



RE Knowledge Organiser

Christianity—Incarnation

Key Fundamentals



The Christmas Story

- The Christmas story that we know mainly comes from the story as told in the books of Luke and Matthew in the New Testament.
- The Book of Matthew focuses on the events leading up to the birth of Jesus, including that the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary and Joseph to tell them what would happen.
- The Book of Luke described the journey to Bethlehem due to a Roman census. Shortly after arrival, Jesus is born in a manger.
- Angels appear to a group of Shepherds who go to Bethlehem, see the child and spread the word about his birth.
- Some time later, the wise men arrive, claiming they saw 'his star'. They present royal gifts.
- An angel warns Joseph that Herod wants to kill the child and so he flees to Egypt with Mary and Jesus.

Key Vocabulary

Advent	Meaning 'the arrival'. Advent is the time following the fourth Sunday before Christmas
Incarnation	Meaning 'in the flesh' is a word used to describe how Jesus was in human form.
Magi	Another word used to describe the wise men or the kings who came to see Jesus
Messiah	Meaning someone who was believed to come and save the world
People of God	These are the people who follow God. In the Old Testament, this refers to the Israelites.
Saviour	Meaning someone who saves something or someone
Testament	One of two parts of the Bible. The Old Testament tells the story largely before Jesus. The New Testament is mainly focused on the life and

The Wider Narrative

The Christianity-based learning in school is mainly taken from the Understanding Christianity resource. This focuses on the importance of children understanding that there was a longer narrative told through the Bible and this learning is part of it.

The element considering 'incarnation' comes after 'the fall', when The People of God believed that a saviour would come to rescue humanity. Following this, we see the stories of the Gospel, where Jesus carried out many acts to help people. After he went to heaven, comes the Kingdom of God; how his teachings could be used to help the world.





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Reception—Autumn Topic	
Why do Christians perform nativity plays at Christmas?	
<p>We shall start by remembering some of the stories we might already have heard about Jesus as an adult. This will help the children to understand that the baby Jesus later grew up to become an adult Jesus—this often causes lots of confusion!</p> <p>We will learn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The key parts of the nativity story About what might happen in churches during advent That many people think about how they can help their parents at Christmas, a reflection of being grateful for all that they do. That we give gifts at Christmas, in the same way that the wise men did. That everyone was welcome to visit Jesus when he was born. We will think about how we try to make everyone feel welcome in our school. 	<p>Talk about at home</p> <p>How do we say 'thank you' to each other as a family?</p> <p>What exciting things do we do at Christmastime? (this does not necessarily have to be anything religious!)</p>
Year 1—Autumn Topic	
Why does Christmas matter to Christians?	
<p>We shall start by remembering what we already know about Christianity, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What happens in the nativity story That Christians believe that someone extraordinary had arrived How we might get ready for a new baby being born <p>In this topic, we will learn that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> That the nativity story is told in the New Testament of the Bible. That parts of the nativity story are evident all around us in the build up to Christmas (in adverts on the TV, in shops etc) That churches will all be getting ready for Christmas by displaying various things, many of which will be purple (a colour used to remind Christians that they are waiting for something) The word 'advent' means the arrival of something special and how different groups might prepare for this. 	<p>Talk about at home</p> <p>Who would it be good to say 'thank you' to at Christmastime?</p> <p>How do different people show gratefulness at Christmas? It is good to remember how special people are to us; our families, friends, teachers and so on!</p>
Year 2—Autumn Topic	
What is the good news that Jesus brings? (Link to Gospel focus)	
<p>We shall start by remembering what we already know about Christianity, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Christmas story That Christmas is a time for Christians to remember that Jesus did lots of fantastic things when he grew up. We think about some of these things and also how we can aspire for greatness. <p>In this topic, we will learn that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jesus taught people that a number of things were very important; friendship, forgiveness and peace. We will look at how this is reflected through the Christmas story and other stories that we know. We will look at how churches help to remind Christians about key messages and how they can feel part of a community. People find different ways to be peaceful and to find peace for themselves. 	<p>Talk about at home</p> <p>Can you think of time in the nativity story or in our lives where we think about friendship, forgiveness and peace?</p> <p>How do you take time to be calm and peaceful in your busy lives?</p>



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Year 3—Autumn Topic	
What is the trinity?	
<p>We shall start by remembering what we already know about Christianity, including that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christians believe that Jesus being born was a gift from God to come and change the world. <p>In this topic, we will learn that Christians believe:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> That understanding God and the nature of God is very complex. Not everyone will fully understand it. That God is a trinity; the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. That the Father creates; the Son (Jesus) shares the word of God and saves people; the Holy Spirit continues this work in the world today. That there are many ways of representing this, through art and various stories. Using this new learning, we will talk about what understanding this might bring Christians about their beliefs around Christmas and what it means. 	<p>Talk about at home</p> <p>The bible says <i>"In the beginning was the Word, The true light coming into the world. The Word became a human and lived here with us. We saw his glory".</i></p> <p>Can you think of any songs, including Christmas carols that use these words or ideas?</p>



Year 4—Autumn Topic	
What do Christians believe that it is like to follow God?	
<p>We shall start by remembering what we already know about Christianity, including that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christians believe that God can be seen in three parts; the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. A number of stories from the Bible share this idea. <p>In this topic, we will learn that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Old Testament tells stories about people who have different relationships with God. Christians try to live in the way that they believe God wants them to. They know this from what happened in stories in the Old Testament, from what Jesus said and did in the New Testament and how people continue to live this today. Christians believe that Jesus came to help people understand that they could all be 'the people of God'. Different Christian denominations have different practices and beliefs as to how this is shown. We will learn that that Salvation Army believe that it is very important to show God's love. Faith and Trust are key pillars for many people. 	<p>Talk about at home</p> <p>Much of the learning in RE this topic will focus on faith and trust.</p> <p>Who do you trust the most? Who do you have faith in?</p> <p>What makes someone faithful?</p>



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Year 5—Autumn Topic

Was Jesus the Messiah?

We shall start by remembering what we already know about Christianity, including that:

- Jesus is part of the wider narrative told within the Bible, which begins many years before.
- That Christians believe that Jesus' arrival was part of the creation of the trinity—a way of understanding God.

In this topic, we will learn:

- That at the end of the Old Testament, the Bible says that God will come to rescue The People of God. He will send a saviour who will save them and give them their land to live.
- About the term 'saviour' and what people believe that it may mean. We will also learn that Jewish people do not believe that Jesus was the saviour.
- We will look at the Bible and consider why Christians believe that Jesus was the saviour who had been promised.
- How some Christians believe today that serving God will bring freedom to others, for example by loving, caring and by bringing health, food, justice and peace.
- Why some people believe that the world needs another saviour.

Talk about at home

"The world doesn't need a saviour, it just needs people to love each other and to care for one another"

Do you agree or disagree with this? Why?

Can you use anything you know to help you answer this?



Year 6—Autumn Topic

How significant was it that Mary was Jesus' mother?

We shall start by remembering what we already know about Christianity, including:

- Key elements of the nativity story and how it is told in different parts of the New Testament, each book providing slightly different levels of information.
- How Jesus was sent to be a saviour, as prophesised in the Old Testament.

In this topic, we will learn that:

- Christians believe that Mary, the mother of Jesus, is incredibly important within the wider narrative of the Bible.
- Some Christian denominations have very specific beliefs and practices to recognise Mary's role, in particular the Catholic Church. Within this, many religious pictures feature Mary and statues of her may be carried in processions.
- Mary is often depicted in the same way in iconography and paintings, representing various things. For example she is usually in blue, because the colour is associated with holiness.
- The symbols linked to Mary do appear within stories in the Bible.

Talk about at home

What was Mary's role in the Christmas story and how must she have felt at different times?

Why might early Christians have focused on Mary as being such an important person when it was Jesus who was the saviour?