



**R.E. lesson- Christianity:** This sheet is designed to help explain Pancake day and why it is a significant day in the Christian calendar.

You can watch the accompanying presentation here:  
[https://youtu.be/sMCyM\\_7ib5Q](https://youtu.be/sMCyM_7ib5Q)

## Pancake Day-a Christian celebration?

Pancake Day or Shrove Tuesday is the day before the start of Lent. In the same way that Advent is a countdown to Christmas, Lent is the six weeks before Easter when Christians remember Jesus being in the desert for 40 days. He prayed and went without food.

Some people choose to give up things during Lent such as unhealthy foods or treats or dedicate part of Lent to fasting. Pancakes are a great recipe for people to resist temptation and to use up rich ingredients.

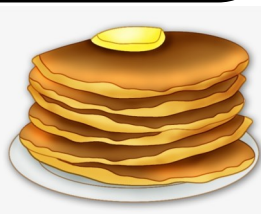
## So, are pancakes mentioned in the Bible?

The name 'Shrove Tuesday' comes from the word "shriven" meaning to confess your sins and receive forgiveness. Sins are the wrong things we think, the wrong things we say and the wrong things we do. Sin is when we do something that would upset God. Forgiveness for sins is at the heart of the Easter story so although the Bible doesn't mention pancakes, many Christians choose to use Lent as a time to think about their own behaviour and to recommit themselves to God.



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**Quick quest:** In some countries there are huge celebration feasts with lots of rich foods before the period of Lent begins. *Can you find out what that celebration is called?*



# Shrove Tuesday

a	s	a	c	r	i	f	i	c	e	h	l
m	y	o	l	e	n	t	e	c	u	g	f
g	r	a	b	z	o	f	a	m	i	l	y
o	u	b	q	u	f	d	k	l	c	r	v
d	p	c	e	l	e	b	r	a	t	e	h
i	j	h	v	c	a	h	t	d	s	c	t
u	c	u	p	a	s	a	e	c	b	i	f
v	e	r	j	o	t	m	g	a	s	p	r
s	b	c	n	t	s	d	g	e	r	e	d
m	a	h	g	v	y	i	s	e	g	c	p
e	g	s	p	a	n	c	a	k	e	s	b
c	p	r	o	m	i	s	e	k	g	h	m

church	feast	pancakes
Lent	celebrate	symp
promise	recipe	sacrifice
God	family	eggs

**Fun Facts:**

The **largest pancake** ever made was created in Manchester in 1994. It measured a whopping 15.01 metres in diameter and weighed 3048 KG (That's almost as much as a White Rhino!!!)

## Marking Shrove Tuesday

Churches used to hold special services to mark Shrove Tuesday. It is believed that in 1445 a lady was so busy cooking her pancakes that she was nearly late for church. When she heard the church bells ring she dashed out of the house still wearing



her apron and holding her frying pan and ran all the way to church flipping her pancake as she went! Her village of Olney, Bucks have been holding pancake races ever since.

These days lots of people hold sponsored pancake flipping races and events raising money for charity. Even royalty join in.



## What happens on Ash Wednesday?



The next day is the first day of Lent. Some churches have special services where people can go to say sorry to God for their sins and ask his forgiveness. At this service the Vicar will make the sign of a cross on their head using some cold ashes.

This is to show that they are truly sorry!



## Flipping Amazing Fun



The **most people** tossing pancakes at the same time is 890 and was achieved at an event organised by the University of Sheffield in 2012.

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Dominic Cuzzacrea made a monumental flip measuring 9.47 m **high** in U.S.A in 2010. That's the length of a double decker bus!

How many words can you find within the word 'pancakes'? Fill as many of the frying pans below as you can, with the new words you have made.

# PANCAKES

