

EASTER



Challenge -

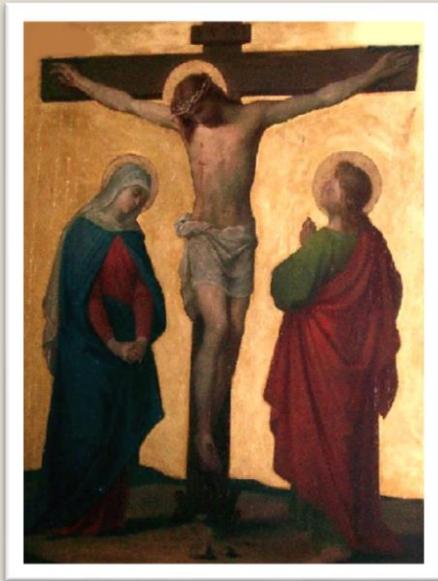
- As you go through the slides, create a word bank of any new words and their meanings to add to your learning.
- Whenever you see a word in red, add it to your word bank - if you are unsure of its meaning, look it up in a dictionary or google it!



What is Easter?

Easter is a **Christian festival** that takes place in **March** or **April** every year.

Easter is the celebration of the death and **Resurrection** of Jesus.



Resurrection
= rising from
the dead



Why do Christians celebrate Easter?

- Easter is *the* most important Christian festival.
- Christians are followers of Jesus Christ who lived about 2000 years ago in a country called **Palestine**. They believe that Jesus was the son of God.
- At Easter time Christians remember the last week of Jesus' life.

When is Easter?



- Easter Day is always on a Sunday, but the date varies from year to year (unlike Christmas which is always on December 25).
- Many years ago Christians decided that Easter Day should be *always* be on the Sunday following the first full moon *after* the first day of Spring on March 21.
- This means that Easter can be as early as 22 March or as late as 25 April. For this reason Easter is called a movable feast.

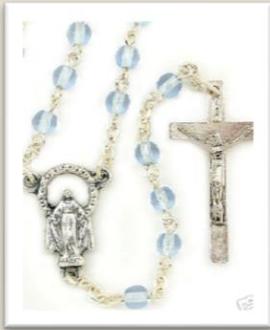
Where does Easter get its name from?

- One belief is that Easter got its name from the Goddess of Spring called Eostre who some people worshipped long before Jesus was born.
- At that time it was thought that the sun died in winter and was born again in spring when days would lengthen and the sun's power would return.
- In Europe, Eostre was honoured as the bringer of spring.



What is **Good Friday**?

(Apart from a holiday!)



- On Good Friday Christians remember the day that Jesus was killed on the cross by Roman soldiers.



- This is the reason why the cross is an important sign for Christians today. There are crosses in churches and many Christians wear a cross on a chain.

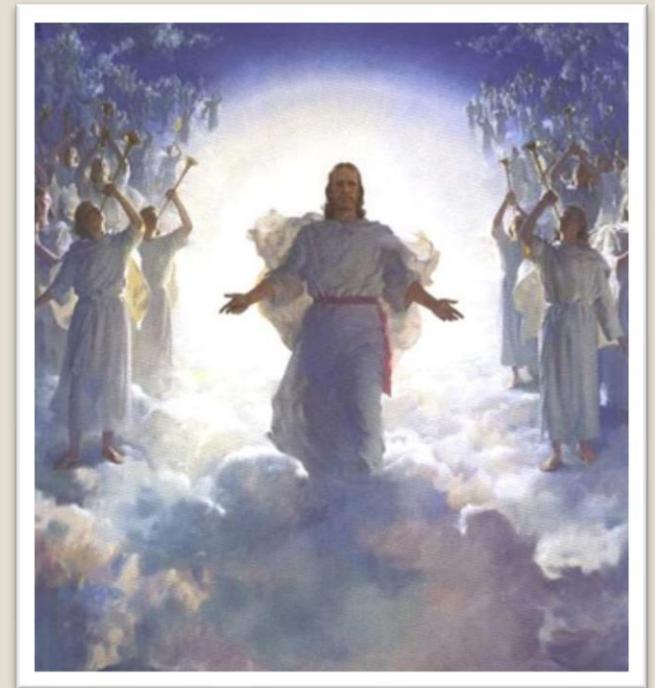
But why is it called *Good Friday*?



- It is known as *Good Friday* because Christians believe that Jesus gave up his life for the good of everyone.
- At Easter people eat hot cross buns which have a cross shape on the top.
- *Good Friday* is a sad day and churches never have flowers or decorations on this day. The church is left dark and there is just a simple cross on the altar.

What do Christians celebrate on Easter Sunday?

- Easter Sunday is a happy day for Christians because they believe that Jesus rose from the dead and **ascended** into heaven on this day
- They believe that Jesus' **resurrection** shows that death is not the end of everything.



How do Christians celebrate on Easter Sunday?



- Many go to church to thank God for Jesus' life. Church bells are rung and churches are decorated with flowers such as white lilies which are associated with Easter.



- The colours in the church change to white or gold which are thought to be the best colours.

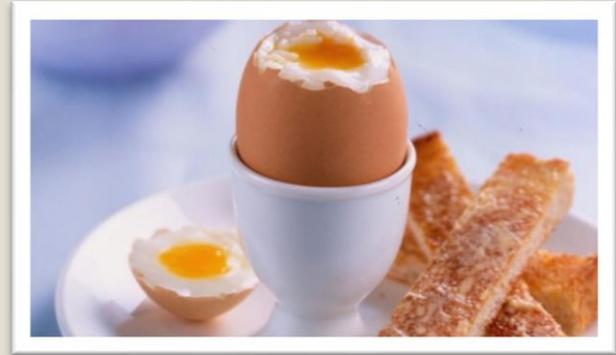
What have eggs got to do with Easter?

- The **custom** of giving eggs at Easter is celebration of new life.
- Eggs were always thought to be special because although they do not seem alive, they have life within them especially at springtime when chicks hatch out.
- Long ago people gave gifts of eggs carved from wood or precious stones.



Special Food at Easter

Boiled eggs are traditionally served at breakfast, then Easter cards and gifts may be exchanged.



Roast lamb, which is the main dish at Jewish **Passover**, is the traditional meat for the main meal on Easter Day. It is served with mint sauce and vegetables.



The traditional Easter pudding is custard tarts sprinkled with currants



Easter biscuits.



Simnel cake is baked for tea.

11 balls of marzipan are placed around the top to represent the 11 true **disciples** (excluding Judas).

Tasks -

1. Complete your word bank.
2. Copy and complete the Easter sequencing activity.
3. Extension tasks on the following slides.



**Design
your own
Easter
card**

Create your own Easter Wreath



SUPPLIES YOU WILL NEED

- Paper plate
- Spring and Easter themed or coloured paper
- Glue
- Ribbon
- Oval shape template for the eggs
- Scissors