

All About Saint George's Day

Saint George is the patron saint of England. In 1222, the English Council of Oxford made 23rd April Saint George's Day. On 23rd April, we celebrate Saint George and his bravery as it is England's national day.

The Story of Saint George and the Dragon

Once upon a time there lived a knight called George. During his many travels, he came across a village. The villagers were very unhappy because of a dragon that lived in a nearby lake. Every day the dragon demanded that they sacrifice a beautiful maiden. The maidens were chosen by lottery. That day the king's daughter was chosen. George decided to slay the dragon and save the princess. George went to the lake where the dragon lived. The dragon rose out of the water with a mighty roar! George wasn't scared. He fought the dragon with all his strength until it was defeated. The princess was saved and the villagers were overjoyed!

Saint George Facts

The story we tell of Saint George and the Dragon is like a fairy tale and dragons are not real. We don't know much about the real Saint George apart from that he was a Roman soldier and he was born in Turkey. He lived during the 3rd century AD. Saint George was a Christian. He was known for his bravery and he protested against Rome's persecution of Christians. He was imprisoned and tortured, but stayed true to his faith. He lived in Palestine at the end of the Roman era, so he wouldn't have worn armour, as we often see him pictured in. He was later killed in Palestine too.

How Is Saint George's Day Celebrated?

Saint George's Cross is the flag of England and part of the Union Flag. We often see it flown on Saint George's Day and on many other occasions like sporting events and celebrations. As Saint George is also the Patron Saint of Scouting, on the Sunday closest to April 23rd, the Scouts and the Guides go on parade to their nearest church. Many people also wear a red rose in their button-hole. This is the national flower for the national day.

