

# *Customs, Traditions and Festivals of Great Britain*

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# Customs and Traditions of Great Britain



## CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS



# *Christmas is coming and knocking at the door...*



**WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS!**



# Christmas Day

is observed on *the 25<sup>th</sup> of December.*

Christmas was once a movable feast celebrated many different times during the year. It was the Pope Julius I in the 4<sup>th</sup> century AD who chose December 25 to celebrate Christmas.





# Holly, Mistletoe and Other Evergreens

- evergreens have been a part of mid-winter festivals long before Christmas
- they played a symbolic part because they stayed green and alive when other plants appeared dead and bare
- they symbolized everlasting life and hope for the return of spring



# Queen Victoria

*The Christmas tree gained popularity in England under Queen Victoria, because of the influence of her husband, Prince Albert, who was German.*



# *The Christmas Tree*

- represents the Tree of Life from which Adam and Eve ate and as a result were banished from the garden of Eden
- stands for the eternal life of Christ
- is decorated with blown-glass ornaments, tin angels, paper chains, fairy lights, small toys, candles and cornucopias filled with sugar plums and decorations





# Holly

- Meaning: evergreen shrubs and trees usually having prickly dark shiny leaves and red berries.
- Is known as the Holy Tree.
- It promises everlasting life, because it bears berries in winter.



# *Advent Wreath*

- *A ring-shaped garland of leaves and flowers (usually holly)*
- *People hang wreath on a door as a decoration at Christmas*
- *It is hung outside the door for the whole period of Advent*



# Mistletoe

- It has magic and healing properties
- It gives protection from thunder and lightning
- This plant holds magic power which gives life and fertility, protects against disease
- English people put it above the door and kiss under it



# Christmas or Xmas?

- *The word for Christ in Greek is Xristos*
- *The use of shortened form “Xmas” became popular in Europe in the 1500s*



# It's Christmas, Merry Christmas!



# Christmas Stockings





# *Beneath the Mistletoe...*



# Christmas Cards



# Our Assembly



# *Our Party*





# *Santa's Reindeer*



# *The Christ Child*





# *Christmas tree*



# Carol-Singing at X-mas



## *A Key:*

1. c
2. e
3. b
4. f
5. d
6. a

**DO YOU BELIEVE  
IN THESE  
SUPERSTITIONS?**

**ARE THERE ANY SIMILAR  
CHRISTMAS OR HOLIDAY  
SUPERSTITIONS  
IN YOUR COUNTRY?**

# *Jingle Bells*

*by John Pirpont, 1857*





# The True Christmas Poem

*by Jim Smith*

- **C** is for the **Christ child** lying in a manger.
- **H** is for the **Holy** one who saved us all from danger.
- **R** is to **remember** him who died that we may live.
- **I** is to **Inspire** us that we may always give.
- **S** is for Joyful **Songs** and **sacred** hymns that praise.
- **T** is to **Thank the Lord** for showing us the way.
- **M** is for **Miracles** that bless us each day.
- **A** is for **Almighty** who always puts us first.
- **S** is for the **Shepherd** who guides us on the Earth



***Happy Christmas to You!!!***



Wishing You  
a Merry Christmas  
and a  
Prosperous  
New Year!



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