

December



The celebrations of December are ancient ones, dating back to time immemorial—much older than the celebration pictured here in a photograph from 1952. That's Millie Cutrone with her nephew Larry. She was expecting her own first child then. Certainly there were cookies on the table that night that are the very same ones we all still make: Millie and her first born and Larry, too, and all of the ancestors that came before them, and we pass them down along the line to all who follow us. This is one of the joys of this season, as we gather round and welcome warmth and drive the winter's dark away.

5 ST. NICHOLAS' EVE

St. Nicholas is the first of the traditional wintertime gift bearers. Set your shoes by the chimney; you may find presents in them in the morning!

6 ST. NICHOLAS' DAY

Sacred to many countries in Europe.

7 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Light two purple candles.

12 OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Sacred to Mexico.

13 SANTA LUCIA'S DAY SAFFRON & LIGHT

Sacred to Italy and Sweden.

14 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Light two purple candles and one rose candle.

16 HANUKKAH BEGINS AT SUNSET

Tonight is the first of eight nights marking the Festival of Lights.

21 WINTER SOLSTICE 6:03 PM IN LAKE WORTH

Midwinter in the Northern Hemisphere. It's the longest night of the year. We drive the dark away with music, food, candles, lights, good cheer & good company.

21 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Light three purple candles and one rose candle.

24 CHRISTMAS EVE

Calm & bright; we follow that star.

25 CHRISTMAS DAY

Today is a beginning, with twelve days of festivity to come. We encourage you to follow the traditional ways and celebrate all the way through Twelfth Night!

26 KWANZAA BEGINS, ALSO FIRST DAY OF CHRISTMAS

St. Stephen's Day, Boxing Day, Day of the Wren

27 SECOND DAY OF CHRISTMAS

St. John's Day: Bless your wine.

28 THIRD DAY OF CHRISTMAS

Holy Innocents' Day, Childremass

29 FOURTH DAY OF CHRISTMAS

The Feast of Fools: The normal order of things is ceremoniously reversed.

30 FIFTH DAY OF CHRISTMAS

Bring in the Boar: *And I pray you my masters, be merry; Quot estis in convivio!* ("The Boar's Head Carol" is the old carol that inspired the Convivio Bookworks name.)

31 SIXTH DAY OF CHRISTMAS

New Year's Eve, Hogmanay, First Footing



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