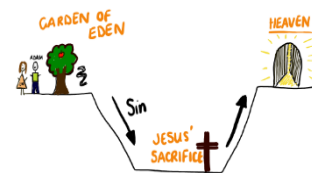




AQA RELIGIOUS STUDIES

REDEMPTION

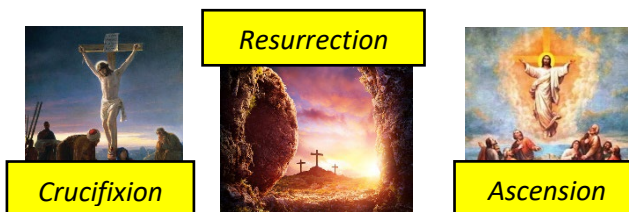


REDEMPTION

1. God created the world perfectly and gave humans **free will** which meant that they could choose to love and worship God, as well as, to do good or evil (Genesis 1).
2. God wants to have a relationship with us – but it must be a **free choice** – so we must be free to do this!
3. Humans can also use their **free will** to sin, such as when Adam and Eve ate the forbidden fruit from the tree of knowledge.
4. They broke the one rule that God gave them – not to eat from the tree. Sin has broken the relationship between God and humanity – humans cannot repair this.
5. Because of Adam and Eve's actions, all humans are born with the tendency to sin – this is known as **original sin**.
6. To restore the broken relationship between God and humanity; God became human (the incarnation) and was sacrificed on the cross, resurrected, and ascended into heaven.

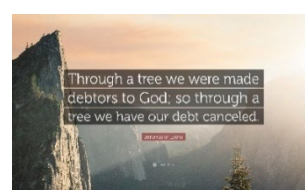
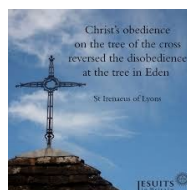
JESUS' DEATH, RESURRECTION AND ASCENSION

7. Jesus' death **redeemed** humanity, or made up for the sins of humanity...Even when suffering, Jesus chose to show love and forgiveness, he forgave those who executed him... **'Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing'** (Luke 23:34)
8. When he died, Jesus was joined with all those who had died before him and for Christians this reminds them that God is always with them!
9. Mark's account of Jesus' crucifixion (Mk 15:21-29) shows us that Jesus is the **exemplar** because he was obedient to God, even though it would bring immense suffering.
10. Jesus is the **restorer** as his death restored the relationship between God and humanity. After his death, the **veil in the temple tore in two and ended the separation with God!**
11. Jesus is the **victor** as he was able to conquer suffering and death...After three days, Jesus was raised back to life by God the Father... Through the resurrection, sin and death lost their power and all people could be with God after death... **40 days** after Jesus' resurrection Jesus **ascended** (went up) to heaven...
12. Jesus' death, resurrection and ascension helped to restore the **cosmic order**...after the ascension Christians must continue to spread the gospel (**evangelise**) and establish the **Kingdom of God** through their actions.



REDEMPTION WITHIN THE TRADITION OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

13. Sometimes Christian thinkers (**theologians**) use metaphors to express key beliefs as they are too difficult to explain or understand.
14. **St Irenaeus** used the metaphor of a tree when writing about redemption...
15. The cause of humanity's broken relationship with God was Adam and Eve eating from the **'tree of knowledge'**, this relationship is restored by Jesus's death on the **'tree of the cross'**.
16. **St Anselm** used the metaphor of **slavery**...after the fall and because of **original sin** humans were slaves to sin...
17. **BUT** a slave could be freed if the **ransom** was paid to the owner...through his **obedience** Jesus paid the ransom for the sin of all humanity.
18. Some Christians disagree with Anselm's views because it suggests that we play no part in our salvation...other Christians believe that it demonstrates the power of God.



SALVATION IN THE PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

19. For Catholics salvation is an **ongoing process**...It takes place in the **past, present** and **future**...
- Past** - Jesus' death, resurrection and ascension were essential for humanity. **Present** – salvation is an ongoing process, as people still have the capacity to sin and people still must make a choice to accept salvation by accepting God's forgiveness when they sin.
- Future** - salvation will be completed at the end of time when God's kingdom is fully established '**on earth as it is in heaven**'.
20. Other Christian denominations believe that regardless of what we do or say we will be saved because of Jesus' **death, resurrection, and ascension**.

CONSCIENCE

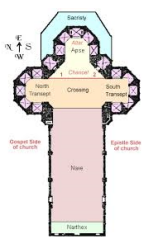
21. Christians refer to the conscience as the **inner voice of God** in their heart and soul which guides them to make the right choices...
22. For many Christians, their conscience is linked to **natural law**...we all have an innate/natural understanding of right and wrong... St Thomas Aquinas believed that we should all '**do good and avoid evil**'
23. The conscience can be guided by the gifts and fruits of the Spirit...**Gaudium et Spes** states that conscience is the deepest part of us where the '**voice of God echoes in our depths**.'



Jiminy Cricket in Disney's Pinocchio was given the job of being Pinocchio's conscience. He does his best to guide Pinocchio through his life but Pinocchio does not always listen! Sometimes in life we do things even though we know it is not the right thing to do. Sometimes it is difficult to know what the right thing to do actually is! It is not always easy to listen to our conscience.

CHURCH LAYOUT

24. Words can have lots of different meaning and 'church' is no different...
25. When we talk about the **Church** we are referring to the people of God or the community of believers...
26. When we talk about a **church** we are referring to the building where people go to worship throughout the week or attend Mass.
27. Since **1965** the layout Catholic churches have changed slightly, this is a result of the changes made in **Sacrosanctum Concilium** one of the four key documents from the **Second Vatican Council**.



28. Churches built before 1965 were often cruciform (cross shaped) and faced east towards Jerusalem. The altar was also against the wall and the priest said Mass in Latin with his back to the people.

29. After the changes of the Second Vatican Council, churches built before 1965 were re-ordered and altars were brought forward from the wall so the priest could face people when he said Mass.

30. In some churches built after 1965, the altar may be central with the congregation gathered around it to allow 'full and active participation' by the laity.

By gathering around the altar in this way, people feel more involved with the **paschal sacrifice**.

31. These changes meant that the congregation are now able to feel more involved in the celebration of the mass.



FEATURES OF A CATHOLIC CHURCH



The Lectern

The stand from which readings and the Gospels are read during Mass giving height and authority to the Word of God



The Crucifix

A cross with the figure of Jesus on it to remind us of the suffering He endured and the sacrifice made for humanity.



The Tabernacle

The new 'Ark' used to house the 'reserved sacrament.' The real presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist.



The Altar

The stone table where consecration takes place. The sacrifice of Jesus is done in 'remembrance' at each Mass

32. Catholic churches across the world can look different, some may have lots of colour and decoration, and others may be plainer in their design.
33. There are **four** key features that you will find in **ANY** Catholic church around the world...these are important in expressing Catholic beliefs about redemption.
34. Some Christian denominations have a communion table instead of an altar as this reminds them that they are joining in with the Last Supper, Jesus' final meal.
35. Some Christian denominations have a cross instead of a crucifix as there is no chance of worshipping an idol and it is a symbol of victory over death.

REDEMPTION AND THE MASS

36. The Mass centres on the belief that humans are redeemed by the **sacrifice** and **resurrection** of Christ. It is a **re-enactment** of the sacrifice Christ offered through His crucifixion.
37. Catholics gather for Mass as the body of Christ (the Church) and receive the Body of Christ in communion...The Mass has two main parts, the **liturgy of the word** and the **liturgy of the Eucharist**...
38. The liturgy of the word has readings from the Old and New Testament which show God's love for us and how God heals His people...Jesus is the **Word**, so we are encountering God in this moment.
39. During the **Eucharistic prayer** Jesus' words at the Last Supper are repeated...



*'Take this all of you and eat it. **This is my body**...this is the blood of the new and everlasting covenant which will be poured out for you and all people so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in **remembrance** of me'*



40. Jesus' command allows Catholics to share in his sacrifice on the cross...the command to eat allows Catholics to join in the communion meal...when they do this, they receive the grace to resist sin.
41. Jesus' command to **'do this in remembrance of me'** was not just an order to remember the death and resurrection Jesus but for Catholics to meet Christ when they celebrate the Eucharist...***'Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life...'***

THE EUCHARIST

42. The word Eucharist means **'thanksgiving'**, at the offertory the bread and wine are offered in thanks to God...For Catholics the Eucharist is the **'source and summit of the Christian life'**...
43. Catholics believe that Jesus is truly present in the consecrated bread and wine and refer to this as the **Blessed Sacrament**... ***'Christ is mysteriously but really present in the Sacrament of the Eucharist'*** (Youcat 216) Some Catholics only receive communion on the tongue as a sign of respect.
44. After Mass, the consecrated hosts not received as communion, known as the **'reserved sacrament'** are placed in the tabernacle and are a focus for prayer known as **Eucharistic Adoration**.
45. Catholic churches also have **Benediction**, which is when a consecrated host is displayed in a **monstrance**, so that people can see and worship Christ. At the end of the liturgy, people are blessed by the **Blessed Sacrament**...
46. **Quakers** and the **Salvation Army** do not celebrate the Eucharist...they believe that Christ is present in the Spirit amongst the people gathered...There are also **no sacraments**...
47. **Non-conformist Christians** believe that the Eucharist is a memorial and Christ is only present in the Word...
48. For **Orthodox Christians** the Eucharist is called 'the Liturgy'. Consecration takes place behind the **iconostasis** (Holy Doors) which symbolise the gateway between heaven and earth. What happens is considered too holy for the congregation (and a privilege for the consecrated priest). Christ is offered on the 'heaven' side but received by us on the 'earth' side.
49. Some **Anglicans (Church of England)** believe in the **real presence**, like Catholics. Other Anglicans believe that the bread and wine become holy, but only **represent** Christ being received (consubstantiation).



KEY WORDS

Altar	Central focus of Catholic Church – a table like structure of wood or stone. Place of sacrifice where the Eucharist is offered.
Ascension	The event, 40 days after the resurrection when Jesus returned to God the Father in heaven.
Atone	Make amends for something that has gone wrong.
Atonement	Restoring the relationship between people and God through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.
Benediction	A word meaning 'blessing'; a service at which the Blessed Sacrament is exposed and Catholics worship Jesus Christ.
Blessed Sacrament	A term which refers to the body and blood of Christ – the consecrated (blessed) bread and wine used during Mass and the body of Christ which is kept in the tabernacle.
Communion	1. Sharing the body and blood of Christ – receiving Holy Communion; 2. Sharing together
Conscience	For Christians, the voice of God in the heart and soul of a person.
Consecration	The point in the Mass where the bread and wine are blessed (consecrated) and become the body and blood of Christ.
Crucifixion/Crucified	Execution by being fixed to a cross.
Eucharist	From the Greek word for 'thanksgiving', it is a name for the mass reminding Catholics that it is a thanksgiving sacrifice to God.
Eucharistic Adoration	Believers honour Christ in the Blessed Sacrament.
Lectern	Reading stand; place from where the Bible is read and where the Word of God is proclaimed.
Morality	A system of ethics about what is right and wrong.
Nonconformist	Christians who do not follow rules laid down by a central authority (e.g. Pope), but organize themselves locally. Bible forms the major part of their worship.
Orthodox	A branch of Christianity practised mostly in Eastern Europe e.g. Greek Orthodox, Russian Orthodox, Serbian Orthodox...
Pentecost	The event, 50 days after the resurrection, when the disciples received the Holy Spirit.
Quakers	Religious group whose worship focuses on communion, but gathering for prayer and waiting for the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.
Real Presence	Belief that Christ is really present in the consecrated bread and wine.
Redemption	Making up for the wrongs done by other people, to bring humans back into a relationship with God.
Restoration	When things are brought back to the way God intended them to be.
Resurrection	Jesus rising from the dead after dying on the cross.
Salvation	Freedom from sin and the eternal separation from God that is brought about by sin.
Satisfaction	A redemption theory associated with St Anselm.
Salvation Army	Christian group who see the main purpose of Christian faith as serving those in need e.g. homeless
Tabernacle	Place in the Church where the consecrated hosts are kept.
Words of institution	The words of Jesus at the Last Supper when offering the bread and wine to his disciples 'This is my body, this is my blood do this in memory of me.' These words are considered the point at which Jesus Christ instituted (started) the Eucharist.