

1.1 Beliefs and Teachings

The Trinity	Trinity in the Bible	Creation	Nature of Humanity	Incarnation	Paschal Mystery	The significance of the Paschal Mystery	Eschatology	Nicene Creed	Councils of Nicaea and Constantinople	Apostolic Tradition	Catechism
One God in three persons; the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit	Jesus' baptism is the moment God reveals himself as a the Trinity	Genesis 1-3 contains two creation stories: 7 days of creation and Adam and Eve	Humans are made in God's image and possess some of his qualities	'En-fleshment'. God becoming a human being in Jesus	Jesus' Passion, death, resurrection and ascension to heaven	Why the Holy Spirit, salvation and grace are important to Catholics today	Study of Christian teaching on human life and the soul; death, judgement, heaven, hell, purgatory	Christian profession of faith; outlines basic Catholic beliefs	Meetings of early Christians to decide that Jesus and the Holy Spirit are God	Wisdom inspired by the Holy Spirit which influences the Church	Authoritative book containing Catholic teachings of faith and morals

The Trinity		Trinity in the Bible		Creation		Nature of humanity	
Meaning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christians worship one God as taught in the Bible and by Jesus. Father; he loves and cares for his creation, will protect us Son; God as a human being, conceived by the Holy Spirit Holy Spirit; how God communicates with humans, inspired the Bible, joins people with Christ through sacraments 	Importance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> God's unity is in the teaching of the Nicene Creed, the Magisterium and the Catechism. Mass and prayers are said in the name of the Trinity Is the main belief of the Nicene Creed The Trinity gives a sense that God is active in the world Father (above us), Son (with us), Holy Spirit (in us) 	Meaning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Genesis; God speaks the Word to create the world and the Spirit hovers over creation Jesus tells his disciples to baptise 'in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit' Jesus' baptism shows the Son, the Father as a voice from Heaven, the Holy Spirit as a dove 	Importance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Trinity helps Catholics understand different ways God has shown himself Father; power, creativity, care Son; love, sacrifice, salvation Holy Spirit; understanding of God, gives strength, guides us Council of Nicaea: Jesus proclaimed as God Council of Constantinople: Spirit declared as God 	Meaning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Genesis 1: God creates the universe in 6 days because of his words, humans made to have authority over the world Genesis 2-3: God formed Adam, later Eve, and made the perfect Garden of Eden, Eve ate forbidden fruit and gave it to Adam, and they were banished from the Garden. Catholics believe the Bible writers were inspired by God. Catholics believe in the scientific view of creation, but say Genesis shows how it came from God. 	Importance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fundamentalist view: Every word of the creation stories are factual. Does not accept the Big Bang or evolution. Liberal view: the Bible has words about God, not of God. The important truth is God created the universe. Does accept the Big Bang and evolution Creation shows God is; the creator, omnipotent (created the world from nothing), benevolent (made the world for humans with all they needed), eternal (he had no beginning). 	Meaning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Genesis teaches that God made humans in his image – this means we have free will, reason and a conscience Humans are special, not to be used as objects and have fundamental rights Humans are stewards of God's creation i.e. they need to look after it. Non-Christians e.g. humanists may also believe it is important to look after the earth and preserve it for the future. Some believe the world should be used however we want it to be. 	Importance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Humans can choose between good and evil God gave humans dominion over the earth to take care of it, not damage or destroy it Some would say we can use the world however we like.
Incarnation		Paschal Mystery		The significance of the Paschal Mystery		Eschatology	
Meaning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christians believe God became human in Jesus Jesus was born of the Virgin Mary. Catholics believe she remained a virgin throughout her life The Gospels of Matthew and Luke show the Christmas story of an angel appearing to say Jesus would be born from Mary John's Gospel shows Jesus as the Word of God and how he was present from the beginning of time. 	Importance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Incarnation shows that Jesus was God's Son God was in him and he was God He was fully human and fully divine God had so much love for us that he came to earth to save us from our sins Humans can see what God is like through Jesus Through the Incarnation, God began the process of salvation. 	Meaning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Last Supper: Jesus shared a meal with his disciples, he said the bread was his body and wine his blood Garden of Gethsemane: Jesus prayed that his death not happen, but accepted it. Judas betrayed him and he was arrested. Trials: Jesus was accused of blasphemy by the Jewish Council. Pilate sentenced Jesus to death. The crucifixion: Jesus was crucified on the cross Resurrection and ascension: Jesus rose from the dead and after 40 days was taken up to heaven. 	Importance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Last supper is the basis of the Mass (Eucharist) Jesus' crucifixion brought forgiveness from sin Humans could now enter heaven. Jesus freely offered himself for our salvation symbolised by the bread and wine If humans follow Jesus they can be with him in heaven. 	Meaning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Salvation is being saved from sin, both original sin (inherited by the first humans) and personal sin (from our own actions). Grace is the mercy of God. Through the Paschal Mystery, we can receive God's grace through the sacraments e.g. baptism. It was Jesus' mission to bring God's salvation Salvation can only come through Jesus Evangelical Christians and some Catholics believe you cannot be saved unless through Jesus. 	Importance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Without salvation there will be no relationship with God, no one can enter heaven and Jesus's mission would be pointless. Grace comes from the sacraments of baptism, confirmation, reconciliation and the Eucharist (Holy Communion) This encourages Catholics to get baptised and attend church regularly. 	Meaning: <p>The Catechism teaches:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> After death, all are judged by God Perfect Christians will go to heaven – perfection and peace with God Very evil people who have rejected God will go to hell – a total absence of God Christians with unforgiven sins will go to purgatory – sins will be purified Non-Catholics do not believe in purgatory Some believe your body and soul remain in the grave until judgement day Some believe when the body dies the soul is sent to live with God 	Importance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Being judged by God gives reason to living a good Christian life by loving God and their neighbour They will try to avoid committing sins Life after death gives life meaning and purpose Encourages Catholics to help others through use of charities like CAFOD