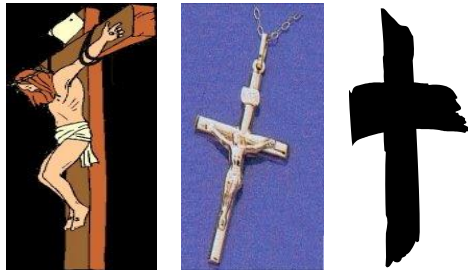


# Christian Symbols

As we know, a symbol is a picture or object that represents something. All religions have special symbols and Christianity is no exception. Below are many of the different symbols that are important in the Christian religion.

## The Crucifix

A crucifix makes Christians think about Jesus on the cross. People may wear a crucifix to remember Jesus.



An empty cross reminds Christians that Jesus did not stay on the cross. He is alive!

## The Fish

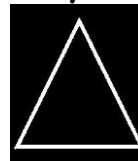


In the Greek language, the first letters of the words "Jesus Christ, God's Son, Saviour" spell *ichthus*, which means fish.

When Christianity was a new religion, lots of people tried to hurt and kill Christians. The fish was a secret symbol so Christians could meet. Today, Christians may wear a fish badge, or put it on their car.

## The Trinity

Christians believe that God is made up of three parts - Father, Son (Jesus) and Holy Spirit. This is known as the "Trinity".



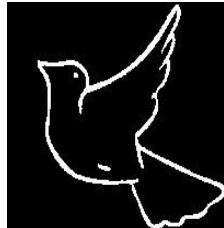
Symbols for the Trinity are a **cloverleaf** or a **triangle**.

**Why do you think these two things remind Christians of the Trinity?**

## **Symbols of the Holy Spirit**

The Holy Spirit is the part of God that guides Christians on earth in their daily life.

A dove was seen at Jesus' baptism so it has become a symbol of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit came to Jesus' disciples looking like flames of fire, so we often see fire or flames representing the Holy Spirit.



## **Holy Communion**

Christians have a special service called Holy Communion. This service reminds Christians of Jesus' death on the cross, and the belief that Jesus died for the sins of all human beings.

During the service, Christians break up some bread to remember Jesus' body was 'broken' on the cross.

Christians drink red wine to remember Jesus' blood when he died for us.



## **Things to Do:**

1. Choose three of the symbols and draw them. Remember to give each one a title.
2. Write a paragraph about each symbol.
3. If you were asked to choose the symbol you think best represents Christianity, which one would you choose, and why?

## **Extension**

If you were to design a new symbol for Christianity, what would you choose, and why? Draw your symbol.