

Links to prior learning

Catholics believe our **conscience** is God's law written on our hearts. We must **inform our conscience** through prayer and learning. We should follow our conscience to **choose good and avoid evil**. Catholics believe we have an inner sense of right and wrong because we are created in God's image and we should inform our conscience through reading the Bible and praying.

Links to future learning

God gave humans the gift of **free will** (the ability to choose how to live your life). **Adam and Eve** chose **sin** (acting against the will of God) by disobeying God's command not to eat the fruit from the **tree of knowledge**. This sin damaged their friendship with God, each other and creation. All humans, therefore, inherit **original sin** as a consequence of this action. The **Fall** shows God's goodness because he still loves and guides people and gives people a choice through believing in the sacrifice of Jesus.

KEY WORDS

The Fall: The story in Genesis 3 where humans commit the first sin and fall away from God's grace

Original Sin: A state in which all humans are born

Concupiscence: The temptation to want to sin.

Sinai Covenant: An agreement with Moses at Mount Sinai at which he received the Ten Commandments.

The Decalogue: The Ten Commandments of God that guided the Jewish people to live as God wanted.

Freedom: The power a person has to act, speak or think as they want.

Responsibility: Having control over something.

Conscience: An inner sense of right and wrong which leads to a desire to do right and avoid wrong.

Baptism: A sacrament of initiation that welcomes new members into the Church and washes a person of the original sin human inherit from Adam and Eve.

Why do people
sin and how can
they stay close to
God?

A **covenant** is an agreement between two or more people. God made covenants with humans. The **Sinai** covenant was when Moses received the 10 Commandments. These covenants were a gift from God to teach humans how to love God and others. Later Jesus taught that the most important commandment is to love God and love your neighbour as yourself. Following these commands helps Christians live close to God

Baptism is a **sacrament of initiation** where a person is welcomed into the Church. Baptism also **cleanses** a person of their **original and personal sins**. Jesus was baptised by **John the Baptist** and later commanded his disciples to baptise all new Christians. Most Catholics are baptised as babies (**infant baptism**) whereas other Christians wait until they are old enough to decide for themselves (**believers' baptism**). They say that as Jesus was baptised as an adult and the promises are personal and life changing, people need to be old enough to understand how important baptism is in showing a person **wants** to live a Christian life.

Cross curricular links: