

# Year 8 Term 3: The worldwide Church

Mutual respect



One worldwide community of Christians, who share common beliefs and faith in Jesus Christ as our Saviour.



## One Church, but many churches

Many different denominations who may practice their faith differently to another denomination, or interpret the bible in a different way.

The Christian Church was initially united with common beliefs. However, the Church in Constantinople (East) started to disagree with some of the things happening in Rome (West). This led to the break in 1054 - the Great schism.



The Catholic Church places more emphasis on Mary (Jesus' mother) than many other Churches. They refer to her as Mother of God and Queen of Heaven.

They will pray to Mary to ask her to **intercede** for them.

Mary is not **worshipped** but she is respected

"And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it"

~ Matthew 16:18

There are approximately **1.3 billion** Catholics around the world

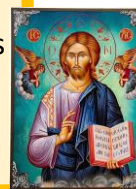
The leader of the Catholic Church is the Pope. He is believed to be a successor of Peter



The word 'Orthodox' takes its meaning from the Greek words *orthos* ('right') and *doxa* ('belief'). Hence, the word **Orthodox** means correct belief or right thinking. The Orthodox Church is one of the three main Christian groups (the others being Roman Catholic and Protestant). Around **200 million** people follow the Orthodox tradition

The Bible of the Orthodox Church is the same as that of most Western Churches, except that its Old Testament is based not on the Hebrew, but on the ancient Jewish translation into Greek called the Septuagint.

**Icons** are of great importance to Orthodox Christians. These beautiful and elaborate paintings are described as "windows into heaven".



Pentecostalism is a form of Christianity that emphasises the work of the Holy Spirit and the direct experience of the presence of God by the believer

In Pentecostal churches there is a great deal of active congregational involvement: the worshippers may dance and clap. Personal testimonies may be given. Preaching may rely more on stories and less on textual analysis. Services can incorporate healings, trances and speaking in tongues.



Most Pentecostals think that their movement is returning Christianity to a pure and simple form of Christianity that has much in common with the very earliest stage in the life of the Christian church

Pentecostalism is one of the fastest growing Christian denominations in the UK

**Theology** = this is about '*believing*'. It looks at where beliefs come from, how they have changed over time, how they are applied in different contexts and how they relate to each other.

### Key vocabulary

**Church** = worldwide community of Christians

**Denomination** = a branch or subgroup of a religion

**Intercede** = intervene on behalf of another

**Schism** = a split or division

**Sacrament** = a ceremony or ritual where a person receives God's grace

**Icon** = a sacred image which conveys a spiritual truth; 'windows into Heaven'

**Fasting** = to abstain from food and drink for a certain period of time

**Missionary** = someone who travels to another country to spread the word of God

**Worship** = to 'give worth' to something

**Liturgical** = Follows a set pattern

**Sermon** = a talk on a specific subject

### Key Christian beliefs

- There is only one God (monotheism)
- God is the creator of the universe
- Jesus is the Son of God
- Jesus was born to a Virgin (Mary)
- Jesus was crucified
- Jesus resurrected from the dead
- Jesus taught a message of love and forgiveness
- The Holy Book is the Bible
- Jesus was sent to save the world
- When we die, there is an afterlife