

**CALCULATING  
THE DATE  
OF THE  
MOVABLE FEAST  
OF EASTER**

**Compiled by**

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**Introduction**

How is the date of the movable feast of Easter Calculated?

Easter falls on the first Sunday following the Paschal Full Moon, which is the full moon on or after 21 March, the approximate date of the vernal equinox.

Good Friday is the Friday before Easter, and its calculation is done differently in Western Christianity to that in Eastern Christianity.

**Western Christianity**

Western Christianity uses the Gregorian calendar for its calculation; however, Eastern Christianity uses the Julian calendar, whose 21 March now corresponds to the Gregorian calendar's 03 April.

Easter in Western Christianity, can fall between 22 March and 25 April on the Gregorian calendar; consequently, Good Friday can fall inclusively between 19 March and 22 April.

**Eastern Christianity**

In Eastern Christianity, Easter can fall between 22 March and 25 April on the Julian Calendar (this corresponds to between 04 April and 08 May in terms of the Gregorian calendar, during the period 1900 to 2099); consequently, Good Friday can fall inclusively between 19 March and 22 April, (or between 01 April and 05 May in terms of the Gregorian calendar).

There you have it.

End

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