

Why Do We Give Easter Eggs?

The Easter egg is venerable indeed. While the gaily colored cardboard ones and rich chocolate ones that we enjoy are quite recent in origin, the real egg, decorated with colors or gilt, has been acknowledged as a symbol of continuing life and resurrection since pre-Christian spring celebrations.

Given as gifts by the ancient Greeks, Persians, and Chinese at their spring festivals, the egg also appears in pagan mythology, where we read of the Sun-Bird being hatched from the World Egg. In some pagan customs, the Heaven and Earth were thought to have been formed from two halves of an egg. As the egg was an obvious symbol to early Christians of Jesus' Resurrection, it was felt to be a most appropriate and holy part of the Eastertide celebration.



Even as early as the Middle Ages, eggs were colored to be given as gifts at Easter; Edward I's accounts for 1290 include the expense of purchasing hundreds of eggs to be distributed to his household. In the 17th century, pope Paul V blessed the humble egg in a prayer to be used in England, Scotland, and Ireland: "Bless, O Lord, we beseech Thee, this Thy creature of eggs, that it may become a wholesome sustenance to Thy faithful servants, eating in thankfulness to Thee, on account of the Resurrection of Our Lord." Forbidden during the solemn fast of Lent, eggs were reintroduced on Easter Sunday, both as part of the feasting and as gifts for family, friends, and servants.

[From Wikipedia](#), the free encyclopedia

Icon of St. Mary Magdalene holding a red easter egg with the words Christ is Risen.

Smile Lines

Palm Sunday ~ It was Palm Sunday but because of a sore throat, eight-year-old James stayed home from church with a neighbour. When the family returned home, they were carrying several palm fronds. James asked them what they were for. "People held them over Jesus' head as he walked by," his father told him. "Wouldn't you know it," James fumed, "the one Sunday I don't go, and he shows up."

What do you get if you pour hot water down a rabbit hole? *Hot cross bunnies!*

How many Easter eggs can you put in an empty basket? *Only one – after that it's not empty any more!*

How can you tell where the Easter Bunny has been? *Eggs (X) marks the spot!*

How did the Easter Bunny rate the Easter parade? *He said it was eggs-cellent!*

An infants' teacher was observing her classroom of children while they were drawing. She would occasionally walk around to see each child's work. As she got to one little girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was. The girl replied, "I'm drawing God." The teacher paused and said, "But no one knows what God looks like." Without looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, "They will in a minute."