Mother's Day

Mothering Sunday



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What is Mother's Day?

Mother's day, or Mothering Sunday, is a time when children pay respect to their mothers.



Children often give their mothers a gift and a card.

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Mother's Day in the UK

Mother's Day in the UK is traditionally known as Mothering Sunday.



It is held on the fourth Sunday of Lent each year. Lent is the time that leads up to the Christian festival of Easter.



Children might give their mums cards, flowers, chocolates or other gifts.



Mums might be brought breakfast in bed or families might have a special meal.



How do you celebrate Mother's Day?



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The History of Mother's Day

No one is absolutely certain exactly how the idea of Mothering Sunday began. However, it is known that on this day, about four hundred years ago, people made a point of visiting their nearest big church (the Mother Church).



People who visited their mother church would say they had gone "a mothering".

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The History of Mother's Day

Young British girls and boys 'in service' (maids and servants) were only allowed one day to visit their family each year. This was usually Mothering Sunday.



The modern celebration of Mother's Day began in the United States in the early 20th century.

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Mother's Day and the Church





On Mother's Day, many churches give the children in the congregation a little bunch of spring flowers to give to their mothers as a thank you for all their care and love throughout the year.

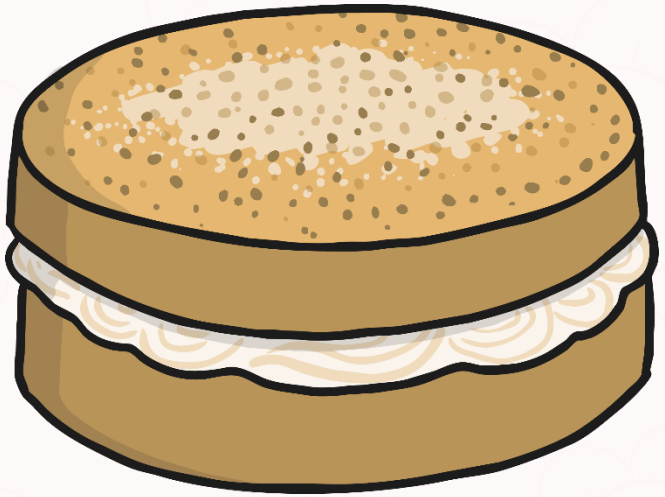
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Traditional Mother's Day Gifts

Flowers were traditional gifts given on Mother's Day, as the young girls and boys would have to walk home to their village, and could gather them on their way home through the meadows.

Often the housekeeper or cook would allow the maids to bake a cake to take home for their mother.

Sometimes a gift of eggs, or flowers from the garden(or hothouse), was allowed.



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Simmel Cake

People began honouring both their mothers and the church by gifting a cake.

The most favoured cake was – as it still is in some families – the 'simnel cake'.

The simnel cake is a fruit cake. A flat layer of marzipan (sugar almond paste) is placed on top of the cake and decorated with 11 marzipan balls representing the 12 apostles minus Judas, who betrayed Christ.

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Mother's Day Around the World

Whilst Mother's Day is celebrated on different days and for different reasons in many countries around the world, the central idea of honouring your mother is universal.



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Mother's Day in Mexico

In Mexico, Mother's Day is called 'Dia de la Madre'.



It is on **10th May** and is one of the most important days of the year.



Families sometimes hire music bands to play their mum's favourite songs.



It is most restaurants' busiest day of the year, as families may have meals to celebrate.



Flower stalls can also get very busy, as lots of Mexican people buy their mums flowers.



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Mother's Day in Thailand

On Mother's Day in Thailand, you may see pictures of Queen Sirikit in lots of places.



In Thailand, Mother's Day is on the birthday of Queen Sirikit, 12th August.



It is a national holiday, which means that children don't have to go to school.



There are often parades and firework displays.



A traditional gift for children to give their mum is a jasmine flower.



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Mother's Day in Ethiopia

Mother's Day is so important in Ethiopia, it lasts for three days!
It is called Antrosht.



It is held at the end of the rainy season in autumn, and not only celebrates mums but the earth and the gifts we get from the earth.



The whole family may prepare a special meal and sing songs that celebrate special people.



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