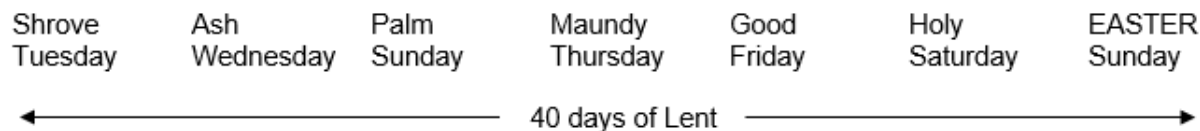


Year 4: Why is Lent an important time for Christians?

Events of Easter Timeline



What is Lent?

Lent is the period of preparation leading up to Easter, just as Advent is the period of preparation leading up to Christmas.

Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day) is the final day before **Lent** begins. Churches decorate in the colour purple during the period of **Lent**. Purple is a solemn colour (compared with other jolly colours, e.g., yellow or orange) as **Lent** is a solemn time.

Lent is a time to remember when Jesus spent forty days and forty nights in the desert and was tempted by the Devil.

Vocabulary

desert	A dry area of landscape.
devil	The spirit or power of evil.
fasting	Making a choice not to eat for a period of time.
Lent	The period of 6 weeks leading up to Easter.
preparation	Getting ready for something.
solemn	Serious and thoughtful.

How was Jesus tempted?

- The Spirit led Jesus into the **desert** to be tempted by the **Devil**.
- After forty days and nights without food, Jesus was hungry.
- The Devil tempted Jesus to turn stones into bread.
- The second temptation was for Jesus to throw himself from the highest point of the temple and order angels to catch him.
- Finally, the Devil offered Jesus all the kingdoms of the world in return for worshipping him.
- The Devil left Jesus and angels came and helped him.



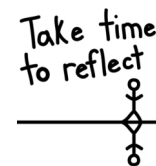
How do Christians celebrate Lent today?

The period of **Lent** is a time when Christians contemplate their lives and their relationship with God, and think about the importance of resisting temptation that will lead to wrong-doing.

Giving things up, for example, sweets, reminds Christians that Jesus fasted and Jesus resisted temptation. Christians are trying to do the same.

Christians believe that the **devil** came and tempted Jesus when he was at his most vulnerable (alone and hungry) to try and stop him from serving God and beginning his ministry. The **devil** could not tempt Jesus and so eventually he gave up and went away.

CRC Article 14: All children have the right to their own religion.



What kind of temptations do we face today?