

NAME: _____

RE TEACHER _____



YEAR 7 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

ENCOUNTER



Believing in God...

1. Many people look at their lives and the world around them and conclude that there has to be something else.
2. In our world today it is estimated that approximately 90% of all people believe in some form of 'God'.
3. Most religions believe **'God' created the universe and all that exists... 'God' is greater than anything we know.**
4. Many people believe that **'God' made everything for a reason** and that each and **every person has a purpose.**
5. Christians believe that **God is revealed** to us in the world through the person of **Jesus Christ the Son of God.**
6. Jesus taught us to have confidence in approaching God and to call Him **'Abba'** (meaning **'loving father'**).
7. We cannot hope to understand God but we can experience His presence and enter into a relationship with Him.

TRY TO LEARN THESE WORDS...

1. Omni-benevolent

(The belief that God is all loving)

2. Omnipotent

(The belief that God is all powerful)

3. Omniscient

(The belief that God is all knowing)

4. Omnipresent

(The belief that God is all present)

5. Abba

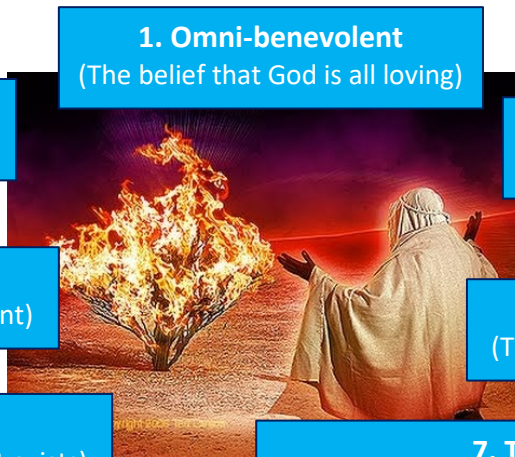
(The belief that God is a loving Father)

6. Creator

(The belief that God created all that exists)

7. Transcendent

(The belief that God is beyond our understanding)



WHO IS JESUS CHRIST?



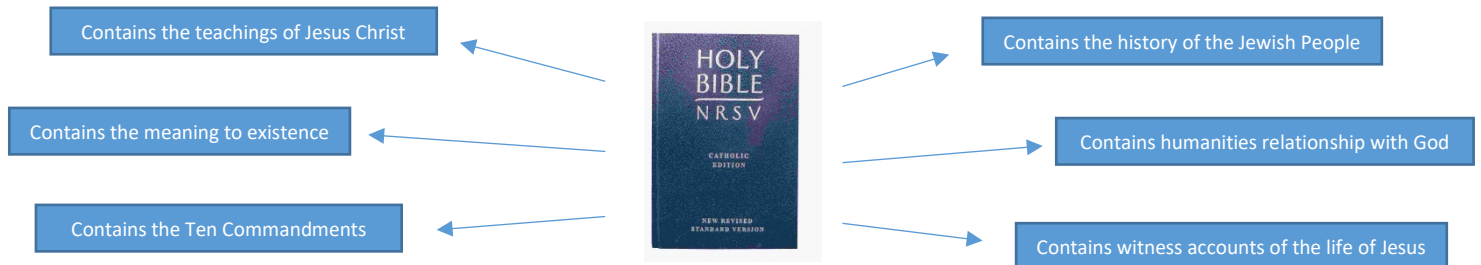
Jesus was born into poverty just over 2,000 years ago in a small town in the Middle East called Bethlehem. He was brought up in a place called Nazareth by his mother Mary and by Joseph. Jesus was brought up to learn about the Jewish faith. He realised that He had a very special relationship with God and that that He also had a very special mission to complete. God was able to work through Jesus and reveal Himself to the world. When Jesus was alive the Jewish people were treated like slaves in their own country as the land was ruled by the Romans. Many Jews believed that friends of the Romans were enemies of God. Jews also believed that anybody with a disease or disability had done something wrong and was being punished by God. Jesus challenged these beliefs and taught that every person was special and loved by God.

Where do we encounter God?

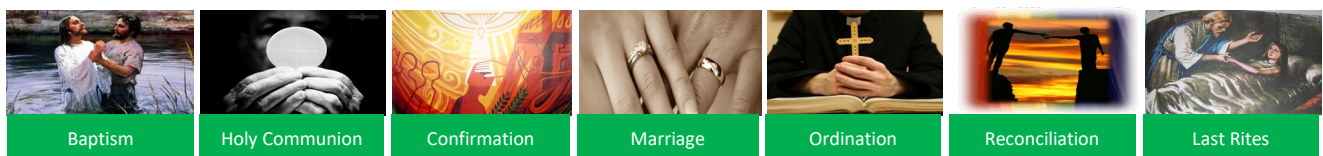
8. Jesus encouraged people to search for God in **prayer** and stressed we can all find Him if we try hard enough.
9. Jesus promised his followers... **'Ask and it shall be given unto you, seek and you shall find.'** (Matthew 7: 7)
10. In Judaism it is also believed that God can be found in prayer... **'Be still and know that I am God'** (Psalm 46: 10)
11. Christians believe that we are able to find God because God has chosen to reveal Himself to us...

WE ENCOUNTER GOD IN JESUS CHRIST...

12. Christians believe that the invisible all-powerful God is made visible through the person of Jesus Christ.
13. The word '**Christ**' actually means '**Messiah**' or '**Anointed One**'... Christians believe Jesus to be the **Son of God**...
14. Jesus came to teach about God's love for us and helped all people to encounter Him and share in His love.
15. Jesus taught us how to '**encounter**' God through '**parables**' which are stories He told with a **hidden meaning**.
16. We encounter the person of Jesus Christ and many of the parables He told taught through reading **the Bible**.
17. Christians sometimes refer to the Bible as **Holy Scripture** and believe that it is **the Word of God**.
18. In other words Christians believe the Bible to be one way in which God has made Himself known to the world.



WE ENCOUNTER GOD IN THE SACRAMENTS...



19. Catholic Christians believe that God is still with us today and that we can encounter Him through **the sacraments**
20. The number seven has special meaning in Christianity and shows that God is always with us in the Church.
21. Christians encounter God in baptism as the first of the seven sacraments. **All Christians believe in one baptism.**
22. Sacraments are used to mark important times in our lives and help us to be more aware of God's love for us.
23. Catholic Christians believe that God is encountered in the sacraments through the presence of His **Holy Spirit**.
24. **God the Father, God the Son** and **God the Holy Spirit** are the **three 'persons'** in the **Holy Trinity**.



Do not get confused... Christians believe in one God! The Holy Trinity are the three ways in which God chooses to reveal Himself to the world.

Jesus is God the Son

James is our school chaplain... He is here to look after you should you ever need help or support



WE ENCOUNTER GOD WITHIN OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY...

Our school community is centred upon the person of Jesus Christ. As Christians we believe that we encounter God through each and every one of our relationships within the school community. We look to the faith of the Martyrs and do our best to be true witnesses to Christ. At English Martyrs we believe that each and every person is made in the image of God and that we must treat every single person in the way we would treat Jesus Christ himself.

The black cross represents the sacrifice Jesus made for each of us on the cross

The red background symbolises the blood of the martyrs.



"Ut omnes unum sint" is Latin for 'May they all be one'. It is a message of hope and love.

The gold laurel garland is a symbol of two things; victory and running a race.

'May they all be one, just as, Father you are in me and I am in you' (John 17: 21)

WE ENCOUNTER GOD IN THOSE AROUND US...

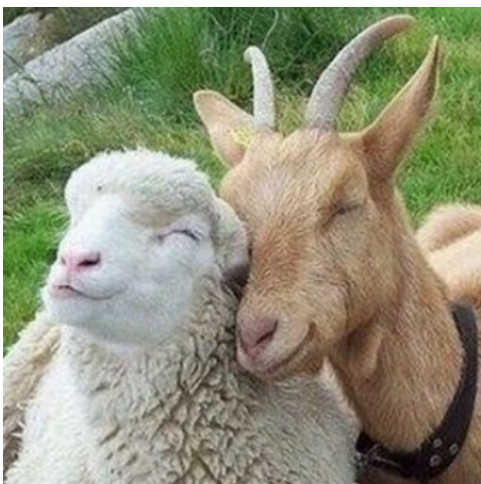
25. Christians believe that **EVERY person** is made in the **image of God** meaning that God is present within each of us.
26. Jesus taught that whenever we encounter another person we are actually encountering God Himself.
27. For many of us the first time we encounter God is through our parents but this is not our only encounter...
28. Jesus said to his followers '**whatever you do to the least of my brothers you do unto me**' (Matthew 25: 40)
29. Jesus told us never to judge others and said to his followers '**love your neighbour**' (Mark 12: 31)
30. Many people in our world today look down on other people... sometimes we even do it without realising!
31. Having a **negative attitude** towards somebody just because they seem different to you is called a **prejudice**.
32. Some people actually **treat others differently** because of their prejudices... This is called **discrimination**.

'Labelling' often leads to prejudice and discrimination as we start to see the label and not the person...



On 25th May 2020 a 46-year-old man named George Floyd was killed by a police officer in Minneapolis, Minnesota in the United States of America. George Floyd had been arrested under the suspicion of using counterfeit money to pay for cigarettes. Several people stood by and watched as the police officer knelt on his neck for 8 minutes as he lay handcuffed on the floor. George cried for help many times before he eventually stopped breathing and died. Many people believe that the police officer's actions were racially motivated and that George was killed because of the colour of his skin. This incident has led many people to give their support to the Black Lives Matter movement which has now become an international effort. BLM reminds all people that nobody should be treated differently or discriminated against owing to the colour of their skin.

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



Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' The King will reply, Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

A Short Reflection...

Jesus teaches in this parable that we encounter God in EVERY person that we meet. It is easy to overlook certain people in our community. Do we treat all people in the same way we would treat Jesus Himself? Do we clearly see those in need around us? Perhaps somebody you know feels 'in prison' because they have no friends? Perhaps somebody you know 'needs clothes' as they feel humiliated or are being laughed at? Do we stand by and watch terrible things happen to others or do we reach out and stand up for them with love? Jesus teaches us to see the presence of God in the lonely, the vulnerable and the oppressed.

KEY TERMS

Encounter	When we find or meet with another person or with God
Parable	A story with a hidden meaning e.g. The parable of the Prodigal Son
Omni-benevolent	The belief that God is all loving
Omnipotent	The belief that God is all powerful
Omniscient	The belief that God is all knowing
Omnipresent	The belief that God is all present
Transcendent	The belief that God is beyond human understanding
Abba	The belief that God is a 'loving father'
Prayer	When we raise our hearts and minds to God
Prejudice	A judgement that is made about another person before getting to know them
Discrimination	When a person is treated differently because of a prejudice

DEEPEN YOUR KNOWLEDGE...

Another word for martyr is 'witness'... A martyr is somebody who is a witness for Christ. They stand up for the moral principles that Jesus lived by and for the love that he taught. At English Martyrs School we celebrate the lives of the saints below and strive to live by their example. Thankfully it is not very likely that each of us will be called to die for our faith. There are many ways in which we can be a witness to God's love. One of the most important things we can do is try our best to live as Jesus taught us.



Saint Edmund Campion, was an English Catholic Jesuit priest and martyr. While conducting an underground ministry in officially Anglican England, Campion was arrested by priest hunters. Convicted of high treason, he was hung, drawn and quartered at Tyburn.

Saint Margaret Clitheroe is an English saint and martyr of the Roman Catholic Church. She was pressed to death with her unborn child for refusing to stop harbouring Catholic priests. She was canonised in 1970 by Pope Paul VI.

Saint John Fisher, was an English Catholic bishop, cardinal, and theologian. He was an academic, and served as Chancellor of the University of Cambridge. Executed in the reign of Henry VIII for refusing to put his country before his faith.

Saint Thomas More, was an English lawyer, social philosopher, author, statesman, and noted Renaissance humanist. He was also a good friend and advisor to Henry VIII. He was executed for refusing to put his country before his faith.

Saint Margaret Ward, was an English Catholic martyr who was executed during the reign of Elizabeth I for helping a Catholic priest to escape from prison. She was canonised much later in 1970, as one of the Forty Martyrs of England and Wales.

Saint Ralph Sherwin was an English Roman Catholic priest, executed in 1581. He is a Catholic martyr and saint. In 1580, he was arrested while preaching. After spending a year in prison he was finally brought to trial and executed.

Learn the Seven Corporal Acts of Mercy

The word corporal refers to **bodily** or **physical**.

In other words things we can physically do for those around us.



Consider...
Should we be taking more
refugees from Afghanistan?

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news>

Feed the Hungry

Give drink to the Thirsty

Clothe the Naked

Visit those in Prison

Comfort the Sick

Give shelter to the Homeless

Comfort the Dying