## **Community: Key Concepts**

Word	Definition
Christian [KRIS] + [CHUHN]	A person who believes in Jesus Christ and follows his teachings.
Pope [POWP]	the Bishop of Rome as head of the Roman Catholic Church.
Sacrament [SAK] + [RUH] + [MUHNT]	An outward sign of an inward blessings. Catholic Christians acknowledge seven sacraments
Pentecost [PEN] + [TI] + [KOST]	the Christian festival celebrating the descent of the Holy Spirit on the disciples of Jesus
Eucharist [YOO] + [KUH] + [RIST]	Holy Communion or the Body and Blood of Christ, which is consumed during the Catholic Mass.
Church [CHURCH]	The Christian religious community, or a body or organization of Christian believers.
Mass [MAS]	The central act of worship of the RC Church.

#### **Beginnings of the Church**

The feast of Pentecost is often referred to as the birthday of the Church. It is called that because Pentecost is when the apostles went out among the people and began spreading Jesus' message, establishing the beginning of the Church. It is celebrated 50 days after Easter. The Holy Spirit came upon the apostles as a sign from Jesus. A "strong, driving" wind filled the room where they were gathered, and tongues of fire came to rest on their heads, allowing them to speak in different languages so that they could understand each other.

'All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit' –(Acts 2:4)

# Holy

#### The Pope

The Pope is the leader of the Roman Catholic Church and the Bishop of Rome. The Pope is believed by Catholics to be the direct successor of St Peter, who was the leader of the apostles. This is why they accept his authority. The current pope is Pope Francis. The office of the pope is referred to as the papacy. Other Christians, such as Protestants, do not accept the authority of the pope.

"He is shepherd over the whole Church" (Catechism of the Catholic Church)

## **Community- Key beliefs**

Christian Community - Christians believe that there is only one God, whom they call Father as Jesus Christ taught them. Christians recognise Jesus as the Son of God who was sent to save mankind from death and sin. Jesus Christ taught that he was Son of God. His teachings can be summarised, briefly as the love of God and love of one's neighbour. Jesus said that he had come to fulfil God's law rather than teach it. The history of the Christian religion and the Christian church began with Jesus and his apostles. Christianity has become the largest of the world's religions and has over two billion believers.

#### How do Catholic's worship

In the New Testament times there were no churches like we have today, so when the word 'church' is used in the Bible it always refers to people. The Roman Catholic Church teaches that worship is at the centre of church life and the individual life of each believer. It is, therefore, very important for every Catholic to take part in public worship frequently, sharing the sacraments and observing festivals and holy days. Every worship service in the Roman Catholic Church involves the celebration of the Eucharist.



"Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him" (John 6:56)

# The role of the Church in the community

Iln Jesus' parable of the Sheep and the Goats people are reminded that they will be judged on the way they treat others. Therefore, the social role of the Church is to ensure fairness, quality and justice for all in society. Catholics should fight against injustice and inequality, both at home and across the world. Catholics have a duty to spread the word of God to others and live their lives as an example.



The parable of he Sheep and the Goats (Matthew 25)