

CurriculumVisions Lesson 3

Students: fill in next to the word answer and return the document for assessment.

Religion

Book: Christian Holy Days

Everything here is based on our Curriculum Visions book Christian Holy Days.

In this segment, we are going to think learn more about Christian Holy Days.

You will need to go to pages 4 and 5.

What do Christian Holy Days celebrate or remember?

Answer.....

Important events in the life of Jesus Christ and his Disciples.

How does the Christian calendar divide up the year?

Answer.....

Into seasons, containing one or more holy days.

Read the text and look at the pictures on page 6.

Why do some holy days move around a bit in the Christian calendar?

Answer.....

Some of the holidays are based on the Jewish calendar, which is based on the way the Moon moves across the sky, other holidays are fixed.

Look at the calendar on page 7. Which holidays move around a bit from year to year?

Answer.....

Beginning of Advent, beginning of Lent, Easter, Pentecost, (answer may include harvest festival)

Read the text and look at the pictures on page 8. What do Christians do during Advent?

Answer.....

They prepare for Christmas and the celebration of Jesus' birth.

Read about the story of Christmas on pages 8 and 9. Retell the story of Christmas in your own words, or list the main events in the Christmas story.

Answer may include:

Mary marries Joseph.

An angel tells Mary she will have a son called Jesus.

Mary and Joseph travelled to Bethlehem for the census.

Jesus is born in Bethlehem and placed in a manger.

Shepherds are visited by an angel and told to visit the baby Jesus.

A group of educated men from the East come to visit the baby Jesus and give him gifts.

Read the text and look at the pictures on pages 10 and 11. What are some of the ways in which Christians observe Advent?

Answer can include.....

They use an Advent calendar to count down the days to Christmas; they decorate their homes with holly and wreaths; they watch or put on Nativity plays; they sing carols.

Read the text and look at the pictures on pages 12 and 13. Describe some of the things that happen on Christmas Eve and Christmas day.

Answer can include.....

Attend a special worship service at midnight; sing Christmas carols and light candles; wish friends and family a "Merry Christmas"; put up a nativity scene; gather to have a special meal and open presents.

Read the text and look at the pictures on pages 14 and 15. What does St Stephens day remember? What happens on this day?

Answer.....

The first Christian to be killed for his faith. People give money to the poor and to charity.

When is Epiphany? What are the four things that Epiphany remembers and celebrates?

Answer.....

Epiphany starts 13 days after Christmas (on January 6) and ends on Candlemas (February 2). It celebrates: the day the wise men visited the baby Jesus; the day the adult Jesus was baptised by John the Baptist; the day Jesus performed his first miracle; and the coming of the Light of God into the world.

Read the text and look at the pictures on pages 16 and 17. What happens during Lent?

Answer.....

Lent is a time to repent and to prepare for Easter.

Why is the day before Lent often called "Fat Tuesday" and why is it often

celebrated with a party?

Answer.....

Because this is a last celebration before giving up things like eggs or meat for Lent.

Read about holy week on pages 18 to 21. What happened on each of the days of Holy Week?

Answer.....

On Sunday, Jesus entered Jerusalem and his followers welcomed him by placing palm leaves on the ground. On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, Jesus preached and spoke to his followers. On Thursday, Jesus and his disciples celebrated the Jewish holiday of Passover and Jesus was arrested. On Friday, Jesus was tried, crucified and died. On Saturday, Jesus was buried. On Sunday, Jesus rose from the dead (was resurrected).

Read the text and look at the pictures on pages 22 and 23. What does Easter Sunday celebrate? What are some of the main events that happened?

Answer.....

When Jesus was raised from the dead (resurrected). Answer could include: Jesus was buried in a tomb and a big stone was rolled in front of it; Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and found the stone rolled away; Mary found Jesus' body missing; angels visited Mary; Mary saw Jesus; Jesus spent 40 talking to his disciples; Jesus told his disciples they would carry on his work; Jesus went to Heaven.

Read the text and look at the pictures on pages 24 and 25. What are some of the ways that Easter is celebrated?

Answer may include.....

Going to worship services on Easter Eve and on Easter Sunday; lighting candles; listening to the story of Easter read in church; giving decorated eggs or chocolate eggs; giving sweets; eating a special meal (eating lamb); eating hot cross buns.

Read about Pentecost and look at the pictures on pages 26 and 27. What does Pentecost remember or celebrate?

Answer.....

It remembers the start of the Christian Church, when God helped the disciples to start preaching, and when the first people came forward to be baptised.

Why is this holiday also called Whitsun?

Answer.....

Whitsun means "white Sunday" and this name came from the fact that many

people who were baptised on Pentecost wore white clothes.

Read more about Pentecost/Whitsun and look at the pictures on pages 28 and 29. What are some ways in which people celebrate Pentecost? Why are their flames on the ministers' robes on page 29?

Answer.....

Some adults chose to be baptised on Pentecost; worship services include readings, songs and sermons about the Holy Spirit; some churches go on a march of witness; some churches have festivals or fetes. The flames stand for the flames that appeared above the disciples' heads on the first Pentecost.

Read about the Harvest festival on pages 29 and 30. What is celebrated during this festival? How are churches decorated at this time?

Answer.....

It is a time to thank God for the harvest and the gifts that make it possible to grow food. Churches are decorated in autumn leaves, fruits, and vegetables.

That is the end of this worksheet. Find out if your teacher has left you any other worksheets or special instructions on your school website.

If you interested in this topic you may want to see related books. If so just go to the top of the screen, select religion, and from the page that opens choose Christianity or type a topic into our safe search engine.