



Let's celebrate St George's day on 23rd April

St George AD c.280 to 303 is the patron saint of England. He was a Roman soldier of Greek origin and officer in the guard of Roman Emperor Diocletian.



Diocletian attempted to convert George from Christianity, offering gifts of land, money, and slaves. George never accepted.

Diocletian ordered that he be executed for his refusal. He then gave his wealth to the poor and after being tortured, continuing to refuse to deny his faith, George was executed.

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St George facts

- St George's day takes place on 23 April, which is traditionally accepted as being the date of his death in AD 303.
- The emperor's wife was so inspired by St George's bravery and loyalty to his religion, that she too became a Christian and was subsequently executed for her faith.
- St George is also the patron saint of Aragon, Catalonia, Ethiopia, Georgia, Greece, Lithuania, Palestine, Portugal, and Moscow.
- The story of St George slaying a dragon comes from a collection of stories called the Golden Legend compiled around the year 1260.
- The legend says the city of Lasia fed the dragon two sheep a day to appease it. When they ran out of sheep they started feeding it their children, chosen by lottery. One time the lot fell on the king's daughter. George offered to kill the dragon if the people of the city became Christians. Fifteen thousand people including the king converted. George then killed the dragon.



Did you know?

Many places in Croydon are named after St George, however St. Edward's Church in New Addington is named after Edward the Confessor, King of England 1042 to 1066. Edward was canonized in 1161. From the reign of Henry II (1154-1189) he was considered the patron saint of England to 1348 when he was replaced by St George.

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