worried about the fate awaiting him.
- "...if it is possible, take this cup of suffering from me!" (Matthew 26:39). his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground" (Luke 22:44)."
- Judas led Jewish religious officials, temple guards and Roman soldiers into the Garden of Gethsemane. He identified Jesus by kissing him.
- When Jesus was placed before the Roman Governor (Pontius Pilate) the fickle crowd who had cheered Jesus days before demanded his execution.



The Crucifixion, commemorated on Good Friday

- Death by crucifixion is one of the cruelest means of execution – It is long, drawn-out and painful.
- To begin with, the Roman soldiers mocked and beat Jesus and made him wear a crown of thorns around his head.
- Jesus is made to carry his own cross to Golgotha (a place immediately outside Jerusalem's ancient walls, where the crucifixion took place).
- There, Jesus was crucified in between two criminals.
- Jesus pleaded for forgiveness for those who were crucifying him.
- As he died, darkness descended & the veil of the temple was miraculously torn.
- According to Matthew, as Jesus died, the Roman soldiers realised he was divine.



Key Vocabulary

Crucifixion

Palm Sunday

Maundy Thursday

The Last Supper

Garden of Gethsemane

Holy Communion

Good Friday

Easter Sunday

Resurrection

Betrayal

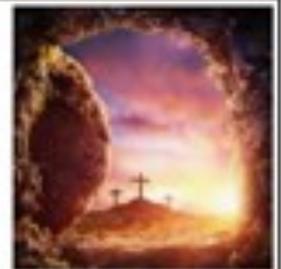
Loyalty

Golgotha

The Resurrection

Commemorated on Easter Sunday

- Most Christians believe that Jesus was resurrected two days after the crucifixion.
- There are many different accounts, which contain some different details. Most suggest that two women went to the tomb two days after the crucifixion, to embalm Jesus' body properly..
- They were stunned to find that the large boulder blocking the entrance to the tomb had been moved, and Jesus' body was missing.
- An angel appeared before them and explained that Jesus was alive.
- The women run back to tell the disciples, but at first are not believed.
- Peter and some of the other disciples went back to the tomb to find it empty.
- Jesus appears before Mary Magdalene – one of his friends.
- He later appears before other disciples, before finally descending to heaven.



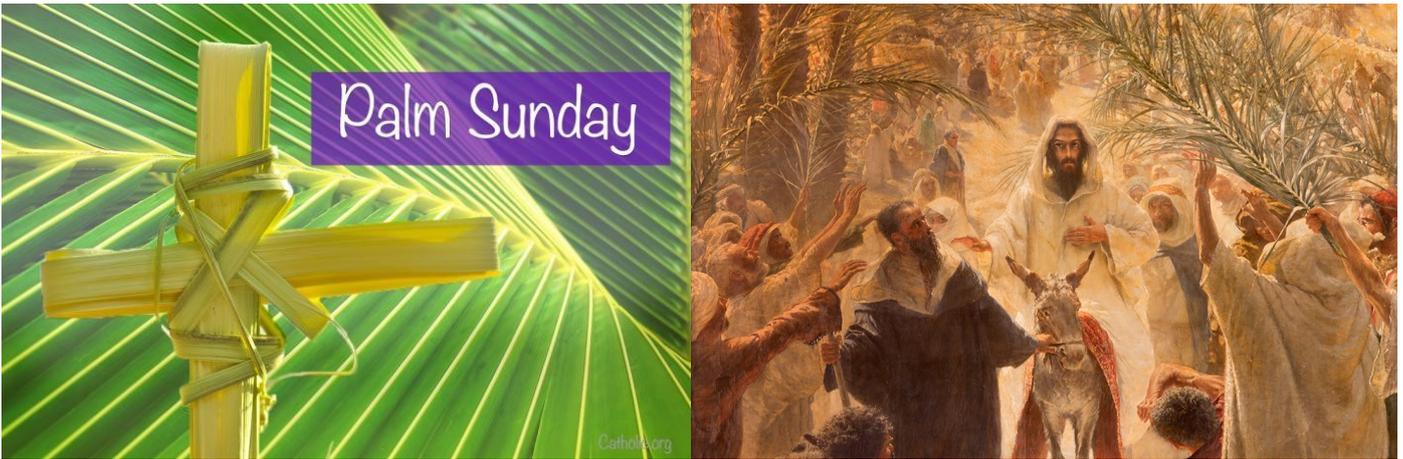
Key vocabulary:

Crucifixion: During the Roman Empire the form of capital punishment for non-Roman citizens

Palm Sunday– The beginning of Holy Week for Christians, when Jesus entered Jerusalem triumphantly, sitting on a donkey, to fulfil a prophecy in Zechariah 9:9, 'Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey'. **Maundy Thursday**—the evening before Jesus died when he shared the **Last Supper** with his disciples, before going to the **Garden of Gethsemane**, where he prayed before his he was arrested. Judas **betrayed** Jesus with a kiss so that the Jewish authorities would know which man to arrest at Gethsemane.

Jesus was crucified at **Golgotha** the following day, on **Good Friday** before he was resurrected on **Easter Sunday**.

Holy Communion is an aspect of Christian worship when Jesus' **Last Supper**, sacrifice and **Resurrection** are remembered.



Palm Sunday is important to Christians as it remembers the day Jesus entered Jerusalem riding on a donkey during the final week of his life as recorded in the Old Testament by the prophet Zechariah.

It focuses on the excitement and anticipation of the large crowds as they welcomed him by waving palm branches and calling him 'the King of the Jews' and shouting 'praise to David's Son!' The whole city was thrown into uproar at that time and many other people also began to ask 'who is he?'

Within days however, some were crying out for his death by crucifixion! Today Christians are often given palm leaves shaped as crosses to help them remember this event in the run up to Easter.

Tasks:

1. Why do you think Palm Sunday is still celebrated today?

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2. How does Jesus' entrance to Jerusalem show him to be a king?

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3. How does Jesus' entrance to Jerusalem show him to be a humble man?

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Maundy Thursday – The Last Supper

‘Maundy’ is an old word for commandment. Maundy Thursday remembers when Jesus and his disciples met to share a meal together – their last meal - as this was the night before Jesus was crucified.

Firstly, Jesus washed his disciple’s feet (a job usually done by a lowly servant). When Jesus washed his disciple’s feet he did so to show that even though he was God’s Son, he had come to serve others. Because of this action, in some churches priests sometimes ceremoniously wash the feet of the people who are at the church to show that they too are the servants of God.

Secondly, Jesus started the act of ‘Holy Communion’ (sometimes known as the Last Supper or the Eucharist) by sharing bread and wine with his followers. He called the bread his body, and the wine His blood and told the disciples to keep doing this act in remembrance of Him. Jesus wanted his disciples to know that this would be the last time they would be together and that he would soon die. This is why Holy Communion takes place in churches today.



Tasks:

1. What does 'Maundy' mean?

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2. What is remembered on Maundy Thursday?

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3. Why did Jesus wash his disciples feet?

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4. What is Holy Communion?

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