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.



The Last Supper

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.

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.

Maundy Thursday

On Maundy Thursday,

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.



Vocabulary	Definition
Easter	The oldest and most important Christian festival.
Christians	People who follow the religion of Christianity.
Jesus	The son of God.
Resurrection	When Jesus came back to life.
Disciples	The twelve followers of Jesus.
Symbolise	When something stands for something else.
Betray	To be unfaithful or break a promise to someone.
Holy Communion	A special service in church, where Christians share bread and wine.
Crucified	Put to death on a cross.
Sins	Bad actions.
Tomb	A place cut into rock or underground, where the dead are buried.
Eternal	Lasting forever.
Heaven	Christians believe this is where God lives and where good people go after death.

Good Friday

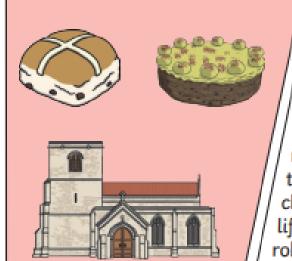
On Good Friday, Christians remember the day that Jesus was crucified. Leaders in Jerusalem were jealous that people listened to Jesus and so they had him crucified. **Christians** believe it is 'good', because Jesus showed great love and died for the sins of others. When he died, his body was put in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

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



What Christians believe the Easter egg represents.





Easter Traditions

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.