

## St. Basil's Day (Greece)

Celebrated on January 1<sup>st</sup>. The Greeks call New Year, St Basil's Day. It is traditional on St Basil's Day to serve vasilopita, a rich bread baked with a coin inside, while also common to exchange gifts on this day. (Jan.1<sup>st</sup>)

## Gantan-Sai (Japan, Shinto)

Also referred to as Shogatu, is the Shinto New Year holiday. The faithful visit shrines, often at midnight, praying for renewal of heart, health, and prosperity. During the seven-day holiday, people wear their best clothing and visit the homes of friends and family to express their wishes for the coming year. (Jan.1<sup>st</sup>)

## Seijin No Hi (Japan)

This day celebrates Coming-of-Age of the youth of Japan who are twenty years old. They wear traditional clothes and visit the shrines where the family announces their adulthood to the spirits. (Jan.10<sup>th</sup>)

## St. Knut's day (Finland, Sweden)

This day celebrates King Knut who ruled Sweden from 1080-1086 is honored as a saint for his virtue and generosity. He had declared that Christmas should be celebrated for twenty days, officially ending the season on January.13<sup>th</sup>.

## 2022 Is the International year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture

[https://youtu.be/0s6N\\_89xXIU](https://youtu.be/0s6N_89xXIU)- Click to explore. This is an opportunity to celebrate the diversity of small-scale artisanal fisheries and aquaculture, including women and youth; to share current and potential contributions to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and highlight related innovation; and to build and strengthen related support and partnerships at all levels.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. (2021, November 19). Small in scale, big in value [Video]. YouTube. [https://youtu.be/0s6N\\_89xXIU](https://youtu.be/0s6N_89xXIU)





### **Thaiposam Cavadee (India, Mauritius) January 18th**

Celebrated by Hindus of Tamil origin in honor of Kartikeya, Granter of Wishes, and the second son of Shiva.

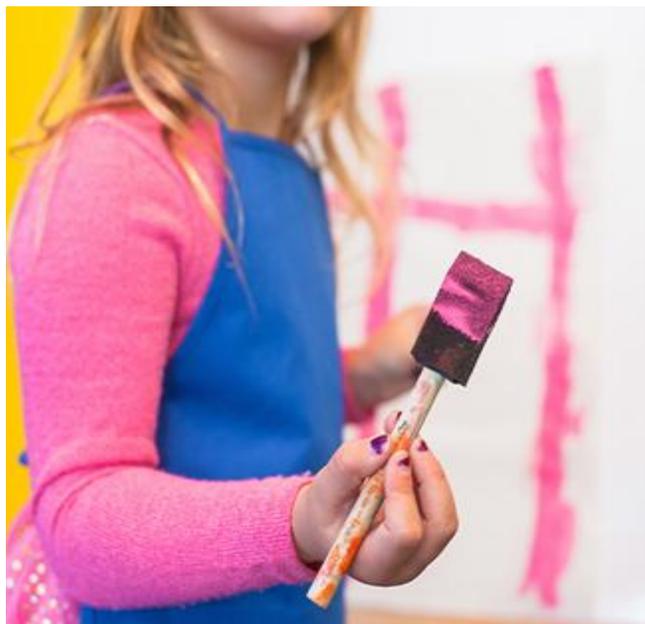


### **Martin Luther King Jr. Day (USA) January.17th**

This day commemorates the leader of the Civil Rights Movement in USA. People of all races and religions have benefited from this sacrifice and accomplishments made by this man. He was a Nobel Prize winner (Peace Prize 1964) and was a prominent advocate of nonviolent protest.

### **Tu B'Shevat or Arbor Day (Jewish) January 17th**

This day celebrates Judaism's roots in the natural world. It is a holiday and known as the New Year for Trees. The celebration includes eating special meals involving the seven fruits of the land – wheat, barley, figs, grapes, pomegranates, olives and dates. Trees are also planted as a tradition on this day.



### **Kitchen God Celebration (China) January 25th**

This celebration the custom is based on the traditional farewell ceremony for T'sao Wang, Prince of the Oven, before he leaves for his annual trip to heaven to report on families' good behavior during the year.



**“ Diversity is the one true thing we all have in common... Celebrate it every day.”**

*– Winston Churchill*



### Resources:

BimBam. (2018, January 16). What is Tu B'shevat? The Jewish Tree Holiday [Video]. YouTube.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BRHLw9jr9IY>

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. (2021, November 19). Small in scale, big in value [Video]. YouTube.  
[https://youtu.be/0s6N\\_89xXIU](https://youtu.be/0s6N_89xXIU)

Khanna, A., Mody, P., Powers, S., Raza, R. (2022). Multicultural Calendar 2022. Toronto: ON

Math Songs by NUMBROCK. (2018, January 8). Martin Luther King Jr. For Kids | Song & Rap. [Video].  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xAUvvAbzkUk>

