

# EASTER

## HISTORY

Easter is the holiest day of the year for Catholics. On this day we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus and his triumph over sin and death. This day is so special because it is because of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection that we are given the gift of eternal life and can enter into the Kingdom of Heaven.

The Gospel reading on Easter tells us the story of women finding the stone in front of Jesus' tomb removed. At the end of the Gospel we hear the good news that Jesus has risen from the dead.

The first recorded celebration of Easter was from the second century, but it is believed that the resurrection of Jesus was celebrated long before that.

Easter is celebrated every year on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the March equinox. Some have pushed for Easter to be on the same day each year, but have been unsuccessful.

## TRADITIONS

There are many traditions that revolve around the celebration of Easter. One of the most popular traditions is the decorating of Easter eggs. In the 13<sup>th</sup> century the church prohibited people from eating eggs during Holy Week, but the chickens still produced them. These eggs were called Holy Week eggs and were decorated to show that they were special eggs. They were then eaten on Easter Sunday.



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# EASTER REVIEW



**Directions:** Circle the best choice for each question.

1.) Easter is celebrated shortly after the \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. December solstice
- b. March equinox
- c. June solstice
- d. September equinox

2.) The first recorded celebration of Easter was in the \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. 1<sup>st</sup> Century
- b. 2<sup>nd</sup> Century
- c. 3<sup>rd</sup> Century
- d. 4<sup>th</sup> Century

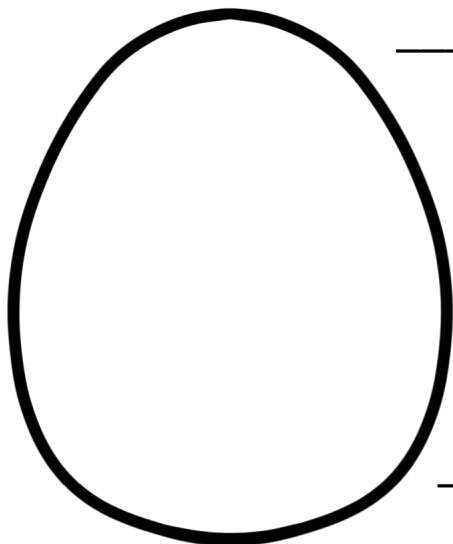
**Directions:** Read each statement and determine if it is true or false. Write T or F on the line.

3.) In the 13<sup>th</sup> century people could not eat eggs during Holy Week. \_\_\_\_\_

4.) In the Gospel we hear about men finding Jesus' tomb empty. \_\_\_\_\_

5.) It is because of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus that we have eternal life. \_\_\_\_\_

6.) Decorate the Easter egg below and write a prayer of praise to God, thanking him for the gift of the Kingdom of Heaven.



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