

APRIL

1

ALL FOOLS DAY

Beware! Expect tricks and practical jokes today until noon!

5

PALM SUNDAY

Jesus's triumphant entry into Jerusalem sets the events of Holy Week in motion.

8

PASSOVER (PESACH) BEGINS AT SUNSET

Why is this night different? Pesach commemorates the freeing of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt.

9

HOLY THURSDAY, MAUNDY THURSDAY

Tradition calls us to visit three churches at night, to sit and be still in the close and holy darkness.

10

GOOD FRIDAY

Commemorates the passion of Christ. A solemn day of prayer and fasting.

12

EASTER SUNDAY

Movable feast celebrating the resurrection of Christ; highest holy day in the Christian calendar. The Easter season continues to Pentecost in May.

23

ST. GEORGE'S DAY

Sacred to England, where folks wear red roses this day in their lapels.



23

RAMADAN BEGINS AT MOONRISE

It is the month of daytime fasting in the Islamic calendar, with a focus on humility, patience, and prayer.

24

ST. MARK'S EVE

A traditional night for divination, especially in matters of romance.

25

ST. MARK'S DAY

Blessings upon the newly sown crops, as migratory birds herald the return of summer.

30

MAY EVE, WALPURGIS NIGHT

It's the Eve of May. Folks have been known to stay out all night to welcome May and summer. It's the festival of the dead in Spain and Portugal, and in Germany, it is *Walpurgisnacht*. In Scandinavia, it is a night for gravlax and bonfires.



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If I could, I'd light a candle for each of you, for your health, for your protection. I lit one of the candles in this month's photograph at an old church in Bregenz, Austria, last summer.
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