

# F E B R U A R Y

1

*St. Brigid's Day, Imbolc,  
Candlemas Eve*

The Wheel of the Year shifts and Brigid  
acts as our bridge from winter to spring:  
We are 40 days past Christmas and at the  
halfway point between winter solstice  
and vernal equinox.

2

*Candlemas, Groundhog Day*

At sunset, we light every lamp in the house  
on this 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, or San Biagio, protects animals and  
protects against maladies of the throat.

5

*St. Agatha's Day*

In Sicily today bakers make special pastries  
called *minne di vergine*, while giant towers are  
carried through the streets of Catania.

14

*St. Valentine's Day*

A day for romance:  
Where love takes root, let it grow.



February is a good time to pick up a new book!

17

*Shrove Tuesday; Mardi Gras  
Chinese Lunar New Year Begins  
Ramadan Begins*

In the Chinese Zodiac, this is the Year  
of the Fire Horse. Today also brings Mardi  
Gras: the conclusion of the Carnival Season,  
which began in Venice on January 31, and  
Shrove Tuesday: We'll have pancakes for our  
supper tonight! Tonight also is the start of  
Ramadan, the holy month focused on fasting,  
humility, patience, and prayer that begins  
with the initial sighting of the New Moon.

18

*Ash Wednesday*

The 40 days of Lent begin:  
Remember man that thou are dust  
and to dust you shall return.

22

*Concordia*

At this ancient Roman feast of goodwill,  
we gather for a meal to settle disputes.



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Is there any better time to open a book and delve into a new world than during on a wintry day?  
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