

What is the Trinity?



Key Vocabulary and Definitions

Baptism	Religious rite of sprinkling water onto a person's forehead or immersing them in water. Welcoming a person into the Christian Church.	Prayer	Spiritual communication between man and God. Talking to God. Giving thanks and asking for help.
Blessing	Form of prayer, asking for God's favour and protection.	Priest/Minister	Person authorised by the Church to perform functions such as teaching beliefs and leading services, including baptisms.
Immersion	Putting someone completely under the surface of the water.	Son	Second person of the Trinity. Jesus, God in human flesh.
Father	First person of The Trinity. God the Creator of the Universe and all in it.	Symbol	Mark or picture representing something else, e.g. the dove is a symbol of the Holy Spirit.
The Grace	Short prayer used as a blessing to those that hear it. Often spoken in Church at the end of a service.	Trinity	The state of being three. Here, God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Holy Spirit	Third person of the Trinity. God in the form of an unseen power. Part of God that lives in Christians.	Worship	Ways for people to show how much God is worth to them.

What should I already know?

- Christians believe that Jesus is God and that he was born as a baby in Bethlehem.
- The Bible points out that his birth showed he was extraordinary and that he came to bring good news.
- Christians celebrate Jesus' birth and Advent for Christians is a time for getting ready for Jesus' coming.

What will I know about The Trinity?

The Trinity - Father, Son and Holy Spirit	• Christians believe God is Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. One God in three parts or three in one. • Christians believe The Father creates; He sends the Son who saves His people; the Son sends the Holy Spirit to His followers. • Christians spend their whole lives learning more and more about God. • Christians believe the Holy Spirit is God's power at work in the world and in their lives today, enabling them to follow Jesus.
Baptism	• Jesus was baptised in a river by his cousin John. • At the very start of Jesus' public life, the Trinity is pictured in the story of Jesus' baptism: the voice of God announces Jesus as the Son of God and the Holy Spirit is present in the form of a dove. • Christians believe that one important thing the story teaches is that Jesus is not just a good man, but God, come to Earth to rescue humanity. • Christians try to follow Jesus' example by being baptised themselves. • Babies are usually baptised by water being sprinkled onto their forehead. • Adults are often baptised by total immersion. • Christians are baptised in the name of The Father, Son and Holy Spirit. • Baptism welcomes people into the Church family and is a way for people to declare their faith in Jesus Christ.
Worship	• Christians worship God as The Trinity. • Christians really want to try to understand God better and so try to describe God using symbols, similes and metaphors, in song, story, poems and art. • They use a special prayer called The Grace to bless one another. This prayer refers to The Trinity and comes from words in a letter in the Bible.
Key Bible Texts	• Matthew 3:11-17 (Jesus' Baptism) • 2 Corinthians 13:14 (The Grace)