

Why are festivals important to religious communities?

Learning Objective:

To explain what Easter might mean to a Christian today.

During this lesson, we are going to learn about what happened on Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

Click on the link below to find out more.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/religious-studies-ks2-easter/znkngwx>

How do Christians celebrate Good Friday?

Good Friday is part of the Christian festival of Easter.

On Good Friday, Christians remember the day that Jesus died on the cross.

It is the Friday before Easter Sunday.



What is Good Friday?

- Good Friday commemorates Jesus' death.
- It is a sombre and reflective time for Christians.
- This contrasts to the joyful celebration of Easter Sunday.



Good Friday in the Church



Good Friday is a sad day in the church, when Christians remember the sacrifice Jesus made.

In the church there are no flowers or decorations, just a simple cross on the altar.

Why 'Good Friday'?

If Good Friday is a sad day, why is it called 'good'?

Good Friday is a sad day but Christians believe that Jesus gave his life for the good of everyone. He died so that others could be forgiven for the things they do wrong.



What Happened on Easter Sunday?

After his death on the cross, Jesus was wrapped in a shroud and placed in a stone tomb. A huge stone sealed the entrance and a Roman soldier stood guard.



When his mother, Mary, and Mary Magdalene visited the tomb, they found the stone rolled away and the tomb empty!



The two women wept as they feared someone had stolen the body. A man called their name and when they looked up, they were amazed to see Jesus.



What Happened after Easter Sunday?

Over the next 40 days, Jesus appeared to his disciples to prove to them that he had risen from the dead. The resurrection is what Christians celebrate on Easter Sunday.

By dying, Jesus showed Christians that death was nothing to fear. If they believe in God and ask for forgiveness for their sins, they will have a new life in heaven when they die.



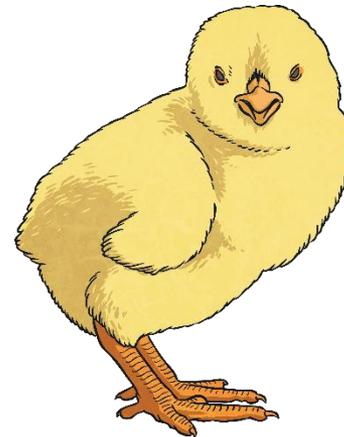
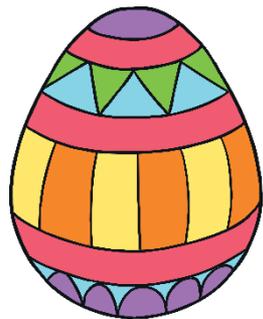
How Do Christians Celebrate Easter Sunday?

- Go to church.
- Decorate the church with flowers.
- Share a meal of lamb or chicken.

How do you celebrate Easter?

How do Christians relate to the symbols of Easter?

- An Easter egg represents new life.
- Egg rolling recalls how the stone rolled away to reveal an empty tomb.
- Chicks, lambs flowers and spring represent new life.



Task:

Write the differences between Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Can you explain how Jesus may have felt on Good Friday, compared with Easter Sunday? How did his disciples or Mary feel on Good Friday compared with Easter Sunday?

Extension:

Explain how Good Friday and Easter Sunday are celebrated in church?