

WINDSOR MANOR

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From Saint to Santa

Illustrator Thomas Nast has been called the “Father of the American Cartoon” for the illustrations he featured in *Harper’s Weekly* magazine in the 19th century. It was Nast who first used a donkey and elephant to symbolize America’s political parties. He fought corruption with scathing political cartoons. But Nast’s most enduring contribution to popular culture might be his depictions of Santa Claus as a jolly, fat man from the North Pole dressed in red and white.

Long before he was Santa Claus, he was Saint Nicholas, the Bishop of Myra, a fourth-century holy man renowned for the miracle of resurrecting three young boys killed by a butcher. For this remarkable feat, Saint Nicholas became the patron saint of children. Over the centuries, veneration of Saint Nicholas would spread. The Dutch called him Sinterklaas, and when the Dutch set sail for the New World in the 17th century, they brought Sinterklaas with them.

Sinterklaas, or Santa Claus, and Christmas, were well-established in America by the 1800s. But in December of 1823, Clement Clark Moore published his poem *’Twas the Night Before Christmas*, and first described Santa Claus not as an austere bishop, but “chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf.” Charles Dickens then published *A Christmas Carol* in 1843, transforming Christmas from a religious holiday into a popular and commercial extravaganza. By January of 1863, with the United States plunged into Civil War, Thomas Nast had plenty of inspiration for his first cartoon depicting Santa Claus.



Nast’s first depictions of Santa portray him not just as a jolly old elf but as an ally of the Union Army, and he used his own long beard as inspiration for Santa’s flowing white one. Over the next 23 years, Nast would make 33 illustrations of Santa, none more influential than his 1881 image of “Merry Old Santa Claus,” complete with a white beard, rosy cheeks, red suit, and pack full of toys. This image, more than any other, has made Santa Claus who he is today.

December Birthdays

December always seems to be a busy, jam-packed month. But at Windsor Manor, when it comes to Birthdays, we just have two...JESUS—December 25th and Miss Betty—December 26th! As if sharing her Birthday month with Jesus wasn’t enough, Miss Betty shares her Birthday month with a few more familiar names.

Bette Midler (entertainer) – Dec. 1, 1945
 Lucy Liu (actress) – Dec. 2, 1968
 Sammy Davis Jr. (entertainer) – Dec. 8, 1925
 Raven Symone (actress) – Dec. 10, 1985
 Frank Sinatra (entertainer) – Dec. 12, 1915
 Jamie Foxx (actor) – Dec. 13, 1967
 Beethoven (composer) – c. Dec. 16, 1770
 Cicely Tyson (actress) – Dec. 18, 1924
 Samuel L. Jackson (actor) – Dec. 21, 1948
 Clara Barton (nurse) – Dec. 25, 1821
 John Legend (musician) – Dec. 28, 1978
 LeBron James (athlete) – Dec. 30, 1984

Bah, Humbug!

Maybe it’s the long lines at shopping centers, or maybe it’s the incessant drone of holiday music, but some people just don’t enjoy the holiday season. Luckily, December 21 is Humbug Day, a day to unapologetically embrace your inner Scrooge.



No one knows where the word *humbug* came from. Some think it came into use during the 18th century as the word *Hamburg* during a time when England was flooded with counterfeit coins from that German city. Others think that it comes from a humming bug, something small, but incredibly irritating. Either way, the word denotes something that is a hoax or nonsense. When Scrooge utters, “Bah! Humbug,” he is declaring Christmas to be a fraud.

Celebrating December

Hanukkah Continues

December 1–6

Saint Nicholas Day

December 6

Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

December 7

Poinsettia Day

December 12

Christmas

December 25

Betty I’s Birthday

December 26

Boxing Day

December 26

New Year’s Eve

December 31



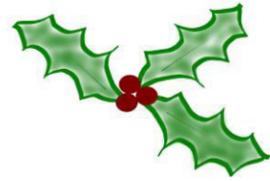
Bible Story of the **Three Wise Men**

The Bible story of the Three Wise Men, from the gospel of Matthew, is also known as the biblical Magi or the Three Kings. This Bible story regards a group of scholarly foreigners who traveled to visit Jesus after his birth, bearing gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Though we do not actually know how many Magi there were, many assume there were three since there were three gifts.

Meaning of the Gifts for Jesus

When the Wise Men discovered Jesus and Mary, they would have been residing in a modest house in Bethlehem, because by this time Jesus would have been aged between one and two. Their gifts seem somewhat unusual to give to a baby, however, Christians consider that they had the following purposes and meaning:

- **Gold:** is affiliated with Kings and Christians believe that Jesus is the King of Kings.
- **Frankincense:** is used in liturgical worship in traditional Churches and represented that people would worship and praise Jesus.
- **Myrrh:** is a fragrance that is embedded on dead bodies to make them smell pleasant and represented that Jesus would endure persecution resulting in his death.



Adopt-a-Family

This year we have adopted a 15-year-old young man for Christmas!

He has requested clothing and local gift cards. In order to make the whole gift process easier, Kathy Langley will be asking for monetary donations during Dinner and/or Supper this week. If you would consider donating \$5 or \$10 to this young man's Christmas, we could really bless him this year.



Adopt a Neighbor for Christmas

There are 15 Elderly or Disabled individuals who live independently in our county who could use a little love this Christmas! If you would like to donate a new pair of sox, a small lotion, Chapstick, pens, pencils or a small donation to this drive it would be greatly appreciated! Thank you for 'Loving your Neighbor' this

Christmas Season

Appointment Reminder

Please inform our Nurse Megan or RA staff of upcoming appointments. Transportation requests, other than emergencies, are to be made at least one week in advance. This allows staff to plan and to be more efficient in transporting all our Residents. Doctor and Dentist offices will be happy to give you two appointment cards upon request so one card can go to the office and one can be kept for your own records. THANKS for helping us do a better job of helping you 😊

