



**Subject: RE**

Topic: Easter to Pentecost

Year: 3

Summer 1

## What should I already know?

- Mark's Gospel tells us that Jesus came to Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover. He was arrested in the Garden of Gethsemane after the Passover meal he had with his disciples (The Last Supper)
- Jesus was crucified and died on Good Friday. He was placed in a tomb and then resurrected on Easter Sunday.
- Mark's community were being persecuted. He has the shortest Gospel: Their existence there was difficult; the Roman Emperor Nero hated Christians and persecuted them, killing many.

## The Tyburn Martyrs

From 1535 to 1681 being a Catholic priest, or associating with Catholic priests, was illegal. It was also considered treason to refuse to accept the monarch as "the only Supreme Head on earth of the Church of England". In the reign of King Henry VIII, Catholics who believed that the Pope in Rome was the head of the Church had to decide whether to keep their faith silent, or speak about it openly, knowing it could have them killed. More than 100 decided to speak openly – and found themselves hanged at Tyburn, near Marble Arch, London.

## Passover

- 50 days after Passover, Jews returned to Jerusalem to celebrate another festival – Shavu'ot – or Pentecost. Pentecost was a celebration of the first fruits of the harvest. Jews collected and took the first crops they had grown and collected, and offered them to God at the temple. **Like Passover, Shavu'ot was a compulsory festival:** adult men had to take their offerings to the Temple so Jerusalem would have been very busy.
- **Mark's Gospel has no record of Pentecost.** Luke's writing (in Acts of the Apostles) does. Luke tells us that Jesus 'ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there, 'to be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.' (Acts 1: 4) So they waited!
- Speaking to people about Jesus can be fun and exciting or it can be frightening. **For the people Mark wrote his Gospel for it was frightening: for Luke it was exciting.**

## What we will be learning about:

**The Resurrection of Jesus - Mark 16:1-8:** When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?' 4When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, 'Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.' So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

## Vocabulary

**Ascension:** the ascension of Jesus Christ into heaven is one of the most important events recorded in the New Testament.



**Resurrection:** the rising of Christ from the dead.

**Ossuary:** a container or room in which the bones of dead people are placed.

**Shavu'ot:** it celebrates the completion of the seven-week Omer counting period between Passover and Shavuot.

**Evangelist:** a person who seeks to convert others to the Christian faith, especially by public preaching.

**Persecution:** hostility and ill-treatment, especially because of race or political or religious beliefs; oppression.

**Pentecost:** the Christian festival celebrating the descent of the Holy Spirit on the disciples of Jesus after his Ascension, held on the seventh Sunday after Easter.

**Martyr:** a person who is killed because of their religious or other beliefs.

**Convent:** a Christian community of nuns living together under monastic vows.

