

Easter in Cyprus

Easter is the most important religious celebration in the Greek Orthodox Church.

Thursday of Holy Week is the day when “flaounes” are prepared. These are small loaves made of flour, eggs, cheese, mint and sometimes raisins. Eggs are hard boiled and dyed red in preparation for the traditional festive games on Sunday.

On the Friday morning before Easter (Good Friday) families carrying flowers gather in churches around the island. The flowers are used to decorate the “Epithaphios”.

On Holy Saturday a midnight service is held to celebrate the Resurrection of Christ.

On Easter Sunday, families gather together for a feast, which breaks the 40-day fast. Roast lamb is a traditional main dish.

Answer the questions

- a) What are “flaounes”?
- b) On which day is the “Epitaphios” decorated?
- c) What is your favourite thing about Easter?