



Happy Easter!

Eastern Orthodox Pascha Greek for “Passover” (Easter)

Orthodox Christian

[Easter](#) 

On this day, Christians celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead after 3 days in the grave (Holy Friday, Holy Saturday, and Pascha Sunday). The resurrection is recorded in the Christian Scriptures in Matthew chapter 28, Mark chapter 16, Luke chapter 24, John chapter 20, and is recognized throughout the Epistles – letters written mostly by St. Paul (it is described theologically in particular in 1 Corinthians chapter 15). To Christians, it is important because it fulfilled prophecies and is the foundation of Christian belief, life, and practice. It is the most important Feast Day for Orthodox Christians.

This collection of information sheets on major holidays and cultural events is a joint partnership of the School of Information staff, the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and the Office of the Provost. Facts have been vetted by U-M’s Association of Religious Counselors (ARC), and other campus groups. Public feedback is welcome; please email DEIHolidayFacts@umich.edu.

Date

- The date of this annual celebration varies from year to year, occurring on a Sunday between the end of March and early May.
- Christian Orthodox churches calculate the date according to the Julian calendar so the date usually occurs after the western observance.
- Check the [Calendar Index](#) for Religious Holidays during the current academic year for the exact date.

Greetings

- Christians greet one another on this day by saying, “Christ is risen,” with another person replying, “He is risen indeed,” or people may just say “Happy Easter” to each other.

Common Practices and Celebrations

- The week before Pascha, Holy Week, is filled with many church services. This culminates with the service of the Resurrection when we recognize Pascha.
- Fasting is observed 40 days prior to Easter (not including Holy Week) avoiding meat and dairy products.
- Pascha is a time of great celebration, there are no food restrictions for the next 40 days.

Impact to U-M Community

- The holiday is always on a Sunday so no special accommodations are likely required on U-M Campus.
- Link to [U-M Guidance Regarding Conflicts](#).

U-M Campus Resources

- [Maize Pages - Orthodox](#), U-M
- [Association of Religious Counselors](#), U-M

Information Sources

- [Time and Date](#), holidays
- [Religion Facts](#)
- [Blue Letter Bible](#), Matthew 28

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