

Volume 3, Issue 4

April 2022



CANADIAN INSTITUTE OF UKRAINIAN STUDIES

Ukrainian Language Education Centre Newsletter

Happy Easter! Христос Воскрес!



Смачної Паски! Довгої ковбаски!

Connect with Us!

E-mail: ulec@ualberta.ca Tel.: 780-492-2904

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/ukrainian.language.education.centre/>

Website: <https://www.ualberta.ca/canadian-institute-of-ukrainian-studies/centres-and-programs/ulec>

Newsletter Editors:

Prof. Olenka Bilash (Acting Director, ULEC)

Dr. Olena Sivachenko (Research Associate, ULEC)

The Ukrainian Language Education Center honours its location on Treaty 6 territory

Щиро вітаємо з великодніми святами!



Шановні освітяни та прихильники українськомовної освіти!

Методичний центр української мови вітає Вас із благословенним святом Великодня! Щиро бажаємо, щоб Великодне світло зіграло кожну домівку, кожну родину, кожну людину надією на світле майбутнє. Зичимо Вам і Вашим рідним і близьким небесного миру і радості, енергії і насаги для добрих справ.

Радісних великодніх святкувань! Смачної паски!

З найщирішими побажаннями,

Колектив МЦУМ

* * * * *

Dear Educators and Ukrainian Language Supporters,

The Ukrainian Language Education Centre wishes you and your loved ones a happy Easter! May your Easter gathering be celebrated in love, peace, and harmony!

Have a blessed and joyful Easter,

ULEC Team

Why Does Ukraine Celebrate Easter on a Different Date than Most of the World?

Each year, thousands of our readers wonder why Easter in Ukraine is celebrated on a different day than in most of the world.

In 2021, almost a month apart — while most of the western world celebrated the main Christian holiday on 4 April, Ukrainians prepared their Easter baskets only for 2 May. Why is that?

Living by two calendars at the same time

In a nutshell, the answer boils down to the different calendars used by Christians. These different calendars are also the reason why most Ukrainians celebrate Christmas on January 7, not December 25 (although several years ago, an additional state holiday was introduced for 25 December, as well — it was heralded as another connection of Ukraine with the Western world).

While the Catholic Church uses the **Gregorian calendar**, introduced by Pope Gregory XIII in the XVI century to reform its precursor, the astronomically incorrect and outdated **Julian calendar**, some Orthodox Churches never made the switch. Up till now, half of the Orthodox Churches, or 6.6% of the world's Christians, live by the Julian calendar, which has today accumulated a 13-day lag behind the Gregorian one. One of those churches is the Ukrainian Orthodox Church. Hence the date of 7 January for Christmas: 13 days after 25 December.

Curiously, in the Russian Empire, the Julian calendar was used by both the church and the

state. This is why up till 1918, the timetable by which day-to-day life was governed in Ukraine lagged 13 days behind the western world. The Ukrainian state made the leap to the Gregorian calendar in the days of the short-lived Ukrainian National Republic — but not the Church.

And so up till this day, most Ukrainian Christians live by two calendars — by the Gregorian calendar for secular life, and by the antiquated Julian calendar for church life. Particularly, these are faithful of the country's largest confession, the Orthodox Church, as well as the Greek Catholics and Protestants. Only Roman Catholics observe Christmas and other religious holidays in line with most of the rest of the world.

Okay, so the Ukrainian Christmas is always 13 days behind the “Catholic” Christmas on 25 December. But why is the difference between the dates of the two Easters vary from year to year?

It's because Easter is a “moving feast,” meaning it is celebrated



Leader of the Orthodo Church of Ukraine Metropolitan Epifaniy blessing Easter baskets in the St. Michael's Monastery in Kyiv. Photo: facebook.com/Orthodox.in.Ukraine

on a different day each year. And the 13-day gap between the Julian and Gregorian calendars can determine whether Catholics and Orthodox Christians celebrate Easter on the same day, as it will happen in 2025 (20 April), or will have 35 days in between, like in 2024 (31 March for the Catholics and 5 May for the Julian calendar Orthodox Christians).

Back in the IV century, at the Council of Nicaea, the early Church agreed on a single day for celebrating Easter: the next Sunday after the Jewish Pesach, or 14 Nisan by the Jewish calendar. Christians believe Jesus celebrated Pesach, a holiday commemorating the Jews' exodus from Egypt which is celebrated for eight days after 14 Nisan, with his disciples, and then was crucified. Therefore, Easter has to always be celebrated after Pesach; otherwise, the logic of the holiday is lost.

Now, calculating the date of 14

Continued on p.

Why Does Ukraine Celebrate Easter on a Different Date than Most of the World?

Nisan is tricky. The Jewish calendar is a lunar calendar, which uses one orbit of the Moon around the Earth as its reference unit, unlike the solar Gregorian and Julian calendars, which are based on one orbit of the Earth around the Sun. 14 Nisan always falls on a full moon.

Therefore, the date for Christian Easter is defined as the next Sunday after the first full moon that comes after the vernal equinox. As the date of the vernal equinox differs for the Julian and Gregorian calendars, so do the dates of Easter.

The ecclesiastical date of the vernal equinox is 21 March, as determined by the Church of Alexandria in the IV century. But this same “21 March” by the Julian calendar comes 13 days later — on 3 April. This is why there can be such a big gap between the two dates of celebrating

Easter — it all depends on the date of the full moon that comes either after 21 March, for the “Western Easter” of the Catholic church, or after 3 April, for the “Eastern Easter” celebrated in Ukraine.

Will the Ukrainian Orthodox Church switch to celebrating the “Western” Easter?

In Ukraine, discussions about celebrating Christmas with most of the world, on 25 December, have been going on for several years. While many are in favor, others believe it would undermine the Ukrainian church and national traditions. Others have simply gotten used to the dates of the Julian calendar.

For now, debates about switching the date of Easter are not that widespread. In any case, “switching” to the Gregorian Easter date would mean switching the entire church calendar to

the Gregorian calendar. And that is a step not easily made. However, as time passes, the Julian calendar becomes even more astronomically inaccurate. By 2100, it would lag already 14 days behind the Gregorian calendar, so Ukrainians would need to celebrate Christmas on 7 January.

So sooner or later, the Orthodox Church will need to make a decision. The Ecumenical Patriarchate has suggested that the issue of a calendar reform and celebrating Easter on one day with the Catholics be brought up in 2025, the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea, where the rule for Christians to celebrate the date of Easter on one day was first formulated.

Happy Easter to everyone celebrating, no matter the date!

Source: <https://bit.ly/3JyHCZ3>

Пасха, Паска чи Великдень? Яких помилок потрібно уникати

Мовний експерт Олександр Авраменко у своєму блозі розповів, яких помилок найчастіше припускаються українці, спілкуючись на святкову тему.

Паска, Пасха чи Великдень

Паска – солодкий хліб, який випікають до Великодня.

Пасха – назва відповідного єврейського свята.

Великдень, Великодня – християнське свято Воскресіння Христа.

Крашанка або писанка – розмальовані яйця.

Свята: Де падає наголос

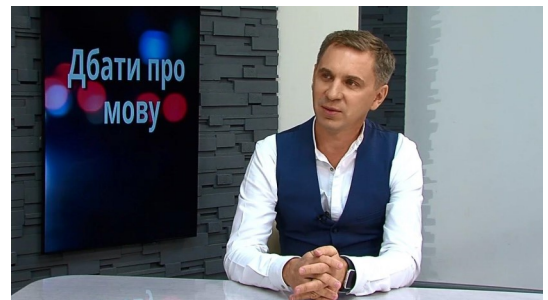
Словники дозволяють наголошувати і свЯта, і свЯТА.

З наступаючим святом?

Правильно: З прийдешнім святом! З передсвятю! Або просто – з Новим роком, з Різдвом Христовим! З Великоднем!

Неправильно: З наступаючим святом!

Джерело: <https://bit.ly/3Kp3JSD>



What to Put into Your Easter Basket

For Easter celebration, Ukrainians all over the world prepare Easter baskets, containing certain products which have symbolic meaning. Easter baskets are normally decorated with box or periwinkle, covered with an embroidered towel and consecrated in church. Traditional dishes and products in the Easter basket are:

1. Bread: depending upon the region, *paska* (1.1) and/or *babka* (1.2), a sweet bread, often baked with raisins. It symbolizes Christ's Resurrection and the Kingdom of Heaven. The bread is baked on Maundy Thursday or Saturday. Its preparation is normally accompanied with a prayer.

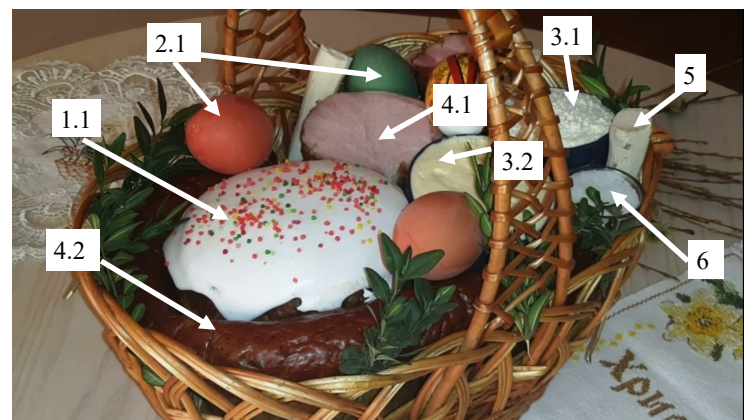
2. Eggs: *krashanky* (2.1), or dyed eggs, and/or *pysanky* (2.2), or decorated eggs, symbolize eternal life. Traditionally, eggs are coloured on Good Friday.

3. Dairy products: farmers' cheese (3.1) and/or butter (3.2). Dairy products were gifted to people by the Creator. They symbolize Christ's sacrifice and care for his people.

4. Meat products: ham (4.1) and/or sausage (4.2). The consecration of meat products dates back to the Old Testament Easter, when a sacrificial lamb was eaten on this holiday. Lamb symbolizes Jesus Christ, who redeemed our sins with his sacrifice.

5. Horseradish symbolizes the bitterness of sin and strengthens people in the fight against it.

6. Salt is symbol of completeness and prosperity. In the Bible, salt symbolizes the connection between God and his people.



ВЕЛИКОДНЯ УСМІШКА

- Івасю! Не їж ковбаси, бо мама буде сварити!
- Ні, не буде.
- Як не буде? То ж для великоднього сніданку!!
- Не буде. Ковбаса не з нашого кошика.



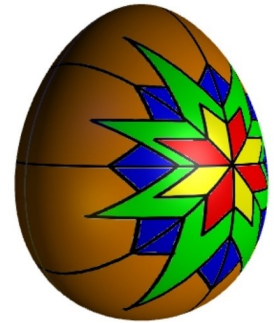
Make an E-pysanka with UkraineAlive!

The UkraineAlive website (ukrainealive.ualberta.ca), a project that was headed by Dr. Natalie Kononenko, now Professor Emeritus in the Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies, University of Alberta, has a BIG section on *pysanky*, Ukrainian Easter eggs. There are rotatable 3-D *pysanky*, a glossary of *pysanka* symbols, steps of making a *pysanka*. Best yet is an interactive Ukrainian Easter Egg (*pysanka*) program so that anyone could colour a 3D egg with a digital brush.

Making an e-pysanka could be a great idea for a home or school project. Check this out for yourself! <https://bit.ly/2xpkgpH>

Look below for your egg

[Save Coloring](#)



Не викидайте книжки! Принесіть книжки, якими ви вже натішилися, до нашої книгарні. Ваші книги знайдуть нових щасливих власників.

Don't throw away books! Bring all used books to:

Koota Ooma
700 Kipling Avenue Unit 700
Toronto, ON, Canada M8Z5G3

Ukrainian Communities Heritage Stories Contest



The year 2021 marks the 130th anniversary of Ukrainian settlement in Canada. Between 1891 and 1914, approximately 170,000 Ukrainians left their home and made Canada their new country during different waves of immigration.

In celebration of the 130th anniversary Ukrainian settlement in Canada, Kindergarten to Grade 12 students residing in Alberta and enrolled in the Ukrainian bilingual and language and culture programs are invited to participate in the Ukrainian community heritage stories contest. Ukrainian culture and heritage has evolved over the last 130 years to become a part of Alberta's multicultural identity. This contest will encourage students to explore and illustrate the different aspects that have influenced

Ukrainian-Canadian identity and empowered individuals since the first settlements of Ukrainians in Canada. The project will allow for a compilation of personal testimonials that reflect on family recollections and interpretations of events through pictures and images.

More information: <https://www.alberta.ca/assets/documents/edc-ukrainian-community-heritage-stories-teachers-guide.pdf>

Contest model release form: <https://www.alberta.ca/assets/documents/edc-ukrainian-contest->

UKRAINIAN LANGUAGE EDUCATION CENTRE

4-60 Pembina Hall
University of Alberta
Edmonton, AB
Canada T6G 2H8

Phone: [+1 \(780\)492-2904](tel:+17804922904)

Email: ulec@ualberta.ca

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/ukrainian.language.education.centre/>

Website:

<https://www.ualberta.ca/canadian-institute-of-ukrainian-studies/centres-and-programs/ulec>

The Ukrainian Language Education Centre (ULEC) promotes and develops Ukrainian language education in Canada and abroad by: supporting bilingual programs and professional development of Ukrainian language teachers and instructors; creating learning and teaching resources at both the secondary and post-secondary levels; conducting research on topics related to Ukrainian-language education and related fields; and fostering international links and community engagement. For more information about ULEC, please visit [our website](#) and [Facebook page](#) or contact us by [email](#).

Методичний центр української мови сприяє розвитку україномовної освіти в Канаді й за кордоном: підтримує двомовні програми, підвищує професійний рівень вчителів української мови, розробляє навчальні та методичні ресурси для середньої і вищої освіти, проводить дослідження, пов'язані з тематикою україномовної освіти і суміжних галузей, а також сприяє розвитку міжнародних контактів і підтримує зв'язки з громадськістю. Детальнішу інформацію про центр можна знайти на [веб-сторінці](#), [сторінці фейсбуку](#) або через [e-пошту](#).



How You Can Support Ukrainian Language Education

- Call (780) 492-6847
- E-mail cius@ualberta.ca to inquire about other ways to donate
- Send a cheque payable to "University of Alberta / CIUS," indicating the name of the fund (program, project) to which you are donating on the memo line, e.g., Lupul Endowment Fund
- Give online by:
 - 1)visiting the [CIUS Donor page](https://bit.ly/2kaJocY): <https://bit.ly/2kaJocY>

Give to UAlberta

Online Donation

- 2) choosing 'Ukrainian Language Education Endowment'

Direct my donation to: *

Name
CIUS Greatest Needs Fund
CIUS Greatest Needs Fund

The Contemporary Ukraine Studies Program

The East/West Journal of Ukrainian Studies

Kule Ukrainian Canadian Program

Ukrainian Language Education Endowment

An area not listed (please fill out the information below)

- 3) following further instructions on the website