

WHAT IS CHRISTMAS?

Christmas is celebrated by Christians all over the world, but what is Christmas and some of its traditions?

- "Christmas" comes from the words Cristes maesse, or "Christ's Mass." Most historians attribute the first celebration of Christmas to Rome in 336 A.D.
- Singing carols at Christmas is from the English during the middle ages. Groups of serenaders would travel from house to house singing ancient carols and spreading the holiday spirit.
- The custom of gift-giving on Christmas goes back to Roman festivals of Saturnalia and Kalends. The very first gifts were simple items such as twigs from a sacred grove as good luck emblems. Soon that escalated to food, small items of jewelry, candles, and statues.
- Hanging of greens, such as holly and ivy, is a British winter tradition. Greenery was used remind the people that spring was not long away.
- The Nativity scene originated in Italy. St. Francis of Assisi asked a man named Giovanni Vellita of the village of Greccio to create a manger scene. St. Francis performed mass in front of this early Nativity scene, which inspired devotion in all who caught sight of the scene
- In Western countries 'Boxing Day' originated in Western countries about 800 years ago. On Christmas, Churches would open their 'alms boxe' (in the boxes the congregation placed gifts or money) and the Church would distribute the contents to the poor on the day after Christmas, Boxing Day.



CANADIAN HERITAGE ALLIANCE
Fighting for Freedom! Fighting for Canada!

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Wishing you



*A Merry
Christmas*

THE WAR AGAINST CHRISTMAS

Christmas is becoming an endangered word in Canada because of a flood of absurd politically correct lunacy.

Government bureaucrats' intent is to bring about a multicultural society, but at the expense of the abolition of the Christian traditions

When the liberal camps choose to remove the Christian traditions to prevent "injured feelings" of religions new to Canada, they are betraying their own design of a multicultural society: the acceptance of everyone for whom they are.

There are no grounds for denying Christians the right to celebrate the Christmas season. The number of non-Christians has doubled between the last two censuses, but 82 per cent of the population is still Christian (according to Stats Canada). That is a majority, and by denying the majority recognition in its own traditions is oppression of the masses.

POLITICALLY CORRECT TRIUMPHS

1 . 2002: In Toronto, the city's bureaucrats decided that the Christmas tree in Nathan Phillips Square is to be called a "Holiday Tree."

2 . 2002: The Royal Canadian Mint issued an advertisement changing "Twelve Days of Christmas" to "Twelve Days of Giving."

3 . 2002: Many businesses are encouraging employees to wish customers "happy holidays" instead of "Merry Christmas."

4 . 2002: Many politicians sent out "Holiday cards" instead of "Christmas Cards"

5 . 2002: A Montreal private school, Académie Michèle-Provost, removed all reference to the birth of Christ in the Christmas concert.

CHRISTIAN HISTORY IN CANADA

- 1533: Jacques Cartier sailed up the St. Lawrence River to Montréal. To commemorate the founding of Montréal. Cartier wrote in his diary, "...we all kneeled down in the company of the Indians and with our hands raised toward heaven yielded our thanks to God."
- 1960: Prime Minister John Diefenbaker introduced the Canadian Bill of Rights, beginning with, "The Parliament of Canada, affirming that the Canadian Nation is founded upon principles that acknowledge the supremacy of God."
- Many Canadian universities were founded as denominational seminaries to educate future church leaders

There is no shortage of evidence that Canada was built on Christian principles. Why does the government feel it is essential that Christian values and traditions be absorbed into multiculturalism and political correctness?

WHY WE CARE ABOUT CHRISTMAS

We are devoted to upholding and maintaining civil liberties in Canada. Ottawa has a history of enforcing what they perceive as "fit" and "necessary" on the citizens; such

as forced multiculturalism, forced bilingualism, forced gun control, forced GST, and restrictions on freedom of speech and thought.

Smothering the spirit of Christmas is not the true meaning of tolerance that Ottawa advocates, and we must stop the intrusion on our freedoms instead of submitting to the politically correct lunacy.

How long will it be before Christmas is banned altogether? We urge you to stand up for your rights and commemorate Christmas to its fullest.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO SAVE CHRISTMAS?

- Buy cards that maintain the traditional Christmas greetings
- Avoid shopping at stores that have turned their backs on traditional Christmas
- Write letters to newspapers
- Call into radio talk shows
- Always use the traditional Christmas wishes and greetings

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