



Brazil



The Brazilian flag

Most people in Brazil are Christian. Brazil has the largest population of Catholic Christians in the world.

Carnival happens just before Lent. The Portuguese brought carnival from Europe to Brazil. It was a European tradition to mark the entrance to Lent. Lent was a time when most Christian people would fast from eating certain foods to remember Jesus fasting in the wilderness (many still do this today). Carnival was a last chance to eat lots of food that could not be eaten during Lent.



The Washington Post/Matt McClain

Throughout Holy Week, there are church services and processions. Many processions on Easter Sunday mark the resurrection of Jesus. In some places, streets are decorated with carpets made of sawdust, flowers and other natural materials. The people in the processions walk on these carpets.



Courtesy of www.mexican-folk-art-guide.com

In some parts of Brazil, Judas plays his part in the Easter celebrations.

Carnival in Brazil has changed a lot since it was first introduced. Nowadays it is very famous across the world for its parades, music, floats, dancing, samba and costumes. It finishes when Lent begins.

Palm Sunday is a reminder of Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem, when he was welcomed by people spreading palm branches on the road. In Brazil, palm branches are carried and blessed on Palm Sunday.

