

# July

**1**

**CANADA DAY**

National day of Canada.

**3**

**DOG DAYS OF SUMMER**

**THROUGH AUGUST 15**

Traditionally the hottest days of the year, ruled by Sirius, the Dog Star.

**4**

**INDEPENDENCE DAY**

The 241st birthday of the USA.

**7**

**TANABATA**

Japanese festival on the 7th day of the 7th month, based on the stars Vega and Altair: Wishes are written on colorful paper and hung from the trees.



**14**

**BASTILLE DAY**

*La Fête Nationale, le Quatorze Juillet...* It's French National Day, commemorating the Storming of the Bastille in 1789.

**15**

**ST. SWITHIN'S DAY**

*St. Swithin's Day; if thou dost rain,  
For forty days it will remain;  
St. Swithin's Day; if thou be fair,  
For forty days 'twill rain nae mair.*

**16**

**OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL**  
Sacred to Chile.

**23**

**NEPTUNALIA & SALACIA**

Ancient Roman holiday honoring Neptune, the sea god, and his wife Salacia, goddess of the salty sea.

**25**

**ST. JAMES'S DAY**

Sacred to Spain.  
Oysters for dinner.

**26**

**ST. ANNE'S DAY**

Feast day of Anne, mother of Mary.

**29**

**ST. MARTHA'S DAY**

Martha teaches us to engage life and not worry so much about appearances.

**31**

**LAMMAS EVE**

Lammas brings the first of the harvest festivals and the understanding that summer is waning. It is traditional to bake loaves of bread for Lammas using the new grain. Shakespeare's Juliet was born on Lammas Eve.



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I was working in the back yard on the last day of June and got reacquainted with a gift that Arthur Jaffe gave us long ago: this sun image that hangs on our fence, behind the guava tree. Our yard is full of surprises like this.

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