# FEBRUAR

IMBOLC, ST. BRIGID'S DAY, CANDLEMAS EVE Winter here begins to give way to spring: 40 days past Christmas, we are now halfway between the winter solstice and the vernal equinox in the Northern Hemisphere. Remove tonight all vestiges of yuletide greenery still in your home.

### 2

#### CANDLEMAS, GROUNDHOG DAY

Light every lamp at sunset. A traditional 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.

#### 13

SHROVE TUESDAY & MARDI GRAS:

# **CARNEVALE CONCLUDES**

We'll have pancakes for our supper! It's Fat Tuesday in New Orleans, Mobile, Rio, Key West, Venezia and other convivial cities.

# 16

# CHINESE LUNAR NEW YEAR BEGINS It's the most important holiday in

the Chinese calendar. This year, it's the Year of the Dog.

# 24 & 25

#### LAKE WORTH STREET PAINTING FESTIVAL

Artists turn the streets of Downtown Lake Worth into beautiful canvases that last only until the next rainfall. Ours is the world's largest street painting festival!





follow the book of days blog at conviviobookworks.com We spotted this dragon, a symbol of the Chinese Lunar New Year, at the South Florida Fair last month. Read more about all these days at the Convivio Book of Days Blog. Convivio Book of Days February 2018 © Convivio Bookworks



#### 5 ST. AGATHA'S DAY

Nuns in Sicily today bake special marzipan pastries known as minne de vergine, while enormous towers are carried through the streets of Catania, Italy.

# I4 ST. VALENTINE'S DAY; ASH WEDNESDAY: LENT BEGINS

Romance! Where love takes root, let it grow. This year St. Valentine brings the start of lent: *Remember man that thou are* dust and to dust you shall return. Be kind then. Respect others. Make amends. Turn off the TV; engage life fully.

# 19

#### PRESIDENTS DAY

Does anyone else miss celebrating just good old Washington's Birthday and Lincoln's Birthday?

### $\mathbf{22}$

CONCORDIA

Ancient Roman feast of goodwill: family and friends gather for a meal to settle all disputes.

# 28

#### **PURIM BEGINS AT SUNDOWN**

We celebrate with costumes, noisy graggers and delicious hamantashen: three-cornered pastries filled with poppy seeds or fruit.