

Links to prior learning

The Church teaches that every person has a physical body and a spiritual soul that lives on after death. When someone dies, they face **particular judgement**, where God decides whether their soul goes to **heaven**, **hell**, or **purgatory**. Purgatory is a place of purification before entering heaven. At the end of time, on the **Last Judgement**, all souls will be reunited with their bodies and judged again by Christ.

Links to future learning

The story of Jesus' resurrection is told slightly differently in each of the four Gospels, but all agree that his tomb was found empty. Women discovered this first and were told by angels that Jesus had risen. Jesus then appeared to many of his disciples, though they often didn't recognise him at first. In the story of the Road to Emmaus, two disciples only realised it was Jesus when he broke bread with them. Christians believe this shows that Jesus truly rose from the dead, body and soul. The Church teaches that the Resurrection is a real, historical event and the most important truth of the Christian faith. It gives Christians hope in life after death and shows that Jesus has power over sin and death.

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

 Key Words

Resurrection: The belief that Jesus rose from the dead after his crucifixion.

Death: The end of a person's physical life.

Judgement: What happens after death when God decides where a soul will go – heaven, purgatory, or hell.

Heaven: Eternal life in God's presence.

Hell: Eternal separation from God.

Purgatory: A place of preparation before entering heaven.

Funeral rite: The Church's prayers and ceremonies when someone dies.

Requiem: A special Mass said for someone who has died.

Catholics believe that Jesus' Resurrection gives hope of new life after death. This belief shapes important practices like **Baptism** and **funeral rites**. In Baptism, being washed with water shows the end of an old, sinful life and the start of a new life with Christ. Catholics believe Baptism is needed for salvation, though God can still save someone through a "baptism of desire" if they were not baptised. When someone dies, Catholics hold a funeral to show hope in eternal life, offer comfort to those who are grieving, and pray for the person's soul. A Catholic funeral has three parts: the **Vigil of Prayer**, the **Funeral Mass**, and the **Committal** at the grave