



What Is Easter?

Easter is an important Christian festival. It is when Christians remember that Jesus died on the cross and came back to life three days later. Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday.



Palm Sunday

Maundy Thursday

Good Friday

Holy Saturday

Easter Sunday

What Happened on Palm Sunday?

- The Bible tells us that Jesus and his followers went to Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. Lots of people had heard that Jesus was coming so a big crowd had gathered to see him. They waved palm leaves in the air and laid them on the ground for Jesus to walk on.



What Happened on Maundy Thursday?

- Jesus and his followers had their last meal together on Maundy Thursday. This is known as the Last Supper. Jesus washed his friends' feet and told them that they should always love one another. Jesus then gave each person some bread and wine. He explained that his friends should share bread and wine after his death to remember him.

What Happened on Good Friday?

- It was on Good Friday that Christians believe that Jesus died. Jesus was made to carry a heavy wooden cross through the city. The Roman guards nailed Jesus to the cross and placed a crown made of thorns on his head.



What Happened on Holy Saturday?

- Some Christians believe that Jesus' body was placed in a tomb on Good Friday whereas others believe he was buried on Holy Saturday. A heavy stone was rolled in front of the entrance and it was guarded by a Roman soldier so that nobody could take his body.



What Happened on Easter Sunday?

- Easter Sunday is a happy day for Christians because it is the day that they believe Jesus rose from the dead. The Bible says that Jesus' friends and family went to visit the tomb. The body had gone when they got there. Jesus' friends saw him in lots of different places on that day and for 40 days afterwards. They realised that God had raised him from the dead.



How Do Christian People Celebrate Easter Sunday?

Lots of Christians go to special church services on Easter Sunday to celebrate Jesus coming back to life.



Did You Know...?

The exact date of Easter Sunday changes every year.

- 1st April 2018
- 21st April 2019
- 12th April 2020
- 4th April 2021
- 17th April 2022
- 9th April 2023
- 31st March 2024



Disclaimer: The depiction of the individuals involved in the betrayal and death of Jesus in this resource is consistent with the description given in the four gospels in the Bible. Although some of these individuals were Jewish (as were many people at the time, including Jesus), as explained by both the Vatican and the Pope, the involvement of Jewish individuals in the death of Jesus in no way implies that all Jewish people bear responsibility for his death.



Easter

What Is Easter?

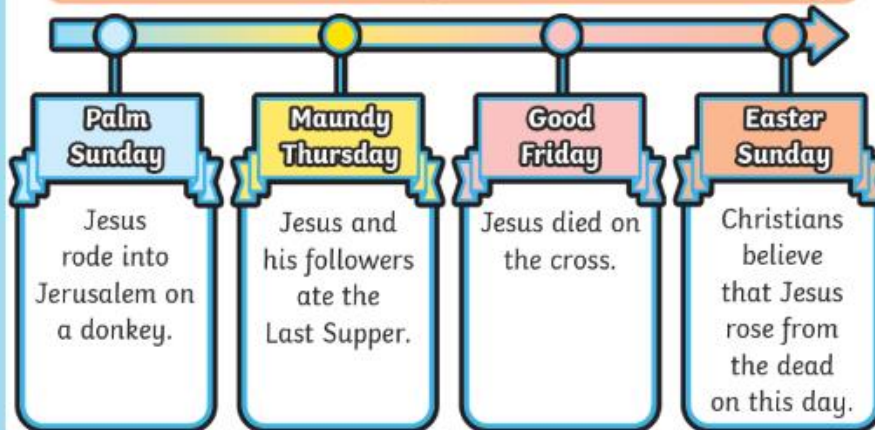
Easter is a Christian festival. Christians believe that Jesus died on the cross on Good Friday and returned to life a few days later. This day is called Easter Sunday.

When Is Easter Sunday?

Easter Sunday is the last day of Holy Week.



Holy Week



What Do Christians Do on Easter Sunday?

People go to Easter church services.	Families and friends might share chocolate eggs.	Some people eat a special meal.
--------------------------------------	--	---------------------------------

Easter

Easter Traditions



egg hunts



Easter bunny

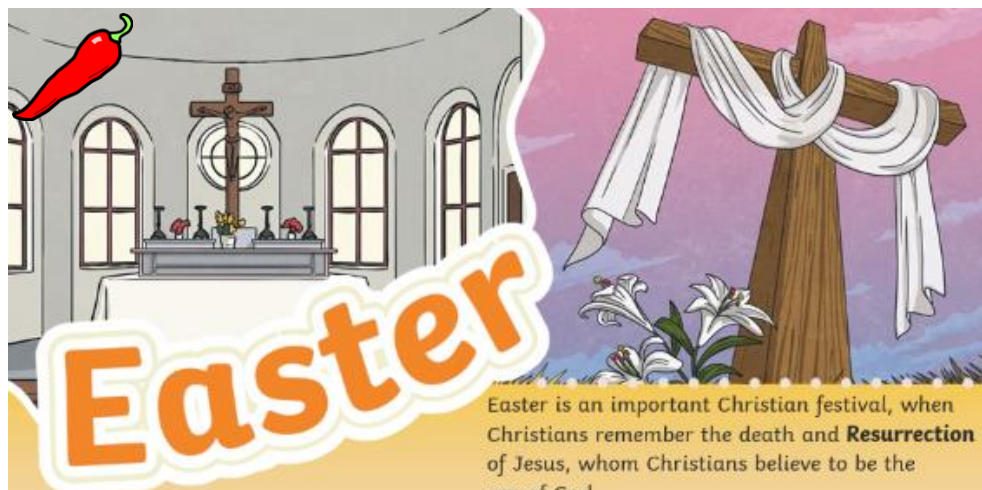


egg rolling



Easter bonnets





Easter is an important Christian festival, when Christians remember the death and **Resurrection** of Jesus, whom Christians believe to be the son of God.

Most Christians refer to the week before Easter as Holy Week. During this week, Christians remember the last week of Jesus' life. Holy Week contains many special days for Christians, beginning with Palm Sunday.



Palm Sunday

The Bible says that Jesus and his **disciples** walked to Jerusalem for a Passover meal on this day. Jesus sent two of his disciples to find a donkey. They brought the donkey to Jesus and laid cloaks on its back so that Jesus could ride on it. Lots of people had heard that Jesus was about to arrive so a large crowd had gathered to welcome him. As Jesus rode the donkey into Jerusalem, the crowd took palm leaves from the trees, laying them on the ground and waving them in the air in celebration.



Maundy Thursday

On this day, Jesus and his disciples gathered together to eat their last meal, known as the Last Supper. As his friends gathered at the house, Jesus surprised them by washing their feet and he told them that they should always love one another.

Jesus then passed bread and wine around the table. He explained that his friends should share bread and wine to remember him by after his death. It was later in the evening on Maundy Thursday when Jesus was betrayed by one of his disciples, who was named Judas.

Good Friday

Christians believe that Jesus died on Good Friday. Jesus was made to carry a heavy, wooden cross through the city to the place where he would be crucified. The Roman guards nailed Jesus to the cross and placed a crown made of thorns on his head. Some Christians believe that the sky turned black as Jesus suffered.



Holy Saturday

According to the Bible, it was on Holy Saturday that Jesus' body was placed in a tomb. A heavy stone was rolled in front of the tomb's entrance and it was guarded by a Roman soldier.



What Happened on Easter Sunday?

- Easter Sunday is a happy day for many Christians because it is the day that they believe that Jesus was resurrected. According to the Bible, the tomb of Jesus was found empty when his friends and family went to remove his body. That same day and for 40 days afterwards, Jesus' disciples saw him and realised that God had raised him from the dead.
- The Resurrection of Jesus is important to Christians because it gives the promise of eternal life in heaven.
- To celebrate Jesus' Resurrection, special church services are held on this day. Gifts and Easter eggs are given and the church is filled with flowers to symbolise new life.

Did You Know...?

The exact date that Easter Sunday is celebrated on changes every year.

21st April 2019

12th April 2020

4th April 2021

17th April 2022

9th April 2023

31st March 2024



Glossary

disciples: Followers of Jesus during his lifetime.

Resurrection: Rising from the dead.