



Good Pascha!

Eastern Orthodox Holy Friday

Orthodox Christian

[frai-dei](#) 

Christians annually commemorate the death of Jesus Christ on this day, the Friday before Pascha (Easter). His death, by crucifixion on a cross in Jerusalem around 33 A.D., is recorded in the Christian Scriptures in Matthew chapter 27, Mark chapter 15, Luke chapter 23, John chapter 19, and is recognized throughout the Epistles – letters written mostly by St. Paul. This is also recorded in such Scriptures as Isaiah chapter 53, verses 5–6, and Romans chapter 5, verses 6–9. The (Eastern) Orthodox Christian Church does not use the term “Good Friday” but the term “Holy Friday” or “Great Friday” instead.

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

- It is always commemorated on the Friday before Pascha, which means it is a moveable Holy Day. 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

- There is no traditional greeting for this holiday; however, some Orthodox Christians say “Good Pascha” to each other in anticipation of the Resurrection to come on Sunday.

Common Practices and Celebrations

- Many Orthodox Christians commemorate the day by attending numerous church services and strict fasting.
- Orthodox Christians usually refrain from doing much work on this day in remembrance of Christ’s great sacrifice.

Common Dietary Restrictions

- Very strict fasting and limited food consumption.

Impact to U-M Community

- 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
- [Blue Letter Bible](#), Matthew 27
- [Blue Letter Bible](#), Isaiah 53:5-6
- [Blue Letter Bible](#), Romans 5:6-9

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