

Celebrating

St
Valentine

2012

Honouring marriage and life-long romantic love



Who is

St Valentine?

St Valentine was a priest in Rome at the time of Emperor Claudius II. Urgent to recruit soldiers for his armies, Claudius decreed that all weddings be suspended so as to encourage more single, childless men to serve in combat. Seeing the anguish of the young couples to marry, St Valentine performed secret weddings in defiance of the Emperor.



He was eventually arrested and imprisoned. While awaiting execution, St Valentine restored the sight of his jailer's blind daughter. On the eve of his death, he is reported to have penned a farewell note to the young girl signing it,

“From your Valentine”



St Valentine

He was beheaded on February 14, 269 AD and buried on the Flaminian Way where archaeologists have unearthed a catacomb and an ancient church dedicated in his name. He is the Patron Saint of engaged couples, happy marriages, love and lovers.

ref: www.catholic.org/saints



Celebrate

St Valentine

We celebrate today not only the love shared by those couples among us, but also the love of the Great Lover, Jesus. Christ, our bridegroom, invites us to join him in an everlasting covenant; an eternal love union that is reflected in the love of each and every dedicated married couple.



The *Mystery of Love*

The pages of history bear testament to humankind's long-standing obsession with the phenomenon of love. Love gives meaning and purpose to living. It inspires us to heroic virtue and sacrifice, and connects us with our eternal destiny.

Pick up your copy of *The Mystery of Love* in the Church foyer



St Valentine's Day

Wishing our faithful
married couples a joyful
St Valentine's Day.
Thank you for your
example of love.

