

Religious Education Y4/5 Autumn Term 1



How important is the role of symbols in Christianity?

Knowledge

- Christianity is a monotheistic religion: believing in one god.
- Christians believe God is Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- Christians worship God as Trinity.
- Christians believe The Father creates; he sends the Son who saves his people; the Son sends the Holy Spirit to his followers.
- Christians find that understanding God is challenging: they want to understand Him better so they use symbols, similes and metaphors.
- There are many symbols that can be linked to Christianity, including the cross, the dove and the ichthys.
- Christians believe that the Holy Spirit is God's power at work in the world and in their lives today, enabling them to follow Jesus.
- Water is used in baptism because it has many different symbolic meanings.



I	Jesus
X	Christ
Θ	God
Υ	Son
Σ	Saviour

Vocabulary

Baptism = a ceremony involving being sprinkled with or immersed in water to symbolise purification and entry into the Christian Church

Christianity = a monotheistic religion, based on the teachings of Jesus Christ

God = the Christian supreme being, creator and ruler of the universe

gospels = four books of the Bible which are biographies of the life and teachings of Jesus

Holy Spirit = God's power at work in the world today, Christians believe that the Holy Spirit dwells in the heart of true believers, God's way of working through Christians

ichthys = the Greek word for fish, a modern icon of Christianity symbolising the statement, "Jesus Christ, Son of God, Saviour"

monotheistic = used to describe religions based on the belief that there is only one god

symbol = a mark or image that represents or stands for something else (particularly an abstract concept)

Trinity = the three persons of the Christian Godhead: Father, Son and Holy Spirit