

St James & St Christopher

What we believe...

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The New Testament teaches the foundations of the Christian faith and the normal pattern for the Christian life. What Christians believe and how they behave is described in the different books that were written by the early disciples after the death and resurrection of Jesus.

Jesus

The centre of the Christian Faith can be found in what we believe about Jesus. The Bible tells us that God became the man Jesus to teach us how to live, to die for us, and to rise again. This message is known as the good news or 'the gospel'. It is often summed up by the following verse:

'For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life'. (John 3:16, NIV)

Though we are meant to keep God's commands, no one except Jesus has ever kept all of them fully. In the Bible, our failure to keep God's commands is called sin. When Jesus died on the cross, he took upon himself all the guilt for our sin so that we might be forgiven by God and set free to live in a relationship with him. When we put our trust in Jesus, we turn away from our sins, ask for his forgiveness, and accept him as our Lord and Saviour.

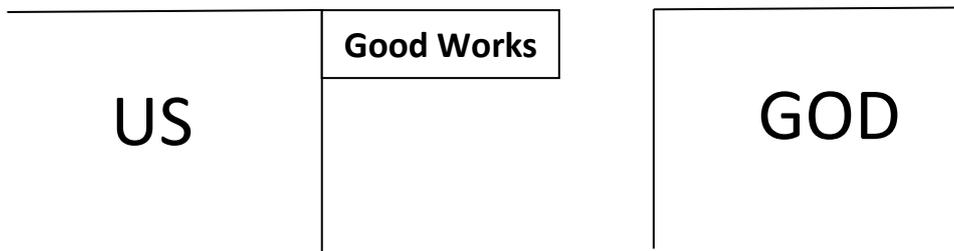
The Trinity

Christians believe that there is one God who exists as three distinct persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. We call this belief the doctrine of the Holy Trinity. This is why Christians believe that Jesus is both God and the Son of God at the same time.

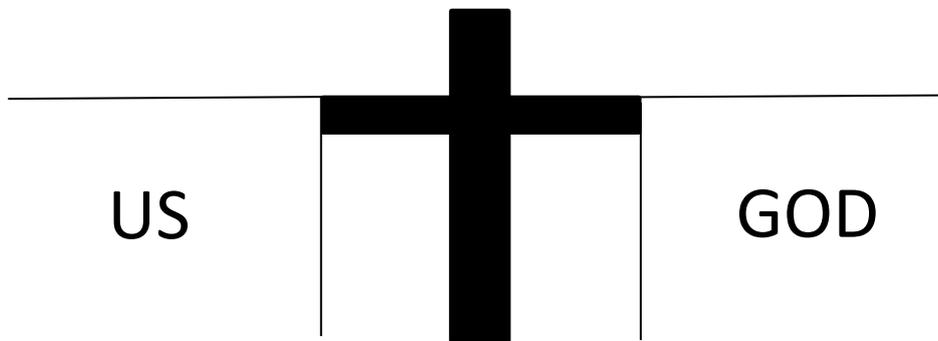
The Gospel



We are separated from God because of our sin



This problem cannot be solved by doing good works



Only faith in Jesus can restore our relationship with God

The Apostles' Creed

I BELIEVE in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.

Amen