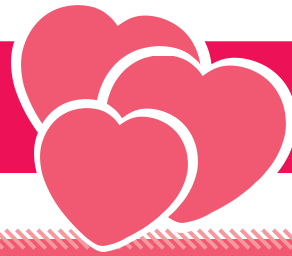


Valentine's Day



Valentine's Day can also be known as:

- ♡ St. Valentine's Day;
- ♡ the Feast of **Saint** Valentine.

It is an event that is marked on the 14th of February each year.

Was Saint Valentine Real?

There have been lots of important Christian people called Valentine. This means that people are often confused about who Valentine's Day is actually named after.

Lots of people think that Valentine's Day is named after a Christian **priest** who lived in Rome during the third century AD.

Who Was Saint Valentine?

Not much is known for sure about Saint Valentine's life. It is thought that he was put into prison for helping Roman soldiers to marry after Emperor Claudius II had banned it.

Legends tell that Saint Valentine fell in love with the daughter of one of his guards when he was in prison. He would write letters to her and it is said that he would always write 'your Valentine' at the bottom of them. This is where the idea of having 'a valentine' is said to come from.

Did You Know...?

People often give each other red roses on Valentine's Day. This also happened in ancient Rome! This is because people think that red roses are the goddess Venus's favourite flower. Venus is said to be the goddess of love.

Did You Know...?

The name Valentine comes from the Latin word 'valens', which means strong and brave.

St. Valentine's Day

An important Christian leader called Pope Gelasius started a special day called the Feast of Saint Valentine in AD 496. This was to remember Saint Valentine. The 14th of February was chosen as the date for the special day as a way to remember when Saint Valentine died in AD 269.

Giving Gifts

The 14th of February began to be a day about love in the 1500s. People started to give gifts on this day a few hundred years later. At first, couples would show their love by giving each other flowers, chocolates, sweets and greetings cards. You may still see people doing this today.

Valentine's Day has become an event that people spend lots of money on. In 2020, it is estimated that people in the UK spent £855 million celebrating Valentine's Day!

Glossary

priest: A person who performs religious ceremonies and duties.
saint: A person who was or is holy or virtuous and is highly regarded in the Christian faith.

Questions

1. By which of these names can Valentine's Day also be known? Tick one.

- the Fight of Saint Valentine
- the Friend of Saint Valentine
- the Feast of Saint Valentine
- the Fright of Saint Valentine

2. Who is thought to have banned Roman soldiers from marrying? Tick one.

- Valentine
- Jesus
- Claudius II
- the guard's daughter

3. Draw **four** lines and complete each sentence.

The 14 th of February began to be a day about love...	a few hundred years later.
People started to give gifts on Valentine's Day...	giving each other flowers and chocolates.
At first, people would show love by...	in the 1500s.
People often give each other...	red roses on Valentine's Day.

4. How much is it estimated that people in the UK spent on Valentine's Day in 2020? Tick one.

- £855
- £8,550
- £855 million
- £855 billion

5. What date is Valentine's Day marked on each year?

6. Which Latin word does the name Valentine come from?

7. Explain how Valentine's Day now is similar to Valentine's Day hundreds of years ago.

Answers

1. By which of these names can Valentine's Day also be known? Tick one.

- the Fight of Saint Valentine
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5. What date is Valentine's Day marked on each year?

Valentine's Day is marked on the 14th of February each year.

6. Which Latin word does the name Valentine come from?

The name Valentine comes from the Latin word 'valens', which means strong and brave.

7. Explain how Valentine's Day now is similar to Valentine's Day hundreds of years ago.

Pupils' own responses, such as: Hundreds of years ago, couples would show their love by giving each other flowers, chocolates, sweets and greetings cards. Valentine's Day now is similar because people still do this.

Valentine's Day



Valentine's Day is also known as St. Valentine's Day or the Feast of **Saint** Valentine. It is an event that is celebrated across the world on the 14th of February each year.

Was Saint Valentine Real?

There have been many important Christian people named Valentine throughout history. This means that there is often some confusion about the exact person that Valentine's Day is named after.

Many people believe that the person that Valentine's Day is really named after was a Christian **priest**. This priest called Valentine is thought to have lived in Rome during the third century AD.

Who Was Saint Valentine?

Not much about Saint Valentine's life is known for certain. It is believed that he lived during the reign of the Roman emperor Claudius II. Claudius is said to have wanted to build an army but it is said that many Roman men did not want to become soldiers because they wanted to stay at home with their wives and children. So, Claudius is said to have created a law that banned soldiers from marrying.

Legends tell that Saint Valentine ignored this ban and he helped couples to secretly marry. When the Emperor found out what Saint Valentine was doing, he put the priest in prison. It was when Saint Valentine was in prison that he is said to have fallen in love with the daughter of one of his guards. He would write her letters and it is said that he would always write 'your Valentine' at the bottom of them. This is where the idea of having 'a valentine' is said to come from.

Did You Know...?

The name Valentine comes from the Latin word 'valens', which means strong and brave.



St. Valentine's Day

Pope Gelasius created a special day called the Feast of Saint Valentine in AD 496. This was to remember Saint Valentine. The date for the event was set as the 14th of February to mark the date that Saint Valentine is believed to have died in AD 269.

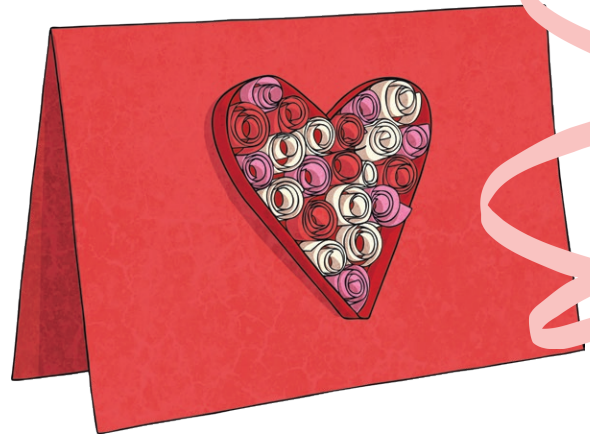
In the 1500s, the 14th of February began to be a day about love but the act of gift giving started hundreds of years after this. At first, couples would express their love for one another through the giving of flowers, chocolates, sweets and cards.

It wasn't until the 1800s that Valentine's Day cards started to become mass-produced. Since then, Valentine's Day has become an event that people spend lots of money on. In 2020, it is estimated that people in the UK spent £855 million celebrating Valentine's Day!

Glossary

priest: A person who performs religious ceremonies and duties.

saint: A person who was or is holy or virtuous and is highly regarded in the Christian faith.



Questions

1. What does the Latin word 'valens' mean? Tick **two**.
 - loving
 - strong
 - kind
 - brave
2. Why is there some confusion about who exactly Valentine's Day is named after? Tick one.
 - because lots of people have claimed that it is named after them
 - because there have been many important Christian people named Valentine
 - because no one in history was actually called Valentine
 - because the emperor Claudius II did not tell anyone the truth
3. Number the events from 1-4 to show the order that they happened in.
 - Saint Valentine ignored the ban and helped couples to marry.
 - Saint Valentine was imprisoned.
 - The Roman emperor Claudius II wanted to build an army.
 - Claudius II created a law to ban soldiers from marrying.
4. **It wasn't until the 1800s that Valentine's Day cards started to become mass-produced.** What do you think the term 'mass-produced' means? Tick one.
 - made in large amounts
 - sold for lots of money
 - hardly ever made
 - only sold in the UK
5. Look at the section called **St. Valentine's Day**
Find and copy one word which shows that no one knows for certain exactly how much money was spent by people in the UK in 2020.

6. Why did Claudius II create a law that banned soldiers from marrying?

7. How do you think that Roman soldiers felt when Claudius II created the new law? Explain why you think that.

8. **In the 1500s, the 14th of February began to be a day about love...**

What historical records might we have that show this to be the case?

Answers

1. What does the Latin word 'valens' mean? Tick **two**.
 - loving
 - strong**
 - kind
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Find and copy one word which shows that no one knows for certain exactly how much money was spent by people in the UK in 2020.
estimated
6. Why did Claudius II create a law that banned soldiers from marrying?
Claudius is said to have created a law that banned soldiers from marrying so that Roman men would want to join the army that he was building.
7. How do you think that Roman soldiers felt when Claudius II created the new law? Explain why you think that.
Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that Roman soldiers probably felt frustrated because it was unfair of Claudius II to stop people from marrying just so that he could achieve his own goals.

8. **In the 1500s, the 14th of February began to be a day about love...**

What historical records might we have that show this to be the case?

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that we must have books or written documents from the 1500s which prove this to be true because there is no one alive today who could have told us this from first-hand experience.

Valentine's Day

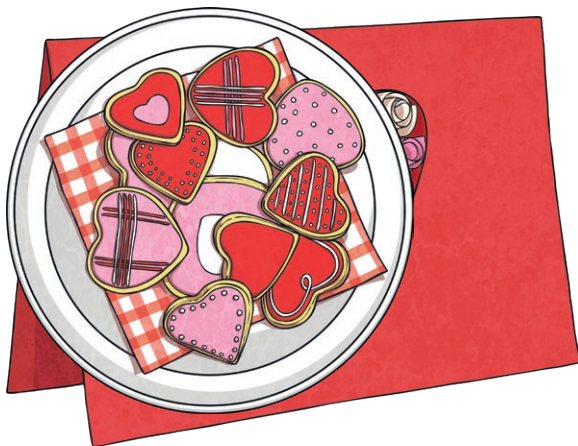


Valentine's Day is also known as St. Valentine's Day or the Feast of Saint Valentine. It is an annual event that is celebrated on the 14th of February across the world and it is associated with acts of love and gift-giving.

Was Saint Valentine Real?

There have been many significant Christian people named Valentine throughout history. In fact, the Catholic Church officially recognises three saints by the name of Valentine or Valentinus! Therefore, there is often some confusion about the exact person that Valentine's Day is named after. Many people believe that stories associated with Saint Valentine could be a mixture of stories about all three individuals.

It is most widely believed that the person that Valentine's Day is really named after was a Christian priest who is thought to have lived in Rome during the third century AD. After being **canonised**, this person became one of the individuals known as Saint Valentine.



Who Was Saint Valentine?

Not much about Saint Valentine's life is factually known but it is widely accepted that he lived during the reign of the Roman emperor Claudius II. Claudius is said to have wanted to build an army but many Roman men did not want to become soldiers due to their desire to stay at home with their wives and children. As a result of this, Claudius is believed to have introduced a law that banned soldiers from marrying. According to legend, Saint Valentine is thought to have disobeyed this ban by helping couples to marry secretly.

Saint Valentine's secretive actions were uncovered and he was arrested. It is said that Saint Valentine fell in love with the daughter of one of his guards. When communicating with her, Saint Valentine is said to have finished his letters by signing 'your Valentine'. This is believed to be where the concept of sending romantic letters from 'your Valentine' originates from.

St. Valentine's Day

In AD 496, Pope Gelasius established the Feast of Saint Valentine in honour of the influential Christian. The date for this was set as the 14th of February to mark the date that Saint Valentine is believed to have died in AD 269.

However, it wasn't until the 1500s that this date became associated with love and the act of gift giving is only believed to have begun hundreds of years after this. Initially, couples would express their love for one another through the giving of flowers, **confectionery** and cards, which became known as valentines.

Modern Valentine's Day

It wasn't until the 1800s that Valentine's Day cards started to become mass-produced. Since then, Valentine's Day has become a very profitable event for companies who make greeting cards and gifts. In 2020, it is estimated that people in the UK spent £855 million celebrating Valentine's Day! In 2019, the most popular way to mark Valentine's Day in the UK was by going out for a celebratory meal.

Glossary

canonise: To become officially declared as a saint.

confectionery: Sweets and chocolates.

Questions

1. Which word from the first paragraph of the text shows us that Valentine's Day is celebrated every year? Tick one.

- feast
- annual
- associated
- acts

2. Who is Saint Valentine believed to have been? Tick one.

- a Roman soldier
- an emperor
- a priest
- a prison guard

3. Look at the section called **Who Was Saint Valentine?**

Find and copy one word which shows that Saint Valentine helped couples to marry without anyone else knowing.

4. **Not much about Saint Valentine's life is factually known but it is believed that...**

What does the author's choice of words imply here?

5. How is Saint Valentine said to have finished his letters to the guard's daughter?

6. Summarise why there is confusion about who Valentine's Day is actually named after.

7. Choose one word to describe the emperor Claudius II and explain why you have chosen that word.

8. Give one argument in support of celebrating Valentine's Day and give one argument against celebrating Valentine's Day based on information that you have read in the text.

Answers

1. Which word from the first paragraph of the text shows us that Valentine's Day is celebrated every year? Tick one.
 - feast
 - annual**
 - associated
 - acts
2. Who is Saint Valentine believed to have been? Tick one.
 - a Roman soldier
 - an emperor
 - a priest**
 - a prison guard
3. Look at the section called **Who Was Saint Valentine?**
Find and copy one word which shows that Saint Valentine helped couples to marry without anyone else knowing.
Accept either of the following: secretly; secretive.
4. **Not much about Saint Valentine's life is factually known but it is believed that...**
What does the author's choice of words imply here?
The author's choice of words implies that everything we think we know about Saint Valentine's life is speculation; that nothing is known for certain.
5. How is Saint Valentine said to have finished his letters to the guard's daughter?
Saint Valentine is said to have finished his letters to the guard's daughter by signing 'your Valentine'.
6. Summarise why there is confusion about who Valentine's Day is actually named after.
Pupils' own responses, such as: There is often some confusion about the exact person that Valentine's Day is named after because there have been many significant Christian people named Valentine throughout history, including three saints.
7. Choose one word to describe the emperor Claudius II and explain why you have chosen that word.
Pupils' own responses, such as: I would describe Claudius II as unfair because he imposed laws on Roman soldiers just to suit his own goals. He did not care how the Roman soldiers felt about it.

8. Give one argument in support of celebrating Valentine's Day and give one argument against celebrating Valentine's Day based on information that you have read in the text. **Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that we should celebrate Valentine's Day because it is a tradition that dates back hundreds of years and it is nice to remember this. I think that we should not celebrate Valentine's Day because we do not actually know for sure who the event is named after.**