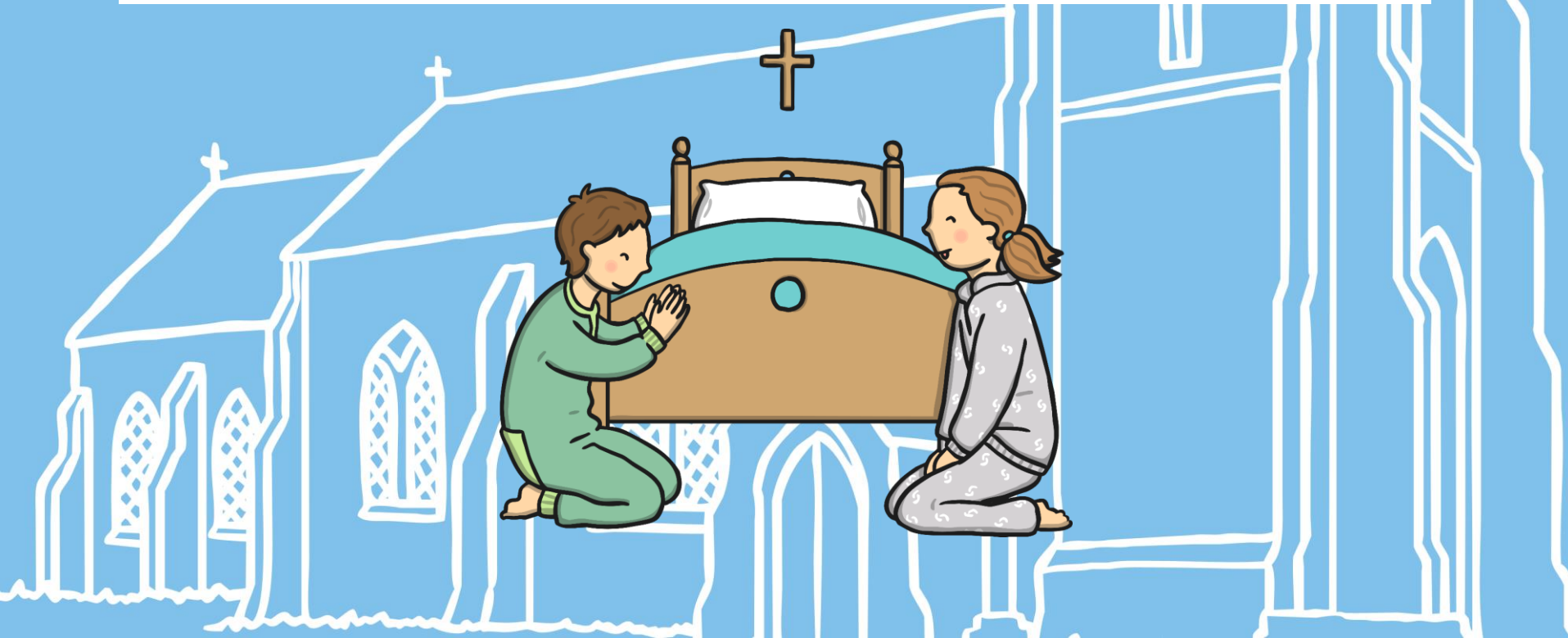


# Who is a Christian and what do they believe?

A Christian is a person who believes in one God, they also call him the father. They believe that God sent his son Jesus to die on the cross to show people a good way to live their lives.

Jesus' most important messages from God were to love God and look after one another.



# The bible

The bible is a holy book that is very important for Christians, they believe that the bible is God's word, full of wisdom and guidance for them. The bible is made up of 66 chapters with 39 books in the Old Testament and 27 books in the New Testament.

## Following God's rules

These are God's rules set out in the Bible, the Christian holy book.

Christians believe that following these rules will help them to lead a good and happy life.

- Love God more than all others.
- Don't make anything more important than God.
- Always use God's name with love respect.
- Rest on a Sunday.
- Love and respect your parents.
- Never hurt others.
- Be faithful to your husband or wife.
- Don't steal.
- Always tell the truth.
- Be happy with what you have.



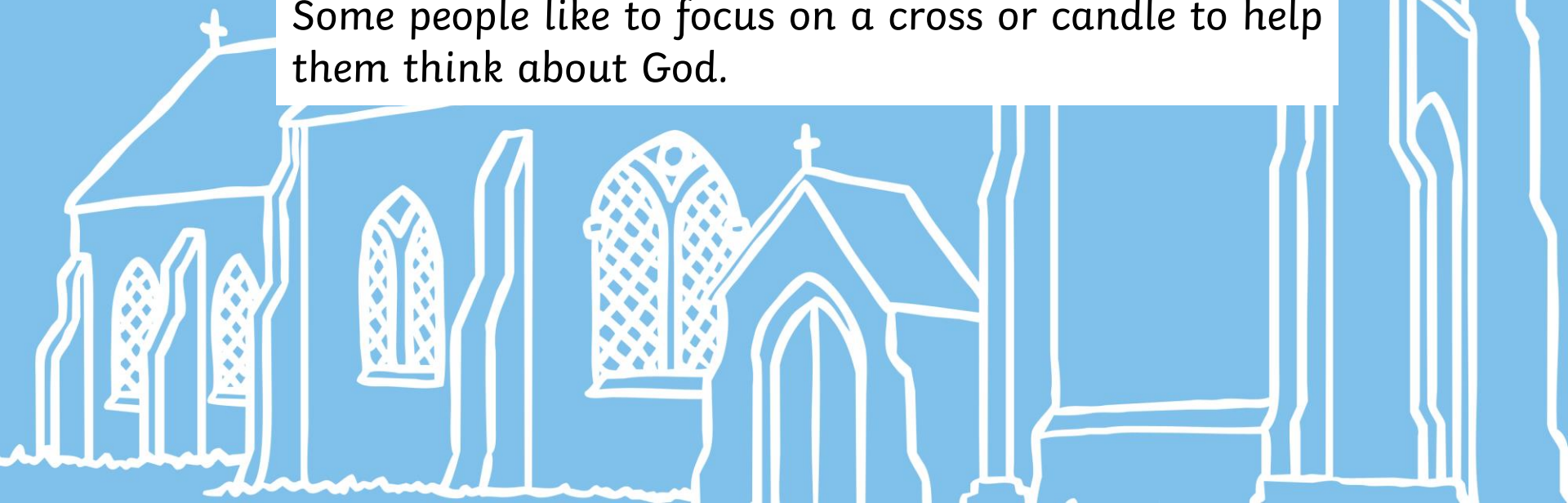


# Prayer

Christians believe that praying is a way of speaking with God. People can pray to give thanks, ask for help or to ask for forgiveness.

Christians pray together, on their own in church or at home.

Some people like to focus on a cross or candle to help them think about God.



# Churches and communion

## The church

The special place where Christians go to worship is called a church. Churches are buildings that hold services for Christians including Sunday services, weddings and baptisms. Christians all over the world worship in churches together; singing songs, reading and listening to the bible, talks, praying and sharing communion.



## Communion

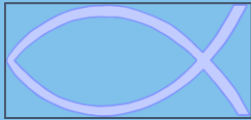
Christians believe that Jesus died on the cross for everyone, to remember why this happened, Christians share communion. They do this by sharing bread and wine together, the bread represents the body of Jesus and the wine represents the blood of Jesus.

# Christian symbols

Around the world, Christians and other religions use certain symbols to share their faith with others, these symbols are important as they also bring people together especially those who share the same beliefs'. Below are some symbols that Christians use.



The **cross** stands for Jesus' death because he died on a cross.



The **fish** was a secret sign used by people who weren't allowed to be Christians. This symbol secretly showed that a person believed in and followed Jesus. Today, you might still see it!



The **candle flame** is another symbol as Jesus is known as the light of the world to Christians. It is seen as a symbol of hope in dark times.



The dove in Christianity is known as the dove of peace.. In the bible, doves are first mentioned at the end of the story of Noah's Ark, where they find an olive branch and bring it to Noah.



# Christian Beliefs

**Christians believe that God created the world.**

God said “Let there be light!” and there was light. God separated light and dark and called the light “day” and the darkness “night”. On the second day God made the earth and sky. On day three, God created the land and seas, along with plant and trees. On the fourth day, God created the sun, moon and stars then on the fifth day, the birds and sea creatures. On the sixth day, God made animals and Adam and Eve. On the final day, God rested.

# Christmas and Easter



## Christmas

Christmas is a very special time of year for Christians because it remembers the time when Jesus was born.

At this time of year, many Christians visit church to sing carols and give thanks for the baby Jesus. People also give and receive gifts to remind them of the gift of the baby Jesus.

Families and friends get together to celebrate Christmas Day which is on the 25th December every year.

## Easter

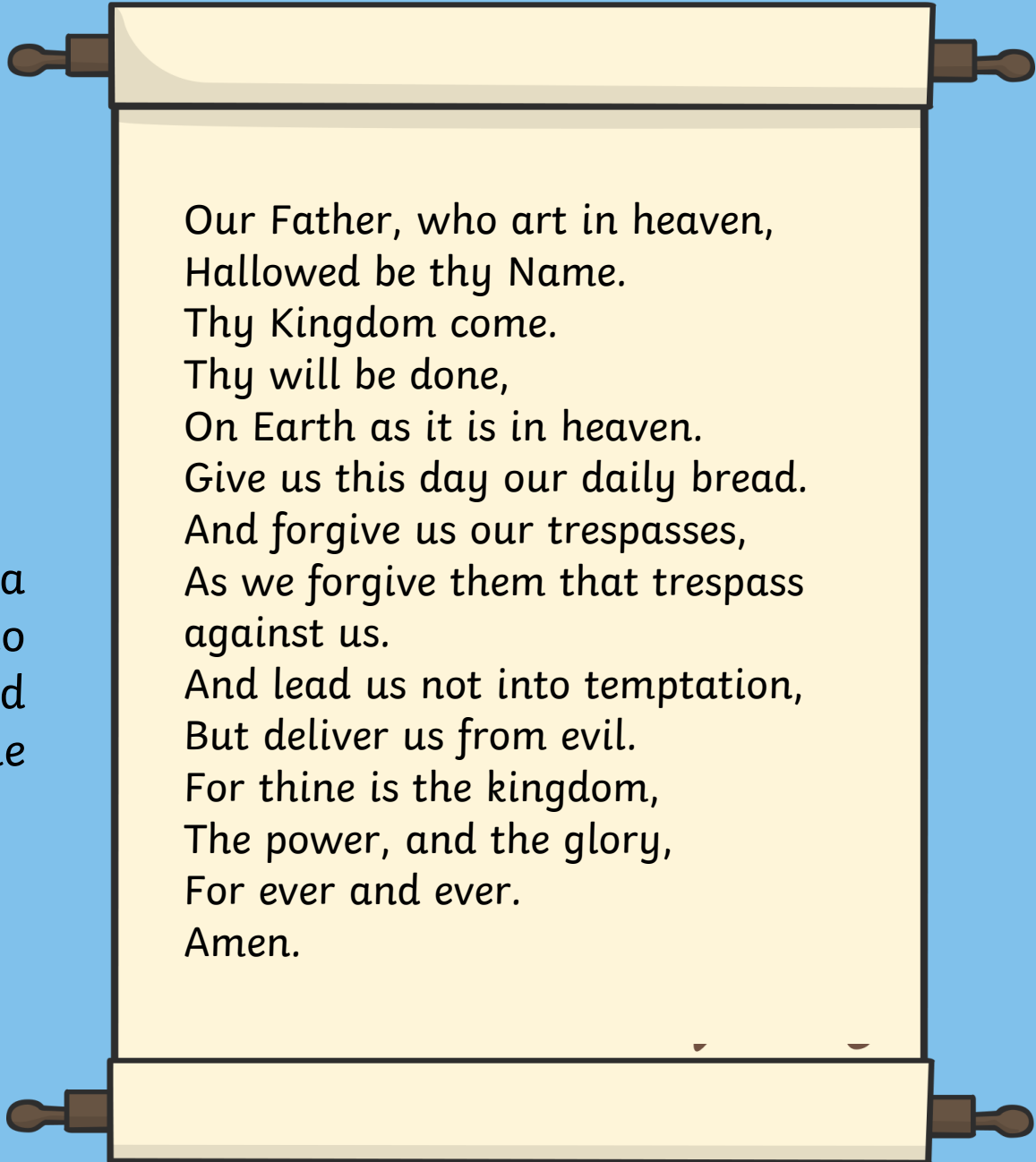
Easter is the most important time of year for Christians because it remembers and celebrates when Jesus came back to life three days after he died on the cross.

The week before Easter is called Holy Week.

Many Christians celebrate Easter by visiting church and giving, receiving and eating Easter eggs, which signify new life.

# The Lord's Prayer

The Lord's Prayer is a very special prayer to Christians. Read it and think about what the words might mean.



Our Father, who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy Name.  
Thy Kingdom come.  
Thy will be done,  
On Earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
As we forgive them that trespass  
against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
But deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
The power, and the glory,  
For ever and ever.  
Amen.





# Questions

Can you write down 3 important Christian beliefs?

Is there a question you might like to ask someone who is a Christian?

Why is it important to learn about what different people believe in?





## Further links

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zdykjsx/resources/1>

The BBC website has some short video clips about various events in the life of the church, as well as stories from the bible.

<https://www.theschoolrun.com/homework-help/christianity>

The school run website has lots more in-depth information about Christianity.

