

# JANUARY

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## NEW YEAR'S DAY

The Seventh Day of Christmas brings us 2022. A traditional day for wassailing the apple trees.

5

## TWELFTH NIGHT

It's the Eve of the Epiphany; the last of the Midwinter gift bearers arrive: In Latin America, *los tres reyes magos* will deliver presents tonight. In Italy, that's the job of the kindly old witch known as *la befana*, who sweeps Christmas away for another year.

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## EPIPHANY, LITTLE CHRISTMAS

Marks the arrival of the Magi at the stable in Bethlehem. The Magi brought gifts, and in many places, like Mexico, today is the big day for gift giving. Most folks close their Yuletide celebrations today, but many will continue the midwinter cheer to Candlemas Eve. It's an old tradition we follow here!

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## ST. DISTAFF'S DAY

Back to work for the women.  
*Partly work and partly play,  
Ye must on St. Distaff's Day.*



*Twelfth Night revels, old style.*

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## PLOUGH MONDAY, COPPERMAN'S DAY

Back to work for the men. In Holland, it's Copperman's Day: printers' apprentices had the day off to work on their own projects.

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## MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY

Honors the great civil rights leader.

24

## CHINESE LUNAR NEW YEAR: LITTLE YEAR

Preparations for the new year begin now and continue for one week to New Year's Eve.

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## BURNS NIGHT

Literary holiday celebrating the national bard of Scotland, Robert Burns.



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Six days of Yuletide in the old year and six in the new. If you hate to say goodbye to Christmas, the greenery can remain up 'til Candlemas Eve on the First of February but no longer, lest goblins gain a foothold in your home (so Robert Herrick tells us). Cover star: *Twelfth-Night (The King Drinks)* by David Teniers the Younger. Oil on canvas, circa 1650. Convivio Book of Days January 2022