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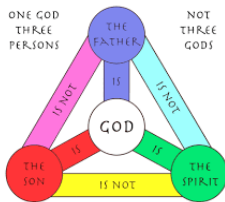


**Year 10 Knowledge
Organisers**



Year 10 Knowledge Organiser: Catholic Teachings – Beliefs and Teachings

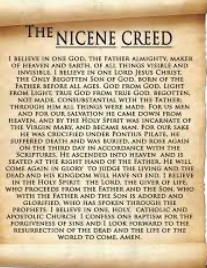
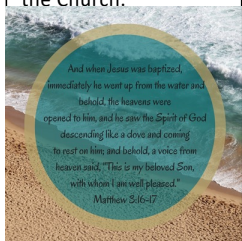
Incarnation: Fully God, fully human.



The Trinity is mentioned during Catholic worship. **Baptism** is performed in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **Eucharist** is when people receive Jesus' body and blood. **Mass** has many references to the Trinity.

Doctrine – a belief held by the Church.

Apostolic tradition – the wisdom inspired by the Holy Spirit which influences the words and practices of the Church.



Arius a priest did not believe Jesus was truly God.

Bishop Alexandria did.

Council of Nicaea in 325CE called to sort out the differences.

381 CE Council of Constantinople stated the belief that the Holy Spirit was God.

Human beings are part of creation, but superior through reason and free will which makes them stewards of creation. Humans should rule creation with consideration and compassion.

Creation Bible Story	Light & Dark
Clouds & Oceans	Sun, Moon & Stars
Land, Plants, & Trees	Fish & Birds
Man & Animals	God Rested

Benevolence-God is loving and good. **Catechism** – book containing the doctrines of the Catholic Church. **Incarnate**- Made flesh. **Omnipotence** –God is all powerful.

- Humans are:
1. Rational.
 2. Have freewill and conscience.
 3. Can relate to God.
 4. Give and receive love.
 5. Answerable to God.



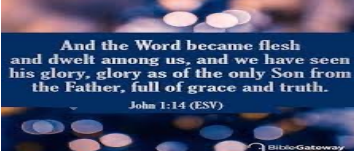
For Catholics Genesis 2 is a more detailed account of the 6th day of creation when God created man. God is present in the stories as the Trinity.



Catholic Church interprets the Genesis stories symbolically: as sacred stories which explain that God is the ultimate creator of all that exists.

The **Last Judgement** will occur on the Day of Judgement. Everybody's earthy body will be resurrected and reunited with their soul, whether they are in heaven, purgatory or hell. The Catholic Church teaches that general judgement is final and eternal.

Parable of the sheep and Goats.



"I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die." John 11:25-26 (Source of wisdom and authority).

Particular Judgement. This is the first judgment of an individual's life and asks whether the person has lived a life of love, has repented of their sins and has tried to follow Jesus' example.

For Catholics **heaven** is the place or state of being in which everything that is not love passes away. Catholics believe that **purgatory** is a stage of purification. **Hell** is the absence of the life, love, generosity, fun, laughter and community that are offered by God.

Paschal Mystery – Last Supper, Passion, death, resurrection and ascension.

Humans are saved from sin by the work of Jesus especially by the Paschal Mystery. Redemption explains how the Paschal mystery brought about salvation. Justification explains how it restores our relationship with God. Ascension prepares the way for humans to follow Jesus to heaven.

SAVED BY GRACE

Through the Paschal Mystery we receive the grace of God.

Through the Paschal Mystery we receive salvation from our sins.

Without salvation, a person's sin will prevent them from having a relationship with God in this life and will exclude them from God's presence after death.

Salvation from sin was the purpose of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. Only Jesus' death could bring about salvation as he was the perfect, sinless offering.

Why is the Paschal Mystery important?

What is important about salvation?

The process of salvation is ongoing. There is a grace to be paid by Catholics which is to live their lives as Jesus wanted them to, following his teachings and example.

Everyone is not automatically saved. God can offer salvation but it is up to the individual to choose to accept that offer.

Grace is the blessings and mercy of God, which is undeserved and is only made available to us through Jesus death and resurrection. Catholics receive the grace made available to them through baptism, and the rest of the sacraments and by leading a Christian life.

Year 10 Knowledge Organiser: Catholic Christianity – Practices.

Source of Authority:

Catechism – The seven sacraments teach all the stages and all the important moments of Christian life.
Catechism – The Eucharist is the sacrament of sacraments.



What is a sacrament? The Catholic Church teaches that it is 'An outward sign of an inward gift, introduced by Christ in order to give grace to a human being.'

The Sacramental Nature of Reality:

The sacramental nature of reality means finding the grace of God in the physical world. God is invisible, but Catholics believe he speaks to humans through everything he has created. Anything in creation can be used by God to communicate with his people and draw them into a relationship with him.

The funeral rite means the ceremonies carried out when a Catholic dies. They are liturgical because they are formal practices set out by the Catholic Church.

A Catholic funeral is seen as a celebration because the individual has begun their journey to eternal life, hopefully heaven. Participating in a funeral and being part of the liturgical rite is a sign of love and respect for the deceased (person who has died).



	What happens:	Importance:
Vigil	The day before the funeral the deceased is often laid out in a coffin to be visited by friends and relatives. A service of prayers and songs is sometimes conducted.	It allows people to say goodbye to the physical body of the person. The soul has already gone to eternity. The prayers said are both for the person who has died and their family.
Funeral liturgy (Requiem)	This will either be a Mass or just the Liturgy of the Word. A full mass is encouraged because of the importance of the Eucharist.	The Eucharist celebrates the death and resurrection of Jesus. The funeral liturgy helps Catholics to remember that everyone is a part of the body of Christ and lives in the hope of resurrection.
Farwell (Commendation)	This is where the person is given back to God. There is a prayer of commendation in the main funeral liturgy but the Rite of Commendation takes place in the cemetery where people say goodbye in the hope that they will meet again in eternal life.	Catholics believe that once you have become a Catholic, you remain part of the Church in life and death. Therefore when Catholics die, they believe they will be reunited with those who are in heaven.

Aims of the Funeral rite

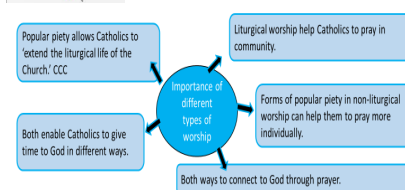
Communion with the deceased – support the deceased on their journey into the next life with prayer (efficacious). Prayer for the deceased is sometimes called suffrage.

Communion with the community – Shows the people that they are still connected to the deceased person in the church, the Body of Christ.

Proclamation of eternal life to the community – remind people that death is not the end of life, but the passage from this world to life with God.

TYPES OF PRAYER

Petition: Prayer that is 'asking' for something. This should not be a Catholic's first and only way of praying.
Adoration: Prayer that acknowledges that God is God and we adore him. Prayer of praise to God.
Repentance: A prayer that acknowledges sorrow for something that they have done wrong, e.g. Confession.
Intercession: Praying to God on behalf of someone else. Catholics may also ask Saints in heaven to pray for them.
Thanksgiving: A prayer to thank God for something and express love and gratitude.



CAFOD (Just World)

The New evangelisation

Pope Paul VI (1963-1978) and Pope John Paul II (1978-2005) both spoke of evangelism and introduced the idea of a **new evangelisation**.

The Church is no longer evangelising in such places that have not heard of the Gospel before, but in the largely secular West, where many people have heard of the Gospel but are not particularly interested in it.

Popes: Paul VI, John Paul II

The Church and individual Catholics can evangelise: Locally – within the parish community; Nationally- within a country or province, and Globally – throughout the entire globe.

At the **Last Supper** Jesus said **'Do this in memory of me'**. By doing this we are fulfilling the New Covenant (promise).



The Catechism of the Catholic Church: The sacrament of the Eucharist is described as: **'The source and summit of the Christian life.'**

Formal and Extempore Prayer: Prayer can be either **formal** – using words and prayers from the many centuries of the Church's tradition – or it can be **extempore** (informal), using a person's own words without planning or preparation

Popular piety: Non-liturgical worship which is not part of official public liturgy and does not follow a set pattern.

Key terms:

- Liturgical worship:** worship that is structured public service. Catholic Church services.
- Vestments:** long robes worn by a priest over his clothes.
- Homily:** a commentary that follows a reading of scripture explaining and teaching the meaning of God's word.
- Intercession:** prayers which request help or relief.

What is Mass? Mass is the central act of worship for a Catholic. There are four main parts of the Mass.

Liturgical worship: The structured public service of worship followed in churches by Catholic Christians. It brings God and Catholics together to connect through Jesus.

<p>1. Introductory Rites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gathering Greeting & the sign of the cross Penitential rite to reflect on our sins Gloria 	<p>2. The Liturgy of the Word</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Readings Old Testament New Testament Gospel Homily Nicene Creed Prayer of the faithful (bidding prayers/intercession) 	<p>3. The Liturgy of the Eucharist</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet Jesus through the offering of the bread & the wine The offertory Eucharistic prayer of thanksgiving God sends the Holy Spirit Transubstantiation Our Father 	<p>The Communion Rite</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The priest and other ministers come down and offer Christ's body and blood as food and drink for the people. Holy Communion. <p>4. The Concluding Rites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Priest blesses everyone Bids farewell Sign of the cross
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Why is formal prayer important?

In Mass that we receive the Eucharist and this is the source and summit of Christian life.

Liturgical helps Catholics pray in community and enables them to share in something that brings them together.

Allows Christians to get actively involved in prayer as they are able to learn the prayers and structure of worship.

Why is informal (extempore) prayer important?

The Catholic Church encourages Catholics to take part in devotion to God outside Church services.

Informal prayer is better as it allows Christians to focus on their own personal communication with God. **Matthew 6:5-8 explains that prayer should not be done for show**

It is important to have both formal and informal worship because they are different ways of doing the same thing: connecting Catholics to God through prayer.

Importance of Pilgrimage

- The early Church created places of pilgrimage for believers to visit the place that Jesus lived, taught and performed miracles so that they could feel closer to him.
- It is therefore important to Christians as they believe that they are building their relationship with God and are getting closer to Him.

History and Tradition

- They enable believers from different countries, backgrounds etc. to share something they have in common, their religion.
- Regardless of Christian denomination, pilgrimage gives Christians a connection and time to pray.

To be with other Pilgrims

- Christians are able to be in a setting where Jesus, Mary and other significant figures lived, performed miracles etc.
- Pilgrims can feel closer to religious figures by praying and spending time where they have been.
- Can gain more understanding of what has happened in Christianity thanks to life size statues and shrines.

Visit where Christian Figures have Lived / Appeared

- Christians can fulfil their Christian duty by assisting the elderly and sick to pilgrimage.
- Pilgrims can work in the hospitals and aid the disabled so that they can be fully part of the experience.
- Important to embrace the community element of the experience as we are 'All one in Christ'.

Help the Elderly & Sick

Places of Christian Pilgrimage Today

<p>Holy Land</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is a place connected to Jesus. Offers the opportunity to visit sites connected to his birth, ministry, crucifixion and resurrection. Allows Christians to better understand the Gospels. The place where their faith began is a very spiritual event. 	<p>Rome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A place connected to the Apostles. Many of the early church leaders moved around the world spreading the Gospel. St. Peter went to Rome and is buried there. The Vatican in Rome is the centre of the Catholic Church and home of the Pope, the leader of the Catholic Church. Many Catholics go on pilgrimage to Rome to greet and listen to the Pope and pray in a place of religious significance.
<p>Lourdes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Place connected to Mary. Lourdes is a place that is said to have appeared an angel. It is a place for the sick and injured to visit. The water that miraculously began to flow after Mary appeared to a young girl called Bernadette is said to have healing powers. Some people go to Lourdes every year to help those who are ill or sick, heart, brain disabled and disadvantaged children. 	<p>Walsingham</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A place of Ecumenical pilgrimage (different Christians coming together). For British Catholics it is an accessible place of pilgrimage. Can spend time in prayer and communion with other Catholics. Said to be a place where a nobleman had three visions of the house where Mary was visited by the angel Gabriel on the birth of Jesus. Walsingham was visited by the angel Gabriel on the birth of Jesus. Her son then built a priory and made it a place of pilgrimage.

Catholic Social Teaching – 'Love the lord your God with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength.' ... 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' **Mark 12:29-31**

Justice – promoting fairness;
Peace – encouraging harmony amongst all human beings, and;
Reconciliation – protecting the dignity and rights of the human person, wherever they may be.

Parable of the Sheep and Goats Matthew 25:31-46

<p>SHEEP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> gave food gave drink gave shelter gave clothes looked after the sick visited those in jail <p>HEAVEN</p>	<p>GOATS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> didn't give food didn't give drink didn't give shelter didn't give clothes didn't look after the sick didn't visit those in jail <p>HELL</p>
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Whoever you did for one of the least of these, you did for me. Jesus, Matthew 25


SEVEN KEY THEMES OF CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

- ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE DIGNITY OF THE HUMAN PERSON
- CALL TO FAMILY, COMMUNITY & PARTICIPATION
- PREVENTION OF POVERTY AND EXCLUSION
- OPTION FOR THE POOR AND VULNERABLE
- CONVICTION WITH ALL PEOPLE AS ONE GLOBAL FAMILY
- TRAVELLERS AND MIGRANTS
- PEACE AND JUSTICE

Evangelii Gaudium

'we must never forget that the planet belongs to all mankind and is meant for all mankind; the mere fact that some people are born in places with fewer resources or less development does not justify the fact that they are living with less dignity.' Ch4: 190

Year 10 Knowledge Organiser: Sources of Wisdom

<p><u>The Bible:</u> The central scripture of Christianity is the Bible, which is a collection of books gathered into one volume. 46 books of the Old Testament and 27 books of the New Testament,</p>	<p><u>Four marks of the Church:</u> Jesus marked the Church to reflect its essential features and mission. They are; One. Holy, Catholic, Apostolic</p>	<p><u>The Church as the Body of Christ:</u> The Church is called the Body of Christ, as it is a living entity, just as a body is. It is the Body of Christ, as Christ the head and founder of the Church.</p>		<p><u>Personal / Ethical decision making and use of conscience:</u> This means how we act due to Catholic influences such as teachings and practices from the Bible. Catholics believe that they can make ethical decisions in life as they have been given the guidance on how they should act and are taught what is right through religious teachings, practices and Jesus' example. Catholics also use their Conscience – as they believe God gave us free will and created us with the ability to know what is right and wrong so we can use our own conscience in the correct way.</p>
<p><u>Divergent Interpretations of the Bible:</u> - Fundamentalist or literalist = believes the Bible is the literal word of God. Everything in the Bible is absolutely true. For example, the story of creation was real and the world was created in 6 days. - Liberalists = see most of the Bible as the words of humans but the teachings are inspired by God. The creation story is a metaphor for how God created the world. Catholics believe: • The Bible is inspired by the Holy spirit. • It reveals God's character and commands. • It contains the laws that you should follow • The teachings of Jesus which shows us how we should behave. • Catholics are NOT literalists they can accept the belief in science alongside the creation story, such as the Big Bang theory.</p>		<p><u>The Magisterium:</u> Means those who have the authority to teach. This authority lies with the Pope and his Bishops who have been given this authority through the Holy Spirit. Jesus first gave the gift of the Holy Spirit and therefore the authority to the apostles during the Pentecost. The teachings that now come from the Pope are called the Pontifical. Pontifical can be ordinary or extraordinary. <u>The ordinary magisterium:</u> The everyday teachings of the Church told by the Pope and Bishops. For example, through letters or homilies. <u>Conciliar extraordinary magisterium:</u> This involves all the Bishops of the Church being called together to form a council to discuss Church teachings and issues. The most recent council was held in the 1960s when the Second Vatican Council took place. <u>Pontifical extraordinary magisterium:</u> This is when a Pope under certain or rare conditions declare certain teachings in the Church as infallible. Pope Pius IX defined the immaculate conception of Mary and Pope Pius XII, defined the Assumption of Mary as infallible.</p>	<p><u>The importance of the Magisterium:</u> The Magisterium helps interpret scripture and act as this guide on matters which <u>did not exist when Jesus was alive and thus is not referenced in the Bible.</u> <u>The Role of Mary:</u> Mary is an example of a model of faith, charity and discipleship. She is the Mother of Jesus Christ, the immaculate conception and a Virgin. Throughout her life, the annunciation, birth, life and death of Jesus reflects her faith and devotion to God. • She gave her life for God – accepting that she would give birth to Jesus. • She did not doubt God or stop believing in him when faced with challenges (Jesus' birth and crucifixion) • Mary can be seen as the first disciple of Jesus experiencing his first miracle. Mary continues to provide inspiration and guidance for Catholics, the Churches have statues of Mary and holds several celebrations and feast days. She also has hymns, prayers, the Rosary and pilgrimage sites e.g. Lourdes dedicated to her.</p>	
<p><u>Second Vatican Council:</u> The council was opened by Pope John XXIII in 1962 and closed under Pope Paul VI in 1965. The council sought to address relationships between the Catholic Church and the modern world. Four key documents were introduced;</p>				
<p><u>Sacro sanctum Concilium (Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy):</u> The liturgy of the Mass was rewritten to involve the laity. The layout of churches was changed, and Mass could be said in the laity's language.</p>	<p><u>Lumen gentium (Dogmatic Constitution on the Church):</u> The role of the Bishop was given more weight, the laity were called to holiness and by describing the Church as the 'people of God'</p>	<p><u>Dei verbum (Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation):</u> This focused on revelation and clarified key Church teachings and believes about Jesus' salvation.</p>	<p><u>Gaudium et spes (Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World):</u> Focuses on human rights and issues within the world outside of the Church.</p>	



Year 10 Knowledge Organiser – Forms of Expression

Catholic Church Architecture:

A Church is also known as the House of God. The design of a Church often has symbolism, it faces East, is built in the shape of a Cross and has a raised spire to connect to Heaven.

Sacred objects:

These are items used during the liturgy or Mass

Sacred Vessels:

- **Chalice:** (cup) for the wine.
- **Paten** (plate) holds the large Host held up by the Priest during consecration.
- The **ciborium** (covered dish) where the sacred Host is stored before and after consecration.
- Other objects are used during Mass but are not considered to be sacred vessels these include **cloths, book, sacred vestments, Sarcophagi and Hunger cloth.**



Church features:

- The **lectern** – a book stand where the readings take place.
- The **Altar** – This is where the Priest consecrates the eucharist it represents the table at the last supper.
- **Crucifix** – A powerful reminder of the sacrifice Jesus made for us.
- **Tabernacle** – A box where the consecrated Host is kept.
- The **baptismal font** – contains Holy water for baptizing babies.
- **Stations of the cross** – Images of the Passion of Christ.
- **Stain glass window** – coloured glass representing stories or messages from the Bible.
- **Water stoup** – At the entrance of a church containing Holy water to make the sign of the cross as you enter.
- **Statues** – visual aids to assist with worship.
- The confessional.

Sculptures & Statues:

Catholics use sculptures and statues to recall the person, used as a teaching tool and to help focus attention during prayer. Catholic churches will use and have statues of Jesus, Mary and other saints as well as often having Nativity scenes during Advent. However, some Christian denominations consider the use of statues and other Art forms as idol worship so will not display them at church or at the home.

The Evangelists:

These are the four Gospel writers.

Matthew = Human / Angel

Mark = Lion

Luke = Ox

John = Eagle.



Drama:

Mystery plays: helped people learn about Bible stories.

Passion plays: focused on the Passion, resurrection and death of Jesus.

Plays no longer take place in a church but will often take place in public spaces.

The use of drama helps bring realism to stories, helps with worship, maybe a more powerful impact than just reading the Bible.

Artwork:

Artwork is a visual representation of **faith**, it helps illustrate, supplement and portray the **teachings of the Church**. The Catechism instructs *that artistic images should be shown both within churches and beyond CCC 1161.*

- Art can be a focus of prayer and meditations.
- It can be a focus of discussion about a Biblical stories.
- Art can be easier to understand than scripture so is accessible for all.

Examples of Artwork used:

- The **Creation of Adam by Michelangelo** at the Sistine Chapel.
- The **Lords Supper by Sister Mary Stephens.**
- The **Return of the Prodigal Son by Rembrandt.**

Music:

The Catechism encourages Catholics to make melody CCC 2641.

Hymns: Created to tell a story which can be used to praise God or for prayer.

Plainchant: This is singing which isn't accompanied by any music.

Psalms: Found in the Old Testament. Short verses used to express joy & sorrow.

Contemporary music: A more modern form of music, shorter than other types & include different instruments.

Catholic Church believes that music should be a part of worship as it is showing **devotion to God** and **His love for us**. Mass usually has hymns but also parts of the Mass can be sung e.g. Gloria, Gospel, Alleluia

Symbolism and imagery:

- The **cross** or **crucifix**: clear reminder of Jesus death.
- The **Fish**: or Ichthus connects to the apostles 'I will make you fishers of men'
- **Alpha** and **Omega**: First and last on the Greek alphabet.
- The **Chi Rho**: the first two letters of the Greek word for Christ.
- **Dove**: symbol of the Holy Spirit and Baptism.
- **Eagle**: Symbol of Jesus divine nature.



Α Ω

Keywords

Covenant A promise made with God.
Monotheistic belief that there is only one God.
Talmud also called the 'oral Torah'. The oral laws and traditions passed down from Moses.
Tenakh The Hebrew Bible consisting of the Torah, Nevi'im and Ketuvim.
Torah The first 5 books of Moses – Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy.
Shekhinah the divine presence of God within the world.
Shema the main Jewish prayer
Rabbi Jewish teacher or religious leader.
Gentiles Non-Jews
Messiah the anointed one, king sent from God.
Mitzvot commandments which set rules or guide actions.
Minyan a group of ten men (Orthodox tradition) or adults (Reform tradition) over the age of 13.3
Pikuach Nefesh saving a life is more important than virtually any Mitzvot.

Jews accept that God exist without question. Proof is not needed and is rarely offered. The Torah begins by stating "In the beginning, God created..." It does not tell who God is or how He was created.

Jews believe that the name of God is so Holy that it should not be spoken aloud or often written. It should also never be erased. They use other names such as Hashem 'The Name' when speaking or writing about God.

Orthodox Jews

Believe tradition and following the commands of the Torah are important. They believe the Torah is the literal word of God.

Liberal/Reform Jews

Believe the Torah should be understood as a document of its time and be interpreted in light of modern life and issues. They believe the Torah is the inspired word of God.

Secular Jews

Believe that they are Jewish because of their cultural or ethnic heritage but have no affiliation to a religious group.

Year 10 Knowledge Organiser: Introduction to Judaism – Beliefs.

Characteristics of God.

God is One. It is impossible to divide God. No other being assisted in the act of creation. God is the only being Jews should offer prayers and praise. He can not be described by physical attributes.

God the Creator

Orthodox Jews Everything in the universe was created by God.

'And Hashem God formed the man of dust from the ground and He blew into his nostrils the soul of life; and man became a living being.' Genesis 2:7

Reform/Liberal Jews

Creation story is a metaphor. They believe in evolution but that it began with God as creator.

God as Lawgiver

God gave the Jews the Torah – the Law- 613 Mitzvot. Revealed to the prophet Moses. They allow Jews to develop a close relationship with God.

God is Judge

God is a God of both JUSTICE & MERCY and he will judge every single one of us.

God gains no pleasure from judging us wrongly, however his actions are JUST.

Psalm 5:4 – "You are not a God that has pleasure in wickedness".

God will weigh our good and bad actions on scales. This is remembered during the festival of Rosh Hashanah where we then have 10 days until Yom Kippur for Jews to ask for forgiveness.

After death it is IMPOSSIBLE to repent.



The Torah.

Orthodox Jews read four times a week.

Reform Jews Once a week on Shabbat.

The Talmud is central to

Orthodox Jewish life and all Jews are encouraged to study it.

Food Laws are found in the Torah. Food that is acceptable is called Kosher. Food that is not acceptable Trefah.

Meat and dairy should not be mixed. Orthodox Jews follow all food Laws as they believe they come from God. Some Reform/Liberal Jews believe they are outdated. Most Jews will refrain from eating pork.

How Jews experience God

Study of the Tenakh and Talmud is seen as an act of worship and as such *Shekhinah* is also present.

'If two sit together and the words between them are the Torah, then Shekhinah is in their midst.'

Worship

In the synagogue a light burns in front of the ark. This represents the tabernacle where God dwelt when the Jews were travelling to the Promised land. The word *Mishkan* means tabernacle and comes from the word *Shekhinah*.

Prayer

Jews can pray alone or as part of the Minyan.

Today Jewish focus on a spiritual connection with the divine presence in worship, prayer and study. **Tikkun Olam** – 'doing good in the world.'

Sanctity of life.

God is the giver of life so life is sacred.

Most Jewish Laws can be broken to save a person's life in life threatening circumstances. This is Pikuach Nefesh. This influences how Jews approach moral and ethical issues such as abortion.

Abraham

Founded Judaism.

God called him to leave his home and father. God and Abraham entered into a covenant that promised many descendants, a promised land and a blessed nation.

'I will make of you a great nation.' Genesis 12:1
 Abraham sealed the covenant by circumcising himself and all the males in his family.

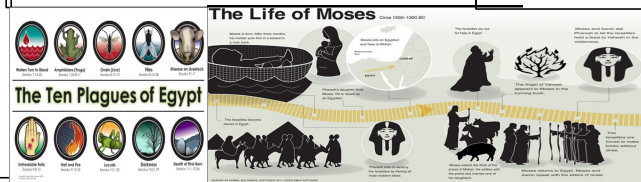
The covenant is still part of Jewish life today.

Jewish boys at 8 days old are still circumcised.
The promised land. The land of Israel remains central to Judaism. There are Shabbat and festival prayers about a return to Israel and many Jews pray it can only be implemented if there. Living outside of Israel is still seen as exile by some Jews.



The birth of Isaac and Sarah in their old age shows Jews that God kept his promise and intervened when needed.

Abraham shows obedience to God when asked to sacrifice his son Isaac. He is stopped before doing this by an Angel.



Moses crossed the Red sea with the freed Hebrew slaves and took them to Mount Sinai. Here God made a covenant with the Jewish people. The Jewish people are seen as the chosen people of God. They are given the initial instructions of the 10 commandments. Moses is given the Oral Torah which is later written in the Talmud. The Torah is the most important part of the Tenakh as it contains the Law of the covenant. The gift of the Torah is celebrated in the festival of Shavuot.

10 commandments are the first of 613 commandments (Mitzvot). The 10 commandments are read three times a year in the synagogue. The Mitzvot are how God set out the best way to live. Jews use freewill to choose between right and wrong. Those who are good and follow the commandments will be rewarded and those who disobey will be punished. Observing the Mitzvot is a way Jews can say thank you to God from rescuing them from slavery and deepens their relationship with God

The Mitzvot makes Judaism a living religion as they should do good deeds towards others. The Talmud is the starting point for where modern day questions e.g. organ donation.

