# Title: Maria Gomez – Martyr

**Key Questions:** What can I learn from these historical events? What can I learn from these mistakes? Should I always be proud of my past? How should I respond to difficult events in the past? Can or should I apologise for things that happened in the past?

**Key Concepts:** martyrdom, truth, fairness,

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| **Learning objectives** | **Activities** | **Resources** |
| Explore the issues of justice and martyrdom. Evaluate how people respond to injustice. | Use artefact – Maria Gomez crucifix or image of this. Pupils to do a SEE THINK WONDER task on this.Still using the crucifix encourage students to either make up their own questions about it & then get a partner to answer them. Alternatively they could answer the following questions:* Where is Maria Gomez?
* What is she doing?
* Who created this cross?
* Why was it created?
* What does this cross symbolise?

Research the problems people in El Salvador suffered during the 1970s & 1980s.* What was unjust?
* How could these problems be resolved?

Discuss: * Who killed Maria Gomez?
* Why was Maria Gomez killed?
* Why might she be considered a martyr?
* Why did her community respond by creating a crucifix?
* Why didn’t they fight back?

Students create their own crucifix in the style of an El Salvador cross. Encourage students to consider the issues they might need to make a stand about and reflect this in their art work. There are lots of examples online to help guide students.Students could also be encouraged to research the life of Oscar Romero. What links are there between Maria Gomez and Oscar Romero? | The Maria Gomez crucifix is available to be purchased or an image can be accessed here: <https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/en/thumb/a/ae/Mariagomezcross.jpg/220px-Mariagomezcross.jpg> <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mar%C3%ADa_Cristina_G%C3%B3mez>There is a section in a textbook: “This is RE 1” C. Large (2002) that might be helpful. |