

Ideas for Holy Week and Easter 2020 for Parents/Carers

Adapted from & based on Chester Diocesan RE Syllabus

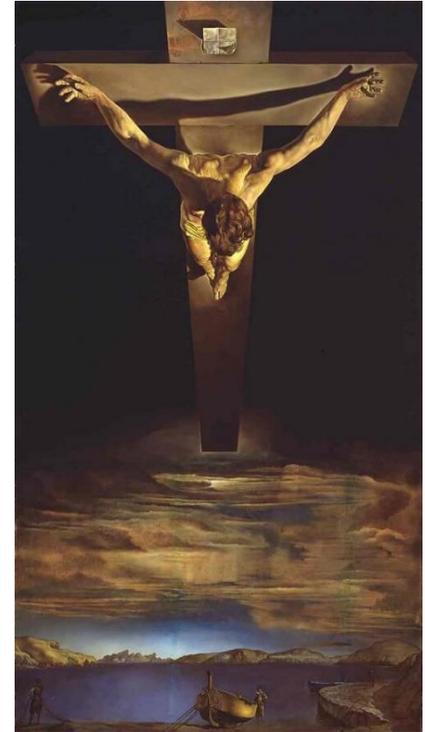
Upper Key Stage 2 - Year 5/6 Why is Jesus called Saviour?

Recall and visit the different parts of the Easter story: Good Friday and Easter day.
<http://request.org.uk/restart/2017/06/10/holy-week/>

Which parts show good news, and which show bad news? Think about what it means to be rescued. How is this good news?

Look at the following works of art which depict Jesus as saviour. Think about how the artist has used colour, shape and form to show Jesus as saviour

- White Crucifixion by Marc Chagall <https://www.artic.edu/artworks/59426/white-crucifixion>
- Ecco Homo by Peter Howson 2003 <https://www.flowersgallery.com/exhibitions/294-peter-howson-the-stations-of-the-cross/works/artworks34943/>
- Christ of the St John of the Cross': Salvador Dali 1951 <https://www.dalipaintings.com/christ-of-saint-john-of-the-cross.jsp>
- You can find further ideas and questions for paintings here <https://request.org.uk/teachers/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2015/10/Christian-Art-Photograph-and-Activity-Pack.pdf>



How are the paintings different and similar? What message about salvation (being rescued) is the artist trying to convey?

Read **Isaiah 53** which describes the death of Jesus? <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Isaiah+53&version=MSG>

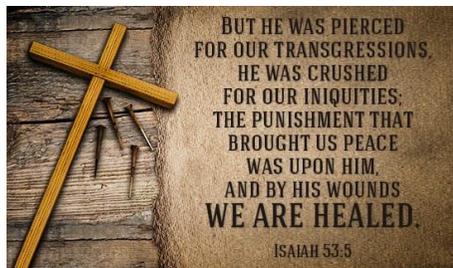
Match up the ideas in the passage in **Isaiah 53** to the works of art?

Design own work of art to convey the ideas.

Think about the celebration of Communion which is based on the story of the last Supper. Watch 2 or 3 videos which explain some different ways of celebrating this symbolic meal. As you watch the videos together think about how and why Christians share bread and wine, and what this ceremony means for them today. What similarities and differences are there between different Christians and the ways of celebrating? How is Jesus seen as a saviour?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4RywxZssZmk> <http://request.org.uk/life/spirituality/communion/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zwcd2hv> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mGbag-XJ5Uk>



NB The Gospels point to Jesus seeing himself as the Messiah (saviour). The Suffering Servant (**Isaiah 53**) was originally Israel, the People of God, now Jesus is God's solution to sin and the Fall who draws all people to God. the messiah, a rescuer, who will save the people of God, and bring peace to all people.

Revisit the video <http://request.org.uk/restart/2017/06/10/holy-week/>

Think about ways the video, the celebration of communion and the passage in **Isaiah 53** shows Jesus as a saviour.

Think about the resurrection part of the story which happened on Easter day. Who visited the tomb? When? Who spoke to them? What were they feeling and thinking? What was the message? What do you think happened next? Look at a printed copy of **Luke 24:1-8** and **Matthew 28:1-10**

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke+24%3A1-8+&version=GNT>

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+28%3A1-10+&version=GNT>

Explain they are different versions of the same story found in the gospels from the New Testament part of the Bible. Read aloud together.

Underline in one colour all the **similarities** and in another colour all the **differences** between the accounts.

	Luke 24:1-8	Matthew 28:1-10
Who visited the tomb?	Women; incl. Mary Magdalene Joanna, Mary mother of James	Mary Magdalene & other Mary
When?	Dawn on Sunday	Very early on Sunday
Who spoke to them?	Two men in bright clothes	An angel Jesus
Feelings?	Puzzled Disciples thought it was nonsense Peter amazed	Women afraid then joyful. Guards trembled and afraid
Message?	He has been raised he isn't here	Don't be afraid. Jesus has been raised you will see him in Galilee.

Think about why there are different accounts, eg written by different authors; written at different times; authors wanted to emphasise different ideas; written by witnesses to some or all the events; written for different audiences). Feedback.

Discuss how they can both tell a general 'truth' for Christians.

Road to Emmaus Luke 24:13-35.

Think about going to an important meal? Discuss the setting, the guests, the conversation. Ask: What made it important? Look at a copy of the picture 'Supper at Emmaus', <https://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/paintings/michelangelo-merisi-da-caravaggio-the-supper-at-emmaus>

Discuss: What can you see in the picture? Is there a story behind the picture? What might it be? What are the people doing? Saying? Feeling? Who is the most important person in the picture? How do you know? What would you ask any of the people?

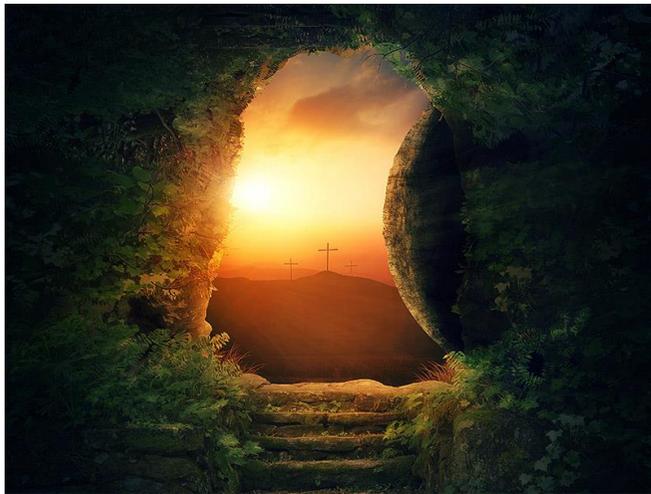


Recall all the children can remember about the Easter story; Good Friday and Easter day. Reinforce the main parts of the story and create a timeline of events. Explain that after the women found the tomb empty there were many sightings of Jesus reported. Remind the children that the resurrection is an important event for Christians.

Introduce the story of the 'Road to Emmaus'. The Lion Storyteller Bible has a simple short story version.

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke+24%3A13-35&version=NIV>

Arguments for and against the resurrection



Revisit the Easter timeline you made earlier. Tell the story of the great catch of fish on the beach based on **John 21**: Jesus appearing to the disciples.

<http://request.org.uk/bible/breakfast-on-the-beach-a-miracle/>

Give children copies of all the Easter resurrection texts: **Luke 24:1-7;13-24** (Emmaus); **Mark 16:1-11.**; **John 20:1-18** (Mary). (see bible gateway.com,)

<http://request.org.uk/jesus/death-and-resurrection/what-happened-to-the-body/>

Pose the question: *What is the evidence for the resurrection? How did Jesus rise from the dead? What happened to his body?*

Using the texts and other knowledge of Easter gather evidence 'for and against' the resurrection happening. Think about the evidence from a different perspective as they assess the evidence eg

chief priests;

disciples;

Roman soldiers;

citizens of Jerusalem.

Suggested evidence:

FOR the resurrection happening: (Example evidence)

Witnesses: Mary and women coming to the empty tomb and the stone rolled away and body gone.

Roman guards were guarding the tomb didn't see anything, so no one stole the body;

The Bible: The Bible tells Christians that Jesus was the Messiah.

Lots of other people saw him alive on many occasions, eg Emmaus and over the next 40 days.

The disciples gave their lives to spread the word about Jesus.

People knew he was special eg Pilate, soldier at the cross;

Jesus said he would rise again from the dead (Mark 8:31).

People encounter Jesus today.

AGAINST the resurrection happening: (Example evidence)

It's impossible to be dead for 3 days and be alive;

All the witnesses were people who believed in Jesus;

No photographic evidence to suggest it was true;

It is possible Jesus didn't really die, he recovered in the tomb and escaped;

The chief priests said the body had been stolen.



Finish by watching a video of a Christian talking about the resurrection being real for them see 2nd video 'Resurrection 2 Philip Jinadu'. <http://request.org.uk/festivals/holy-week-and-easter/why-is-the-resurrection-so-important-to-christians/>