



Key Vocabulary	
<b>Easter</b>	The oldest and most important Christian festival.
<b>Christians</b>	People who follow the religion of Christianity.
<b>Jesus</b>	The son of God.
<b>resurrection</b>	When Jesus came back to life.
<b>disciples</b>	The twelve followers of Jesus.
<b>symbolise</b>	When something stands for something else.
<b>betray</b>	To be unfaithful or break a promise to someone.
<b>Holy Communion</b>	A special service in church, where Christians share bread and wine.


### Holy Week

Holy Week is the week leading up to **Easter**. The **Easter** story is very important to **Christians** as it reminds them of **Jesus**' death and celebrates his **resurrection**. There are four important days during Holy Week: Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and **Easter** Sunday.



### Palm Sunday

Palm Sunday marks the start of Holy Week. **Christians** remember when **Jesus** rode into Jerusalem on a donkey and was welcomed by people waving palm leaves and placing them on the ground in front of him. Palm leaves **symbolise** goodness and well-being.




### Maundy Thursday

On Maundy Thursday, the story of the Last Supper is remembered. 'Maundy' comes from a word that means command. At his last supper, **Jesus** told his **disciples** to love one another. **Jesus** knew that this would be his last supper and that one of his **disciples** (**Judas**), would **betray** him.

### The Last Supper

During the Last Supper, **Jesus** shared some bread and wine with his disciples. **Jesus** said the bread was his body and the wine was his blood. During **Holy Communion**, **Christians** re-enact this special moment from the Last Supper.



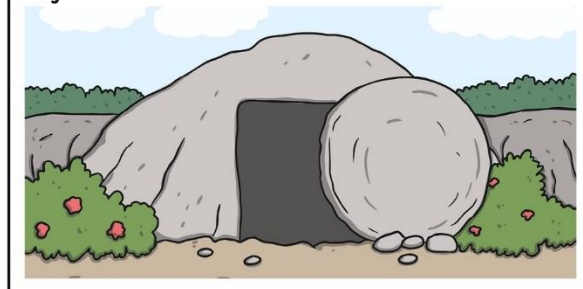


Key Vocabulary	
<b>crucified</b>	Put to death on a cross.
<b>sins</b>	Bad actions.
<b>tomb</b>	A place cut into rock or underground, where the dead are buried.
<b>eternal</b>	Lasting forever.
<b>heaven</b>	<b>Christians</b> believe this is where God lives and where good people go after death.
<b>bible</b>	The Christian holy book.
<b>hymns</b>	Religious songs.

### Good Friday

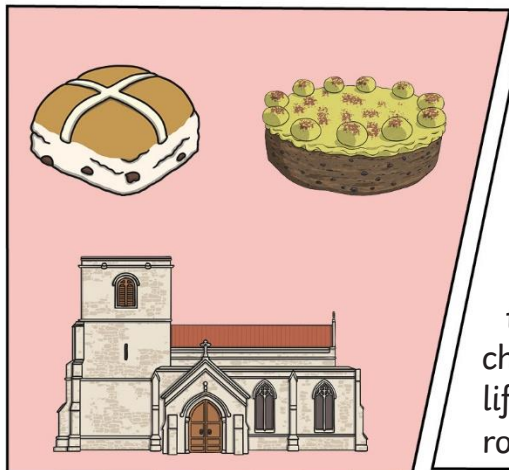
On Good Friday, **Christians** remember the day that **Jesus** was **crucified**. Leaders in Jerusalem were jealous that people listened to **Jesus** and so they had him **crucified**. **Christians** believe it is 'good', because **Jesus** showed great love and died for the **sins** of others. When he died, his body was put in a stone **tomb**.

On **Easter** Sunday, **Christians** celebrate **Jesus' resurrection**. The **resurrection** of **Jesus** gives **Christians** the promise of **eternal** life in **heaven**.



### A Surprise

Some of **Jesus' friends** went to visit his **tomb** on the Sunday after he died. They were surprised to find it empty. After his **resurrection** **Jesus** visited his **disciples** before going up to **heaven** to live with God.



Many **Christians** go to church at **Easter**. Parts of the **Bible** are read and special **hymns** are sung. Hot cross buns are eaten. The cross reminds people that **Jesus** died on the cross. Many **Christians** send **Easter** cards. Simnel cake is eaten. It is a fruit cake with eleven marzipan balls on the top. These represent all of the **disciples** except Judas. Eggs are painted and chocolate eggs are given. The eggs **symbolise** new life and are the same shape as the rock that was rolled in front of **Jesus' tomb**.

### Easter Traditions