# FEBRUARY

#### CARNEVALE BEGAN IN VENICE JANUARY 30

ST. BRIGID'SDAY, IMBOLC, CANDLEMAS EVE Here is the bridge from winter to spring: 40 days past Christmas and about halfway between winter solstice and vernal equinox. Remove tonight any vestiges of yuletide greenery from your home.

## $\mathbf{2}$

CANDLEMAS, GROUNDHOG DAY At sunset, we light every lamp in the house. Many traditional meals; weather marker day: If the sun shines bright on Candlemas Day, the Half of the winter's not yet away.

3 ST. BLAISE'S DAY St. Blaise protects against maladies of the throat.

## 5

## ST. AGATHA'S DAY

today bakers make special In Sicily pastries called minne di vergine in honor of the local patron saint, while giant towers are carried through the streets of Catania.

## I2

CHINESE LUNAR NEW YEAR BEGINS It's the year of the Metal Ox.

## I4

ST. VALENTINE'S DAY Where love takes root, let it grow.



At Candlemas, we celebrate the blessing of light as we close, for another year, the Christmas season.

16 Shrove tuesday, mardi gras Pancakes for supper! Final day of Carnevale season.

I7 ASH WEDNESDAY The 40 Days of Lent begin. Remember man that thou are dust and to dust you shall return. So engage life fully.

### $\mathbf{22}$

### CONCORDIA

We gather for a meal to settle disputes in this ancient Roman feast of goodwill.

### 25

PURIM BEGINS AT SUNDOWN Graggers and hamantaschen and costumes mark this celebration!



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Our image in this Candlemas month is a painting from 1650 called "Le Jeune Chanteur" by Trophime Bigot, a painter of the French Baroque period known as the Candlelight Master. Convivio Book of Days February 2021 © Convivio Bookworks