

Source to Summit

A course supporting the new Key Stage 3
Religious Education Directory for Catholic schools



Branch 1
Creation and Covenant

'The heavens declare the glory of God'
(Psalms 19:1)

Branch 2
Prophecy and Promise

'at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets'
(Hebrews 1:1)

Branch 3
From Galilee to Jerusalem

'the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known'
(John 1:18)

Branch 4
From Desert to Garden

'Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day'
(1 Corinthians 15:3-4)

Branch 5
To the Ends of the Earth

'Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit'
(Matthew 28:19)



Branch 6
Dialogue and Encounter

'for "In him we live and move and have our being"'
(Acts 17:28)

kerboodle



OXFORD



Year 7

CREATION AND COVENANT

Knowledge organiser

Key vocabulary	
God	The one supreme being, who creates and sustains everything.
revelation	The way in which God is made known to humans, which Catholics believe is most perfectly done through Jesus.
literal sense	The meaning of the text as the author intended it to be; this is different to reading a passage literally which means accepting it as word-for-word truth.
literary form	The style of writing used, for example a letter or a poem.
creation	The act of bringing something into existence; or the universe and everything in it (which Catholics believe God created).
creationism	The belief that the Bible accounts of creation are literally true.
scientism	The belief that science can provide all of the answers in life.
prayer	The way in which humans communicate with God.
stewardship	The duty to care for something. Catholics believe that God gave them the duty to care for the earth and everything in it.

OPTIONS	
Ethical	Sustainable development is trying to live in a way which prevents harm to the environment and prevents the earth's resources running out. Catholics support sustainable development because caring for the environment is part of their duty as stewards of creation.
Lived religion	Sister Dorothy Stang worked to protect the Amazon rainforest and help bring settler farmers together to give them greater power in challenging deforestation. She did this because she believed that God gave all humans the duty to be stewards of creation.
Artistic expression	Art is often used in religion to express complicated beliefs. For example, Donald Jackson's Genesis Frontispiece , from the St John's Bible, shows the first creation story. Each column in the artwork illustrates one day of creation.

The Bible

The Bible is the holy book for Christians. It contains God's Word.

- The **Old Testament** is the part of the Bible written before Jesus' life, and contains the history and faith of the Jewish people.



- The **New Testament** is the part of the Bible written after Jesus' life, and contains accounts of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus and the early history and faith of the Church.

- For Christians, the Bible is a form of **revelation** as they believe it is how God speaks to them.
- Catholics believe the Bible is **inspired**, meaning the Holy Spirit guided human writers to write down the truth from God.
- Most Catholics do not read the Bible literally. Instead they aim to understand the **literal sense** of the Bible (the message that God wanted to communicate to them).

Stories from Genesis

Catholics believe that **God created all life** and everything that is created comes from God alone.

- In the **first creation story** God creates the universe and everything in it over six days; God creates using spoken word; God creates *ex nihilo* (out of nothing).
- This story teaches that **God is eternal** (exists beyond time and has no beginning or end); **transcendent** (outside of space and time); and **omnipotent** (all powerful).
- It teaches that **creation is good**.
- It teaches that **humans are created imago Dei**; they have a responsibility to be **stewards** of creation; they have been **created good**.
- Catholics interpret this as a symbolic story to help answer the questions 'Where did the world and everything in it come from?' and 'Why are we here?'



- In the **second creation story** God orders chaos and creates harmony; man is created by God from the earth and God breathes life into him; woman is created by God from man's rib.
- This story teaches that **God is immanent** (close to humans and acting in the world).
- It teaches that **creation is lovingly made for humans** to live together in a relationship with the world and with each other.
- It teaches that humans have a responsibility to be **stewards** of creation.
- Catholics interpret this as a symbolic story to help answer the question 'What is our purpose?'



Scientific theories about creation

- The **Big Bang theory** says that the universe began around 15 billion years ago from a hot, dense point of energy.
- The **theory of evolution** suggests that all living things change over many generations to suit their environment, and that this happens because of natural selection.

Most Catholics are not creationists. Instead they believe there is no conflict between science and religion since **science tells us how** life exists and **religion tells us why** life exists.

How do teachings about God's role in creation impact Catholics today?

- The Catholic Church teaches that we should try to reduce human suffering and increase cooperation and friendship between all people (**Catholic Social Teaching**).
- The four core principles of Catholic Social Teaching are: the dignity of the human person, the common good, subsidiarity, and solidarity.
- Catholics believe they have a duty to care for the world and everything in it (**stewardship**).
- Pope Francis describes stewardship as responding to 'the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor' (*Laudato si'*).
- **Prayer** is the way in which people communicate with God. It is a response to God's **revelation**.
- When Catholics pray, they lift their hearts and minds to God. It is a way of walking with God throughout their lives.

CHAPTER 2:

PROPHECY AND PROMISE

Knowledge organiser

Key vocabulary	
revelation	The way in which God is made known to humans, which Catholics believe is most perfectly done through Jesus.
Verbum Dei	The Latin phrase for 'Word of God'; also a document from the Second Vatican Council explaining how Jesus is the Word of God.
scripture	The holy book(s) of a religion; in Christianity it is the Bible.
tradition	Also known as Apostolic Tradition, these are actions and teachings of Jesus faithfully passed on from one generation of bishops to the next.
magisterium	From the Latin term magister, meaning teacher or master; it is the authority of the Church to teach.
inspired	'God breathed'; the belief that the Holy Spirit guides an individual to act or write what is good and true.
canon	the agreed list of books that make up the Catholic Bible
Old Testament	The books of the first half of the Bible showing the creation of the world and God's relationship with the Jewish people.
New Testament	The books of the second half of the Bible which tell the story of Jesus' life, ministry and death, and the establishment of the early Church.
Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek	Languages spoken in the area where Jesus grew up; some books of the Bible were written in these languages.
Tanakh	The Jewish Bible.
Liturgy of the Word	The part of Mass where the word of God is proclaimed (announced).

OPTIONS

Artistic expression	Art is often used in religion to express scripture in a beautiful and engaging way, for example The Book of Kells , which is an ancient and beautiful handwritten book that contains the illuminated Gospels.
Lived religion	Biblical idioms have developed over time to become part of everyday language in the UK. Their presence reflects how influential the Bible has been in the UK. They are used to enhance everyday language and to express deeper meanings in a more interesting way.

The Bible

- **Bible references** are made up of book, chapter and verse. They help Catholics to find specific passages.
- The Bible is **read in translation**, which means that it is not usually read today in the original languages it was written in (Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek), as most people do not speak these languages now.
- Catholics believe the Bible's writers were **inspired by the Holy Spirit**, so the true author of the Bible is God.
- The Bible is like a **library of books** as it is made up of many smaller books. It has around 40 different authors, with their own backgrounds and literary forms.
- **The Tanakh** (the Jewish Bible) and the **Old Testament** share many of the same books, however Jews and Christians arrange and interpret them differently.



How is God's message revealed to Catholics?

Scripture

- The Bible is also known as **sacred scripture**. Christians believe it is how God reveals information that will aid humanity's salvation.
- Together, the Old Testament and New Testament explain the **history of salvation**.
- The **Old Testament** reveals prophecies about Jesus and key information about God's plan for salvation. In the **New Testament**, the prophecies and promises in the Old Testament are fulfilled through Jesus.
- The Catechism teaches that the Old Testament has 'intrinsic value', meaning that it is essential and valuable in its own right.
- Catholics believe scripture is without error, which means that through it God speaks to humans and gives them key messages about salvation.

Tradition

- *Verbum Dei* teaches that sacred tradition is just as important to Catholics as sacred scripture. Both are seen as the **word of God**.
- Tradition comes from the words and actions of the **apostles**, who were given the **Holy Spirit** at Pentecost. This gave them authority.
- Tradition has developed teachings on the sanctity of life, the sacraments, the Creeds and the Mass.
- Tradition is alive, therefore as the Church grows and changes, so does tradition.

The magisterium

- The magisterium is the **teaching authority** of the Catholic Church, which has been given to the Pope and the bishops so they can faithfully and authoritatively teach Catholics how to follow the word of God.
- The authority was given to **St Peter and the apostles** who founded the early Church and started sacred tradition.
- This authority is passed down to **every Pope and the bishops**, who use it to teach the word of God.



How is scripture used by Catholics today?

- The Catholic Church uses scripture as the foundation of Mass. In the **Liturgy of the Word**, Catholics hear Bible readings that help them to feel closer to God and to understand what God expects of them.
- Catholics use scripture in prayer, for example in the **Rosary**, which is connected to key events in the Gospels. Catholics meditate on events in the Gospels when they pray the Mysteries of the Rosary.



CHAPTER 3:

GALILEE TO JERUSALEM

Knowledge organiser

Key vocabulary	
Incarnation	Christians believe that God became man in the person of Jesus, truly human and truly divine.
Trinity	God as three in one – Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Son of Man	A title for Jesus which suggests that he is both divine and human; it connects to the idea of him as a Messiah.
Son of God	A title of Jesus as the second person of the Trinity, reflecting his equal status to God the Father.
Christ	A title for Jesus, which means he was chosen by God.
Lord	A person who has power and authority; a title for God in the Old Testament, also used for Jesus in the New Testament.
Heresy	An opinion or belief that goes against Church teaching, or the denial of a revealed truth.
Arianism	The belief put forward by Arius in the fourth century that Jesus was not divine.
lex orandi, lex credendi	Latin phrase meaning 'the law of prayer is the law of belief'.
service	Supporting the needs of others and putting them before our own; this might include physical and spiritual needs, for example.

OPTIONS	
Ethical	Businesses can act selflessly by showing a commitment to corporate social responsibility : operating in a way that benefits wider society.
Lived religion	Father Mychal Judge was a Franciscan friar who worked for the New York City Fire Department, known for his prayerful life and service to others.
Artistic expression	Andrei Rublev's Trinity reflects the doctrine of the Trinity, depicted as three angels.

Important Catholic doctrines

The Incarnation	The Trinity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Incarnation is a Catholic doctrine which states that Jesus was both truly human and truly divine. 'Incarate' means 'made flesh'. God became a human being in the person of Jesus, to offer humanity the chance of salvation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The doctrine of the Trinity teaches that there is one God who is three persons: the Father, the Son (Jesus) and the Holy Spirit. The Trinity is reflected in Catholic prayer, for example in the Sign of the Cross. The Trinity is reflected in the Mass, as Catholics believe the offering that Jesus made to the Father on the cross is made really present by the action of the Holy Spirit. Arius said that Jesus was created by God the Father and therefore God the Father was more powerful. The Church decided this viewpoint was heresy because it goes against the doctrine of the Trinity.



The Nicene Creed

- The **Nicene Creed** is a statement of faith about the core beliefs held by Catholics, such as belief in the Incarnation (e.g. 'For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven').
- It is said in the Mass during the Liturgy of the Word.
- It is structured around the **three persons of the Trinity**.

Jesus' title	What does the Bible tell us about this title?
Son of God	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the Old Testament, there are prophecies that the Messiah will be God's 'son' (e.g. Psalms 2:7). In the New Testament, God the Father calls Jesus his 'beloved Son' during Jesus' baptism. This title shows that Jesus is the Son of the Father and truly God.
Son of Man	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This title is a reminder that Jesus is a human being who wants to serve others (e.g. in Psalms 8:4 in the Old Testament, and in the story of the Request of James and John in the New Testament). The title is also used to emphasise Jesus' divine power and authority (e.g. when describing the Last Day of Judgement in Mark's Gospel).
Christ and Son of David	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'Christ' is a title from the Hebrew 'Messiah', which means anointed one. There are prophecies in the Old Testament about the Messiah, including that the Messiah will be an ancestor of King David (e.g. 1 Kings 9:5). In the New Testament, Jesus is called the Son of David by people who recognise him as the Messiah (e.g. in the story of Palm Sunday).
Lord	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The early Christians used the title 'Lord' to express their belief that Jesus is God, as in the Old Testament this title is used for God (e.g. Exodus 3:14–15). In the New Testament, the disciples use the title as a term of respect and to recognise that Jesus is God (e.g. John 21:1–13).

How is Jesus an example?

Christians believe that Jesus showed **agape** (a pure and selfless love) when he sacrificed himself on the cross to save humanity.

Catholic Social Teaching encourages Catholics to follow Jesus' example and serve others, e.g. through charitable acts or choosing a career that helps others. *Gaudium et Spes* is an important Catholic document which describes Jesus' human qualities and calls him the 'perfect human being'.



CHAPTER 4:

DESERT TO GARDEN

Knowledge organiser

Key vocabulary	
Paschal Mystery	The belief that Jesus' death and resurrection bring salvation to every human being.
sacrament	Visible signs of God's grace that make real what they symbolise; also the name given to the ceremonies that contain these signs.
Passover	A Jewish festival that celebrates God saving the Jewish people from slavery in Egypt.
Eucharist	The sacrament in which Catholics receive the body and blood of Christ; also called Holy Communion, the Lord's Supper, the Breaking of the Bread and Mass.
Sacrifice of the Mass	The belief that Jesus' sacrifice is really made present to Catholics during the Eucharist.
transubstantiation	The process by which the bread and wine actually become the body and blood of Jesus at the moment of consecration.
Holy Communion	Another name for the Sacrament of Eucharist.
Lord's Supper	Another name for the Sacrament of Eucharist.
Blessed Sacrament	A term that refers to the body and blood of Jesus in the Eucharist.

OPTIONS	
Ethical	The world food crisis presents Catholics with an ethical and religious duty to help those most affected. The Eucharist commits Catholics to serve the poor, and Bishop Theotonius Gomes reminds Catholics that providing basic needs is a way to treat others with respect and dignity.
Artistic expression	The Sacrament of the Eucharist and the Last Supper are two common themes in Catholic art. Different artists focus on different aspects of the sacrament. For example, <i>Life of Jesus Mafu: The Last Supper</i> shows Jesus and the apostles as African men in an everyday environment. <i>Last Supper</i> by Pascal Dagnan-Bouveret is a more traditional painting of the Last Supper.
Lived Religion	One way in which Catholics show their devotion to the Real Presence of Jesus is by holding Eucharistic processions . In these, the Blessed Sacrament is carried in a procession around a holy site. These processions vary between countries as they are influenced by local customs and traditions.

The Paschal Mystery

For the Catholic Church, the term 'Paschal Mystery' means three things:

- The **actual events** of Jesus' arrest, trial, death on the cross and resurrection from the dead.
- The **significance of those events**: Catholics believe that Jesus' death on the cross frees human beings from sin, and that his resurrection opens the way to a new life with God.
- The idea that Jesus' death and resurrection are **made present in the life of the Church today**. They can be experienced by Catholics most directly in the celebration of the Mass and in the seven sacraments.



The seven sacraments

- **Sacraments are visible signs of God's grace**. These religious ceremonies make God's invisible, saving power visible and present to those who receive it.
- Catholics must receive the three **Sacraments of Initiation** to become a full member of the Church: Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.
- The **Sacraments of Healing** are Reconciliation and the Anointing of the Sick.
- The **Sacraments at the Service of Communion** are Holy Orders and Matrimony.
- Catholics believe the sacraments **nourish and strengthen their faith**.



The Sacrament of the Eucharist...

- Catholics believe the Eucharist is the most important sacrament. It is **'the source and summit of Christian life'** (CCC 1324).
- The word Eucharist means 'thanksgiving'. The sacrament is known by **many names** including the Lord's Supper, Holy Communion, the Breaking of the Bread, and Mass. Each name gives a different insight into the significance of the sacrament.
- **The Liturgy of the Eucharist** is the high point of the Mass. It is when the bread and wine become the body and blood of Jesus, and these are offered to the congregation.



...and its significance

- The Eucharist is **significant** as it can bring a person closer to God, strengthen faith, and provide forgiveness and protection from sin. It unites Catholics together as the Church, and commits Catholics to serve the poor.
- The **Last Supper** was a meal that Jesus shared with his disciples to celebrate the Jewish Passover. During this meal, Jesus **instituted the Sacrament of the Eucharist**.
- Catholics believe that when they celebrate the Eucharist today, the events of the Last Supper and the sacrifice Jesus made become **really present** for them in the Mass.
- Jesus' sacrifice is **foreshadowed** in the first Passover meal described in the Old Testament.
- **Jesus is present** in the Mass in four ways: in the assembly of the faithful, in the reading of the scripture, in the person of the priest, and in the Blessed Sacrament.
- Most Christians around the world agree that Jesus is present in the Eucharist, but they may have **different views** on how this happens. For example, most Anglicans believe that Jesus is really *spiritually* present.
- Some Christians (such as Baptists) do not believe in the Real Presence of Jesus, and instead believe that the Eucharist is about commemorating the Last Supper.

CHAPTER 5:

TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

Knowledge organiser

Key vocabulary	
Holy Spirit	The third person of the Trinity, true God, who Christians believe inspires people.
Pentecost	A Christian festival celebrating the time when the Holy Spirit came down to the apostles; also a Jewish festival known as Shavuot, celebrating the harvest and the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai.
<i>ruah</i>	A Hebrew word meaning wind or breath; God's Spirit that was breathed in Adam to bring him to full life.
People of God	One of the names of the Church, emphasising the whole community of believers, united by their belief in God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Body of Christ	One of the names of the Church, emphasising the community of all those who are members of Christ's body through Baptism, with Jesus as their head, working together like one body.
Temple of the Holy Spirit	One of the names of the Church, emphasising the community of all those who are led by God's spirit in their lives, given to them through the sacraments.
Confirmation	The Sacrament of initiation that completes Baptism and strengthens a person's faith by being sealed with the Holy Spirit as a mature member of the Church.
fruits of the Spirit	The behaviours and attitudes that are shown by a person who is filled with the Holy Spirit, such as love, joy and kindness.

OPTIONS

Ethical	Christians believe they are guided by the Holy Spirit to show the fruits of the Spirit (such as patience and kindness) in the way they live. Although it is sometimes difficult to ignore the works of the flesh (temptations or weaknesses such as anger or jealousy), Christians aim to follow Jesus' example.
Artistic expression	<i>Life of Jesus Mela</i> : Pentecost shows the apostles as Black Africans, as a way of making Bible stories more meaningful for Black African communities. The painting shows the apostles and Mary joyfully receiving the Holy Spirit in wind and fire. <i>The descent of the Holy Spirit on the apostles and Mary at Pentecost</i> by Elizabeth Wang shows Mary and the apostles, with the light of the Holy Spirit coming from heaven and flames on each person's head. This shows the holiness of the Holy Spirit.
Lived religion	Pentecost is celebrated in different ways around the world, reflecting Christian beliefs and local cultures. For example, red rose petals are scattered to symbolise tongues of fire in Italy, and greenery is used to decorate homes in Poland.

Who is the Holy Spirit?

- The Holy Spirit is the **third person of the Trinity**.
- In the Nicene Creed, the Holy Spirit is described as 'the Lord, the giver of life'.
- **Symbols** are used to communicate beliefs about the Holy Spirit. These symbols are often based on **biblical accounts** of the Holy Spirit (e.g. the dove, fire and wind). Some symbols link to **Christian worship and rituals** (e.g. anointing, the hand and water).
- The Holy Spirit gives Christians **seven gifts**, which are freely given through love: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety and fear of the Lord.
- A person shows the impact of the Holy Spirit in their life by displaying the **twelve fruits**: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control, goodness, modesty and chastity.
- **St Luke** is believed to have written Luke's Gospel and Acts of the Apostles. He described the importance of the Holy Spirit in the life of Jesus and in establishing the Church community.
- **Pentecost** is when the Holy Spirit came to the apostles, filling them with confidence and the ability to speak different languages to spread the Good News. This event is considered to be the birthday of the Church.



The Holy Spirit and Jesus



The Bible shows that the Holy Spirit played an **important role** in Jesus' life and mission:

- Jesus was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit.
- When Jesus was baptised, the Holy Spirit appeared as a dove.
- In Luke 4:18, Jesus said that God's Spirit had anointed him to do God's work.
- Jesus promised that he would send God's Spirit to the apostles, who had been given the task of spreading the Good News.

The Holy Spirit in the life of the Church

The Holy Spirit has **guided the Church** from its earliest moments:

- The Holy Spirit helped the apostles to carry out the mission given to them by Jesus.
- The Holy Spirit remained with the earliest Church communities to give them strength in the face of persecution.
- The Holy Spirit helped to bring more people into the Church community.
- The Church community is described as a community of God's people (the People of God); a community like a body, with Jesus as the head (the Body of Christ); and a community filled with the Holy Spirit (the Temple of the Holy Spirit).



The Holy Spirit in the life of individual Christians

Individual Christians can feel the Holy Spirit at work in their lives:

- The Holy Spirit guides people in their **vocation**: their call from God to live a particular life.
- Catholics believe that a person is anointed in the Holy Spirit at Baptism, and sealed in the Holy Spirit at Confirmation.
- At Confirmation, a person celebrates receiving the gifts of the Holy Spirit, which help them to live a Christian life and follow God.

CHAPTER 6:

DIALOGUE AND ENCOUNTER

Knowledge organiser

Key vocabulary

ecumenical council	In Catholicism, a meeting of the bishops of the worldwide Church at the invitation of the Pope, to decide on matters of the Church.
schism	A split or division within a group.
dogma	An essential belief which becomes a binding teaching in Catholicism.
reform	To make changes to something.
Christian unity	All Christians are united in common beliefs such as the importance of Jesus and his teachings.
ecumenism	The aim of promoting unity among the Christian Churches of the world.

The importance of councils within the Church

- After the Great Commission, as Christianity grew, councils became an important way of **making decisions** that could be shared with the Church and its members to **ensure harmony** in the Church.
- Councils aim to **resolve theological issues** peacefully, and debate matters of faith and morals.
- There have been **21 councils** in total. Some of these councils have established **dogma** that Catholics must follow.



The Council of Jerusalem

- The Council of Jerusalem was the **first council recorded in the Bible**, in Acts 15 and Galatians 3.
- The **apostles** met to decide whether people who were not Jewish (gentiles) needed to become Jews or follow Jewish Law in order to be followers of Jesus.
- The council decided that **gentiles did not need to become Jews or follow Jewish Law** to be Christian.
- In Acts, St Peter confirms that **both Jews and gentiles are chosen by God** and therefore there is no difference between them.
- In Galatians, St Paul explains that all people become brothers and sisters when they believe in Jesus, so the differences between Jews and gentiles do not matter and all can be followers of Christ.
- The Council of Jerusalem is the first example of **church leaders gathering to resolve a difference** that threatens to split the Church and its members.
- Today, **the bishops and the Pope** continue the work of the apostles and call councils as needed. A modern example of an ecumenical council is the **Second Vatican Council**, called in 1962 by Pope John XXIII to try to modernise the Church.



Different Christian denominations

When different views within the Church cannot be peacefully resolved, this can lead to splits and divides (**schisms**) within the Church. In the past this had led to **different Christian denominations** being founded.

The First Council of Nicaea in AD 325	This was a response to Arianism , which rejected the divinity of Jesus and the Holy Trinity. The council decided that Arianism was incorrect, so the Arians broke away from the main Church.
The Council of Chalcedon in AD 451	This was a response to Nestorianism , which argued that Jesus was a God-inspired man, not God-made-human. The council decided this was incorrect, as the difference could not be resolved, some Christians broke away from the Church.
The Council of Trent in 1543	This was a response to the Reformation , which wanted to reform Catholicism and remove practices the reformers did not agree with, such as selling indulgences. The Council of Trent was part of the Counter-Reformation, which was unsuccessful in stopping the Reformation. This led to some Christians splitting from Catholicism and founding Protestant groups.

Ecumenism

- The ecumenical movement wants to follow in the footsteps of Jesus and reconcile all Christians to bring about Christian unity.
- In his words and actions, **Jesus called for one united Church**, so the movement aims to bring about the Christianity that Jesus hoped for.

What can Christians do to bring about unity?

- Christians can put aside their differences and **focus on their similarities**.
- They can remember that they are all connected as part of the **Body of Christ**.
- They can have **discussions and dialogue** to better understand each other.
- They can **pray and worship together**, as in worship there is no room for disagreements.

How do Christians work together to bring about the common good?

- The **World Council of Churches** (a global community of churches) works to bring about ecumenism.
- They **organise projects** that help to distribute resources fairly.
- Their work **highlights shared Christian beliefs**. Focusing on these similarities helps Christians to come together to bring about the common good.





Year 8

CHAPTER 1:

CREATION AND COVENANT

Knowledge organiser

Key vocabulary	
the Fall	The story in Genesis 3 when humans commit the first sin and fall away from God's grace.
original sin	The state of sin in which all humans are born, meaning they inherit the consequences of Adam and Eve's first sin.
concupiscence	The natural temptation to sin that all humans have, following the Fall.
Sinai covenant	The covenant Moses made with God at Mount Sinai, and when he was given the Ten Commandments as part of the Law.
the Decalogue	The ten 'words' or sayings of God that guided the Jewish people to live as God wanted; also called the Ten Commandments.
freedom	The power or right a person has to act, speak or think as they want; being able to choose their own destiny, independent of influence from anyone or anything else.
responsibility	Having control or power over something, which leads to a duty or moral obligation to behave correctly.
conscience	An intuitive knowledge of right and wrong, which leads to an instinctive desire to do right and to avoid wrong.
baptism	The Sacrament of Initiation that welcomes new members into the Catholic Church and washes a person clean of the original sin all humans inherit following the first sin by Adam and Eve.

OPTIONS	
Ethical	Christians believe it is important to show love of neighbour , which Jesus taught is the greatest commandment and which he illustrated through the story of The Good Samaritan . Pope Francis' encyclical <i>Fratelli Tutti</i> also reminds Christians that all people are connected to each other just like a family.
Artistic expression	Artists have depicted the moment of Moses receiving the Ten Commandments because it is such an important part of the Christian faith. David Courlander's Moses Delivering His Ten Commandments shows Moses coming down from the mountain holding two stone tablets, surrounded by the Jewish people. The icon <i>Moses Receiving the Law</i> shows Moses receiving the commandments from God at the top of Mount Sinai.
Lived religion	Conscientious objectors do not participate in certain actions or processes because of their personal beliefs. Sophie Scholl refused to participate in the activities of the Nazi Party and, through the White Rose movement, spoke out against the Nazi regime.

The Fall and human sin

The story of **the Fall in Genesis 3** helps Christians to understand why there is sin in the world.

The Fall

- God gives humans the freedom to choose between right and wrong. In the story of the Fall, Adam and Eve **use this free will to disobey God and commit sin.**
- When Adam and Eve sin, they **spoil their relationship with God, with each other and with nature.**
- Catholics believe **all humans are marked with original sin** from Adam and Eve's sin. This means **humans are more tempted to sin.**
- Catholics believe that the story of the Fall is **figurative**: it uses metaphors to explain why we have sin in the world.
- The story of the Fall **emphasises God's goodness**: God shows people how to avoid sin and promises that evil will be overcome.

Sin

Christians believe a sin is an **act against the will of God** or when someone **goes against what their conscience tells them is right.**

- **Personal sin** is the sin we have chosen to do ourselves.
- **Original sin** is the state that all humans are born into, inheriting the consequences of Adam and Eve's sin.



Covenants and God's commands

Covenants are **agreements between two or more people**. God made covenants with humanity.

- In the **Sinai covenant**, **God gave the Ten Commandments to Moses**. These commandments **teach humans how to love God and others.**
- Jesus taught humans that the **greatest commandment** is to love God with all your heart, soul and mind, and to love your neighbour as yourself.
- By keeping God's commands, Christians **express their love for God and stay committed to the covenant.**



Conscience

Catholics believe that conscience is **God's law written on their heart**, and that God guides people through their conscience to **do good and avoid evil.**

Catholics believe that:

- People have an **intuitive knowledge of right and wrong** because they are created *imago Dei*.
- They need to **inform their conscience** (for example by reading the Bible and praying) so that they grow in faith and keep God's word at the centre of their lives.
- They should always **obey their conscience**, but it must be well informed.

Baptism

- Baptism is a **Sacrament of Initiation** that **welcomes a person into the Church.**
- Baptism **cleanses a person of their original sin and personal sins.**
- The idea of **water washing away sin** is found in Numbers in the Old Testament.
- In the New Testament, **John the Baptist** baptised Jesus and others. Jesus then instructed his disciples to **baptise all new Christians.**



- Most Catholics are baptised as babies or young children (**infant baptism**).
- **St Augustine** taught that infant baptism is important to ensure that a person is **cleansed of original sin** and able to live a Christian life as soon as possible.
- Some Christians believe that baptism should only be celebrated by people who are old enough to decide to be baptised (**believers' baptism**).
- They say that Jesus himself was baptised as an adult, and that the promises made in baptism are personal and life-changing, so people should be old enough to understand how important they are.

CHAPTER 2:

PROPHECY AND PROMISE

Knowledge organiser

Key vocabulary

prophet	A person anointed by God and inspired by God through the Holy Spirit to share God's messages.
priest	A person anointed by God to make thanksgiving offerings on behalf of the people; today, it also refers to an ordained minister of the Catholic Church, who celebrates the sacraments in which all Catholics participate.
king	An anointed person who has authority, power and responsibility for people in their care; also a ruler of a country.
messianic	Relating to the Messiah.
Advent	The first season in the liturgical year, in which Christians prepare and wait for both the birth of Jesus and the Second Coming of Christ.
Amos	An early Hebrew prophet who called people back to God and warned of divine judgement on people who sinned.
Elijah	An Old Testament prophet who foretells the coming of the Messiah in the books 1 Kings and 2 Kings.
John the Baptist	A New Testament prophet who prophesied and prepared the way for Jesus as the Messiah; also the cousin of Jesus.

OPTIONS

Ethical	Superstition is when a person places faith in magic or luck in the belief that they can influence or control events. It has existed for thousands of years and can be found all over the world. The Catholic Church teaches that superstition takes Christians away from God and directs their faith towards false 'powers'.
Artistic expression	Christmas carols are hymns on the theme of Christmas. The lyrics of many carols are connected to prophecies in the Old Testament and are sung as a way of preparing to celebrate the birth of Christ. 'O Come, O Come, Emmanuel' is an example of this.
Lived religion	St Óscar Romero was a priest from El Salvador who spoke out against the military dictatorship and violence in the country. He preached sermons about the preferential love for the poor, which gave people hope. His prophetic voice inspires Christians today to speak out against injustice.

What are prophetic texts?

Prophets are called by God to be **God's spokespeople on earth**. They are **inspired by the Holy Spirit** to share **God's warnings, encouragements or predictions** with people.

- Prophetic texts all follow the same pattern: **call, message and fulfilment**.
- They have **many different themes**, for example Amos gives warnings to people from God while Jeremiah focuses on social justice. **Jeremiah** was called by God to try to convince people to end the corrupt practices happening in Israel at the time.
- Some prophetic texts use **images and parables** to help people understand God's messages. Amos uses the image of a **plumb line** to show the standard of living that God wants people to follow.
- Some prophetic texts are **messianic**: they explain what the Messiah will be like and what he will do. An example is Isaiah predicting the coming of a **'suffering servant'**.
- Christians believe these predictions in the Old Testament are **fulfilled in the New Testament**, showing that God's promises are kept. Christians believe Isaiah's prediction of the suffering servant was fulfilled in Jesus.
- Some prophetic texts connect to Advent and the **Advent wreath**, which is a devotion used to wait and prepare for the birth of Jesus and the Second Coming of Christ.



The prophet Amos

Amos was a Hebrew prophet who was called by God in a vision. He:

- Called for people to **repent their sinful ways** by hating evil and turning to righteousness.
- Called for wealthy people to **care for those in poverty**, or risk punishment from God.
- Criticised **external religion**, as people were taking part in religious ceremonies but not acting in a loving and compassionate way.
- Warned people that **God was unhappy** with the way they were living, to try to help them understand that what they were doing was damaging their relationship with God.
- Shared God's **promise** that people who follow God will be rewarded and enjoy God's forgiveness and blessings.
- Talked about God's **remnant**: the faithful few who do as God wants. God wants to build a relationship with this remnant as they are God's chosen people.
- Showed God to be a **judge of all nations** who will fairly judge everyone on their actions.



The prophet John the Baptist

- John the Baptist is a New Testament prophet who shares the **same pattern of call, message, and fulfilment** that the Old Testament prophets did.
- He is connected to the prophet Elijah, who begins the **cycle of prophecy** that John concludes.
- John is **called from the moment of his conception**, and his father is told that he will **prepare people for the coming of the Messiah**.
- Christians believe his **message is fulfilled in Jesus**, whom John baptises in the River Jordan.

How lay people are called to be witnesses of Christ

Christians believe that Jesus carries out the roles of **priest, prophet and king**. Christians believe they too are called to be priest, prophet, and king through Baptism.

- Christians are called to be **priests** by participating in the sacraments, showing devotion to God and supporting others to do the same.
- Christians are called to be **prophets** by helping others to come to know God.
- Christians are called to be **kings** by acting as Jesus would and leading by example.



CHAPTER 3:

GALILEE TO JERUSALEM

Knowledge organiser

Key vocabulary

Kingdom	The spiritual realm over which God reigns as king and the fulfilment of God's will on earth by humankind, living by the laws and commandments of God.
moral sense of scripture	The understanding that a Christian takes from a scriptural text about how to live a good and holy life.
miracles	Astonishing events that can only be attributed to divine power and reveal something about who God is; the miracles of Jesus were messianic signs of the presence of God's Kingdom on earth.
parables	Simple stories used to illustrate a spiritual or moral lesson.
Anointing of the Sick	The Sacrament of Healing that provides a Catholic with spiritual strength when they are ill or dying.

OPTIONS

Ethical	Since Jesus' time, refugees have been marginalised and met with hostility. The Church encourages Catholics to follow the example of Jesus and welcome refugees.
Artistic expression	<i>The Jesus Table</i> by Fr Sieger Köder is a painting that recreates the Last Supper. Instead of being joined by the twelve apostles, however, Jesus is joined by people representing marginalised groups. <i>Encounter</i> by Daniel Carliola captures the moment in the story Jesus Heals a Woman when the woman reaches out and is healed with a single touch of Jesus' cloak.
Lived religion	Fr Damien of Molokai was a priest who served a community of people with leprosy in Hawaii during the nineteenth century. He was inspired by Jesus' actions to help a marginalised group of people, and his selfless actions have allowed him to become an example to all Christians.

The Kingdom of God

The **Kingdom of God** is a time when people live as God wants.

- The Kingdom of God is one of the significant themes of **Mark's Gospel**.
- Catholics believe Jesus established the Kingdom of God on earth through his **ministry**.
- The Kingdom of God is **open to everyone** and belongs especially to the '**poor and lowly**'.
- Catholics believe they have a duty to strive to **make the Kingdom present** in their own lives, by following God's will. One way they can do this is by practising the **corporal and spiritual works of mercy**.
- One way in which the Church brings about the Kingdom of God is through the **sacraments**.
- The **Anointing of the Sick** is a sacrament which provides spiritual nourishment to a person who is very ill. This follows the example of Jesus.



Jesus' encounters with those on the margins

People who were on the margins in Jesus' society were in some way cast aside. This included sinners, the ritually impure, gentiles, women, the neglected (such as widows) and the sick.

- Through his ministry, Jesus **reached out to marginalised groups**, treating them with compassion and as equals. He set an example to Christians to do the same.
- Catholics believe that **reaching out to marginalised groups** and **challenging unfair treatment of them** helps to bring about the Kingdom of God today.

Jesus' parables

- Parables are **simple stories with a message**.
- Parables (and other biblical texts) often have a **literal sense** (what the human authors wanted to say) and a **spiritual sense** (what God wanted to reveal through their writings).
- The **moral sense** is one of the spiritual senses of scripture. It is the understanding a Christian takes from the text about how to live a good and holy life.
- Jesus used parables to convey **moral messages** to his followers in an accessible way.
- Three themes he spoke about were **Kingdom growth, mercy and eschatology**.
- Jesus told the **parable of the Sower** to teach people how to grow God's Kingdom on earth.
- Jesus told the **parable of the Prodigal Son** to teach people to show mercy and compassion to others.
- Jesus told the parable of the **Sheep and the Goats** to teach people about how they will be judged by God at the end of time.
- In the parable of the Sheep and the Goats, Jesus explains that God will judge people according to how they have behaved in life towards others.
- Many believe the moral sense of the Sheep and the Goats is that it is important to help others as this is helping Christ, and that acting justly towards others is necessary to enter heaven.



Jesus' miracles

Jesus **performed miracles** that showed power over evil, sickness, death and nature.

- The miracles of Jesus **reveal the nature of God's reign and who Jesus is**.
- For example, through his **healing miracles** - such as healing the paralysed man (Mark 2:1-12) - Jesus placed people on the margins of society at the centre of the Kingdom of God.
- For Christians, Jesus' miracles show that he is **truly God**, such as when he shows his power to calm the storm. Jesus' miracles also teach Christians that faith in him is the first step towards salvation.



CHAPTER 4:

DESERT TO GARDEN

Knowledge organiser

Key vocabulary	
suffering servant	A servant of God, prophesied by Isaiah, who is sent to save humankind and will face hardship and pain on behalf of them.
Passion	The suffering Jesus faced during his trial and death on the cross.
suffering	Negative experiences such as pain or loss that harm human beings and come from the presence of evil or the absence of good in the world.
Lent	A season in the liturgical year beginning on Ash Wednesday and ending on Holy Thursday; it is a time of repentance in the 40-day period leading to Easter.
fasting, almsgiving and prayer	The three ways many Catholics prepare for Easter, during Lent - by going without something, by giving to help others and by communicating with God.
Triduum	The three days beginning on the evening of Holy Thursday when the Last Supper was celebrated, and including Jesus' suffering and crucifixion on Good Friday, and resurrection on Easter Sunday.
Sacrament of Reconciliation	The Sacrament of Healing in which a person confesses and is forgiven of their sins, receiving spiritual healing; also known as the Sacrament of Penance, or Confession.
problem of evil	Why there is evil and suffering in the world if God is good.

OPTIONS	
Ethical	Evil and suffering can be a challenge to the existence of God, but the theodicies of St Augustine and St Irenaeus respond to this. St Augustine taught that all evil and suffering is a response to the sin of Adam and Eve, and that God shows love and mercy by giving all people the chance of salvation. St Irenaeus taught that suffering helps people to develop good qualities which bring them closer to God.
Artistic expression	Images of Jesus' crucifixion explore ideas about suffering and Christ's death. For example, in an image from a French missal (c. 1270), Adam is collecting Jesus' blood to show that Jesus' death obtained forgiveness for the sins of Adam and Eve. Michael Rothenstein's <i>The Crucifixion</i> links Jesus' suffering to the suffering of innocent people under the Nazi regime.
Lived religion	Margaret and Barry Mizen suffered the death of their son Jimmy in 2008 when he was 16 years old. They have been inspired by their Catholic faith to devote their lives to working for peace and forgiveness.

Suffering

Suffering can challenge some people's faith in God, though Catholics believe that a good God still exists, despite evil and suffering.

What is suffering?	Why is there suffering?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical evil is suffering caused by natural events, such as a flood. Moral evil is suffering caused by a person choosing to inflict suffering, such as theft. Physical suffering is suffering of our body that we can physically feel, such as an injury. Moral suffering is suffering we cannot see but is still real, such as fear. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Church teaches that suffering comes from human sin as this disordered all of God's good creation. St Augustine suggested that all suffering is either sin or punishment for sin. The story of Job reminds Christians that suffering is mysterious and they will never fully understand God. Suffering might call people to conversion, such as King David's conversion following his adultery with Bathsheba. Suffering can redeem others. Isaiah prophesied that the Messiah would suffer to bring new life.

Jesus and suffering

Christians believe that Jesus' suffering helps them to understand the purpose of suffering.

- Isaiah spoke about the Messiah as the **'suffering servant'**.
- Christians believe this refers to Jesus because he **experienced great physical and moral suffering** during his trial, torture and death **for the sake of humanity**.
- Christians believe that God allowed Jesus to suffer to **rescue humans from sin and death** (salvation).
- Humans needed salvation since **their sinfulness had separated them from God and weakened their chance of eternal life**.
- Christians believe that Jesus' suffering can teach them to **trust in God** and to see their suffering as **a mission from God**.



Lent

- During Lent, Catholics prepare for Easter through **fasting, almsgiving and prayer**.
- These practices **help Catholics to repent and turn to God**.
- They remind Catholics of the **time of temptation** that Jesus spent in the wilderness.

Easter Triduum

- Holy Thursday** is when Jesus had his **Last Supper** and gave his disciples the commandment to love one another. Catholics go to Mass in the evening to remember this important meal.
- Good Friday** is when Jesus was crucified. Catholics attend a solemn liturgy where they **venerate the cross** to show their great love and respect for Jesus.
- Easter Sunday** is the day of Jesus' resurrection. The first celebration of this is on Holy Saturday at the **Easter Vigil**, where the symbolism of light overcoming darkness is used to show the power of Jesus over sin and death.



The Sacrament of Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a **Sacrament of Healing** that originates from **Jesus' own behaviour** and his emphasis on forgiveness.

- Even though Jesus died to bring forgiveness of sins, Catholics believe they have a **responsibility to ask God to forgive them** for their sins.
- In this sacrament, a person will **confess their sins**. The priest then **absolves** the person of their sins and gives them a **penance**.
- The sacrament can help a person **move on from guilt**, give them the **ability to repair the damage** their sin has done, and help them to **feel closer to God**.
- Catholics make a special effort to receive the sacrament in Lent.



CHAPTER 5:

TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

Knowledge organiser

Key vocabulary	
Resurrection	The Christian belief that after his crucifixion and death, Jesus rose again to life.
death	The permanent end of a person's physical life.
judgement	The judgement an individual person faces at the moment of their death is known as particular judgement and determines whether their soul goes to heaven, purgatory or hell.
heaven	An eternity in God's presence.
hell	The eternal absence of God's presence.
purgatory	The condition a soul enters when in need of purification before entering the presence of God.
funeral rite	The ceremonies carried out when an individual dies and is laid to rest by the Church.
requiem	The name given to a Mass for the dead, often used for a Mass that contains a funeral rite.

OPTIONS	
Ethical	The Catholic belief in purgatory is one of the key points of disagreement between the Catholic Church and other Christian Churches. Some Christians argue that the belief in purgatory is not biblical, while Catholics defend their view with the use of scripture.
Artistic expression	Some artworks about the Resurrection focus on the story On the Road to Emmaus . Emmouus by Sadao Watanabe shows Jesus sharing a meal of fish with his two disciples at Emmaus. The print draws on Japanese culture and traditions. Supper of Emmaus by Caravaggio shows the moment the two disciples realise who Jesus is, as he breaks bread with them.
Lived religion	Most Christians who are laid to rest are buried in a cemetery. Garden cemeteries , such as Highgate Cemetery in the UK, include tree-lined paths to create a sense of tranquillity. In New Orleans, jazz funerals are typically held for musicians. They involve a procession that mixes different musical styles, including Christian hymns and more joyful jazz.

The Resurrection of Jesus

Jesus' resurrection is described, slightly differently, in all four Gospels in the Bible.

What happened?

- On the day of Jesus' resurrection, **Jesus' female disciples return to his tomb to find it is empty**. Two angels appear to them and **explain that Jesus has risen**.
- After his resurrection, **Jesus appeared to many of his disciples**, who often struggled to understand what had happened to him.
- For example, in the story **On the Road to Emmaus**, Jesus appears to two disciples travelling to Emmaus, yet they don't recognise him until he breaks bread with them.
- With the help of Jesus' words and faith, his disciples came to understand that Jesus overcame death.

Why is it significant?

- Christians believe that the details of the empty tomb provide evidence for the unique nature of Jesus' resurrection: **Jesus rose from the dead, body and soul**. His resurrected body is **glorified** and uncorrupted by death.
- The Church teaches that the account of the empty tomb is a **sign of Jesus' physical resurrection and an actual historical event**.
- The Church calls the Resurrection **the central and crowning truth of the Christian faith**.
- Catholics believe the Resurrection is important because it is **an essential belief for all Christians and the source of hope for the future**.



What happens after death?



The Church teaches that:

- Humans are made up of a **physical body and an immortal, spiritual soul**.
- Immediately following death, **particular judgement** happens: God judges the way a person has lived their life and shown love to others.
- As a result of this judgement, **their soul will go to either heaven, hell or purgatory**.
- Those who go to purgatory **will ultimately reach heaven** but first have to experience purification.
- On the Last Day of Judgement, when Christ returns, **all souls will be unified with their physical bodies and be subject to a final judgement**.

Baptism and funeral rites

Belief in the Resurrection and life after death influences Catholic practices and celebrations.

Baptism

- Catholics believe that when a candidate is immersed in the holy water, this **symbolises the death and burial of old life and resurrection into new life**.
- Catholics believe that Baptism is **necessary for salvation**: without the death of their sinful life, they cannot accept the new life offered by the resurrected Jesus.
- A **baptism of desire** is when God chooses to save a person who did not receive the Sacrament of Baptism.



Funeral rites

The Catholic funeral rite has three key purposes:

- To celebrate the Catholic hope for eternal life.**
- To reassure those who are grieving of God's mercy and love.**
- To pray for the person who has died to receive God's forgiveness.**

Catholic funeral rites usually have three stages:

- The Vigil of Prayer:** praying for the deceased and those grieving.
- The Funeral Liturgy:** often a requiem Mass in the church.
- The Committal:** burial at the cemetery.

CHAPTER 6:

DIALOGUE AND ENCOUNTER

Knowledge organiser

Key vocabulary

Ecclesiam Suam	The Latin phrase for 'His Church'; also Pope St Paul VI's first encyclical, which explored how the Church should bring its message to a changing world.
dialogue	Positive interactions and discussions between different people to encourage mutual understanding and enrichment.
proclamation	In Catholicism, communication of the Gospel message: announcing Jesus to the world and sharing the mystery of salvation offered through him.
Second Vatican Council	A meeting of bishops of the worldwide Church, called by Pope St John XXIII in 1962 and closed by Pope St Paul VI in 1965.
Eastern Catholic Churches	The 23 Catholic Churches which observe the Alexandrian, West Syrian, East Syrian, Armenian and Byzantine rites.
patrimony	Patrimony includes how a Church celebrates its rites, how its churches are decorated, and the art and music used in worship.
liturgical rites	The particular ways a Church conducts and structures its acts of worship, ceremonies and spiritual life.
liturgical traditions	The gestures, actions and expressions associated with a liturgical rite.

The Second Vatican Council

The Second Vatican Council was an **ecumenical council** that was called in 1962 by Pope St John XXIII. It lasted for three years.

The council focused on how the Church could respond to the **challenges faced by the modern world**, and how the Church could **reach out to Christians and non-Christians**. It had **four key aims**:

- To develop a better **understanding** of the Catholic Church.
- To decide what **reforms** were needed within the Church.
- To improve **dialogue** between the Church and the modern world.
- To promote **peace, unity and social justice** within Christianity and in the world.

Some of the key documents that came from the council made major changes to the Church.

- **Lumen Gentium** reminds Catholics that they have three roles to play in the Church, as priests, prophets and kings.
- It encourages Catholics to collaborate with people of all faiths, religions and beliefs.
- **Gaudium et Spes** explores how and why the Church should adapt and develop in order to speak for those without a voice and to contribute to change and reform in the world.

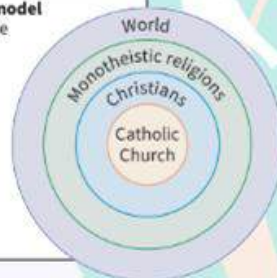
Ecclesiam Suam

Ecclesiam Suam was **Pope St Paul VI's first encyclical** (a letter from a Pope to be shared with all Catholics). Its purpose was to review and guide the work of the Second Vatican Council.

- Pope St Paul VI said that he wanted the Church and the world to 'meet together, and get to know and love one another'.
- He called for: individual Christians to **deepen their knowledge** of their own faith; **renewal** within the Church; and **dialogue** with people of other religions.
- Some of the suggestions made by Pope St Paul VI about the need for dialogue were **reflected in documents created by the Second Vatican Council**.

Pope St Paul VI used a **concentric circles model of dialogue** as a metaphor to show who the Church is called into dialogue with.

- The first and biggest circle includes dialogue with all **humans**.
- The second circle includes dialogue with all **monotheistic religions**.
- The third circle includes dialogue with all **Christian denominations**.
- The fourth and smallest circle includes dialogue within the **Catholic Church**.



The Catholic Church: a family of Churches

- There are **24 Catholic Churches**.
- The largest is the **'Roman' or Latin Catholic Church**, with around 1.3 billion members.
- The other 23 churches are known as **Eastern Catholic Churches** and have around 18 million members combined.
- Each Catholic Church can trace its beginning to **one of the apostles**, such as Peter or Andrew.
- Each Catholic Church follows a rite from **six 'families' of liturgical rites**: the Alexandrian rite, the Armenian rite, the Byzantine rite, the East Syrian rite, the Latin rite and the West Syrian rite.
- The 24 Catholic Churches are unique but united. They each have their **own liturgical traditions and rites** but still **share the same faith**.
- The Church teaches that it is important for the Catholic Churches to **work together as the Body of Christ**; for Catholics to **understand the rites and traditions across all Catholic Churches**; and for these different rites and traditions to be **respected and celebrated**.



The Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church

The Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church is the **largest Eastern Catholic Church** in the world with approximately 4 million members. There are around 13,500 Ukrainian Greek Catholics living in the UK today.

- The **Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church in Great Britain** was formally established in 1957.
- Public worship has **many similarities to other Catholic Churches**. For example, it will feature readings, the celebration of the Eucharist and music.
- The **Byzantine rite** is celebrated, which originated in Constantinople.
- Nearly all parts of the Divine Liturgy are **sung unaccompanied without instruments**.
- The **iconostasis** is an important part of worship. It is a **wall of icons** that **separates the sanctuary from the nave**.
- The icons form a **'visual Gospel'** that shows the stages of salvation history.
- At particular points in the service the priest **opens and closes the doors of the iconostasis to reveal or hide the altar**. He also **leads a series of processions through the doors to bring God to the congregation**.

