

Happy Saint Days



Macedonian Australian Welfare Association of Sydney Inc.

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Macedonian Orthodox Calendar 2009



Vladimir Mother of God

12th century – orthodox icons

**St John Kaneo - Ohrid, Macedonia
Consecrated in the 13th of century**

Home Saint Day Celebrations / Name Day

For Macedonians, name days are much anticipated annual events. More significant than birthdays, they are celebrated on the particular saint's day with gifts, sweets and parties. Traditionally, people celebrating their name day wait for guests to visit them at home. Even if a party isn't held, the person celebrating their name day offers sweets or drinks to family members, friends and work colleagues. It is customary to accept these and wish the person *Srekna Slava* or *Sreken Imenden* (meaning 'happy saint day or happy name day').

On Saints Days we traditionally prepare specially prepared holy bread, sweet wheat, red wine and a candle blessed by the church. On many occasions the local priest will be invited to the family home to bless the bread or the bread can be taken to the church for the blessing.



Significant Religious Events

- 06 January - Koleda/Badnik (Christmas Eve)
- 07 January - Macedonian Orthodox Christmas
- 14 January - Orthodox New Year
- 19 January - Waters
- 12 April - Palm Sunday*
- 16, 17, 18 April - Good Holly Thursday; Friday; Saturday
- 19, 20, 21 April - Easter
- 06 May - St George
- 24 May - St. Cyril and Methodi
- 28 May - Ascension of the Lord Jesus Christ
- 03 June - Sts Constantine and Helen
- 07 June - Descent of Holy Spirit*
- 12 July - St. Peter's Day
- 19 August - St. Transfiguration of Jesus Christ
- 08 August - St. Petka
- 28 August - Assumption of St. Virgin Mary
- 21 September - Nativity of the Virgin Mary
- 27 September - Elevation of the Holy Cross
- 27 October - Ven. Petka - Paraskeva
- 07 November - Memorial Saturday*
- 08 November - St Dimitrie the Great Martyr of Solun
- 21 November - St. Archangel Michael
- 19 December - St. Nicholas the Wonderworker

*The date of the events are changeable every Year