

Saint Valentine's  
Day



*Nikonorova Dina 106*

# Valentine's Day

## Victorian Valentine's Card

**Also called**

Saint Valentine's Day

**Observed by**

Many countries

**Type**

Christian, cultural

**Significance**

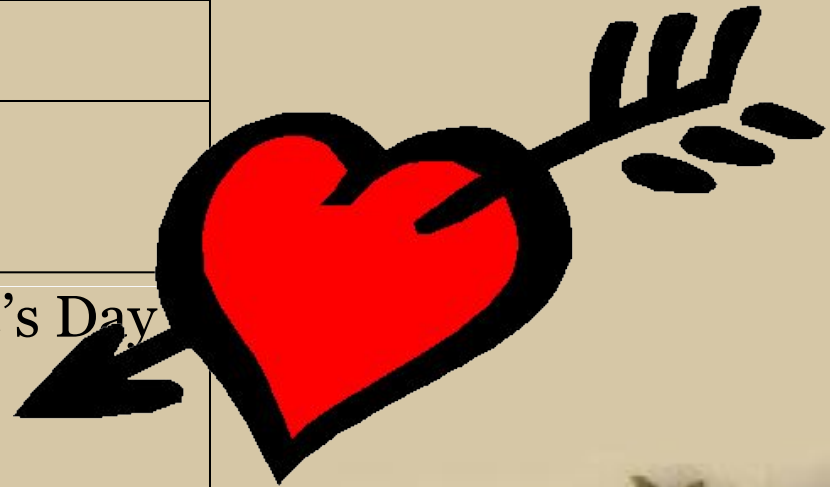
Love and affection celebrated between lovers

**Date**

February 14

**Observances**

Sending greeting cards and gifts, dating



# Saint Valentine's Day

Saint Valentine's Day (commonly shortened to Valentine's Day) is an annual holiday held on February 14 celebrating love and affection between intimate companions. The holiday is named after one or more early Christian martyrs named Valentine and was established by Pope Gelasius I in 496 AD.



It is traditionally a day on which lovers express their love for each other by presenting flowers, offering confectionery, and sending greeting cards (known as "valentines"). The holiday first became associated with romantic love in the circle of Geoffrey Chaucer in the High Middle Ages, with the tradition of courtly love.



Modern Valentine's Day symbols include the heart-shaped outline, doves, and the figure of the winged Cupid. Since the 19th century, handwritten valentines have largely given way to mass-produced greeting cards.



# Valentines of the mid-19th and early 20th centuries

Esther Howland  
Valentine, circa  
1850: "Weddings  
now are all the  
go, Will you  
marry me or no"



# Valentines of the mid-19th and early 20th centuries

Valentine card, 1862:

"My dearest Miss,  
I send thee a kiss"  
addressed to Miss  
Jenny Lane of  
Crosthwaite  
Hall, Small burgh,  
Norfolk.



# Valentines of the mid-19th and early 20th centuries

Whitney Valentine,  
1887; Howland  
sold her New  
England Valentine  
Company to the  
George C.  
Whitney Company  
in 1881.





# Postcards, "pop-ups", and mechanical Valentines, circa 1900-1930

Buster Brown Valentine postcard  
by Richard Felton Outcault,  
early years of 20th century



# Postcards, "pop-ups", and mechanical Valentines, circa 1900-1930

Football-playing  
Disney-like rat  
and bulldog are  
set in motion by  
the pull-tab on  
the right, circa  
1920



# Postcards, "pop-ups", and mechanical Valentines, circa 1900-1930

A grommet affixed to the center of the card permits the dog's eyes to glance side-to-side when the blue bow is moved.



# Postcards, "pop-ups", and mechanical Valentines, circa 1900-1930

Advertisement  
for Prang's  
greeting cards,  
1883.



*The*

*end*

