



**Easter**



Easter, the oldest Christian festival, the main celebration of the liturgical year. Erected in honor of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Currently, his date at any given year is calculated according to the lunar-solar calendar

- Beginning with the Easter night and the next forty days (up to leave-taking of Easter) is usually triple kiss, that is to greet each other with the words: "Christ is risen!" - "Truly He is risen!" Three times while kissing. This custom comes from apostolic times, "Greet one another with a holy kiss"





- The pysanky and krashanky are an old pre-Christian element and have an important role in the Easter rites. They are given as gifts or exchanged as a sign of affection, and their shells are put in water for the rakhmany (peaceful souls); finally, they are placed on the graves of the dead or buried in graves and the next day are taken out and given to the poor. Related to the exchange of krashanky is the rite of sprinkling with water, which is still carried on in Western Ukraine. During the Easter season in Ukraine and Russia the cult of the dead is observed. The dead are remembered on Maundy Thursday and also during the whole week after Easter. For the commemoration of the dead (provody) the people gather in the cemetery by the church, bringing with them a dish containing some food and liquor or wine, which they consume, leaving the rest at the graves.

THE END