

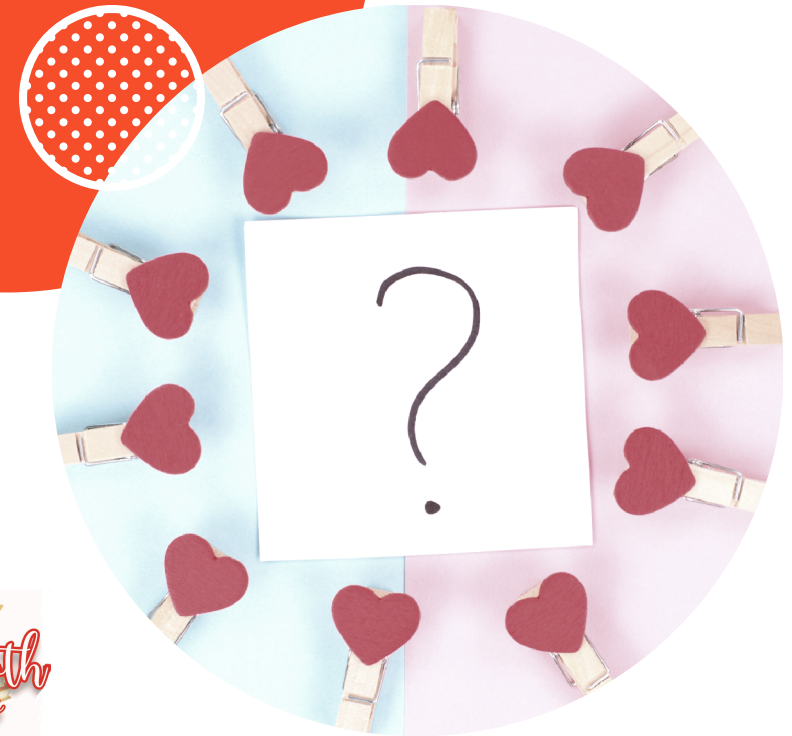
If you sincerely invite Jesus Christ into your life, your life will be transformed, and you will find true peace and love in Christ.



REHOBOTH SPRINGS



@rehobothsprings.ca



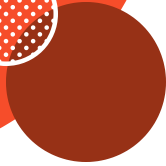
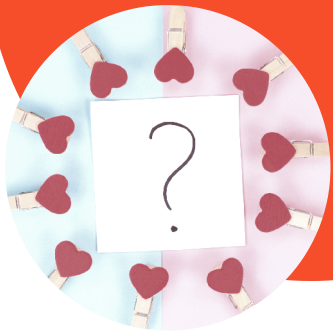
## Who is Your Valentine?

February 14 has long been celebrated as a day of love and romance.

Across the globe, people exchange candy, flowers, and gifts, while restaurants are filled with couples commemorating their relationships. But behind the modern-day festivities lies the story of St. Valentine, a figure whose life is shrouded in history, legend, and Christian faith.

[www.rehobothsprings.ca](http://www.rehobothsprings.ca)





The name "**St. Valentine**" refers to at least two Christian martyrs from the third century:

- Valentine of Rome, a priest who ministered to persecuted Christians during the reign of Emperor Claudius II, and
- Valentine of Terni, a bishop who was also martyred for his faith.

Over time, their stories merged into one narrative.

One popular legend suggests that Emperor Claudius II forbade soldiers from marrying, believing unmarried men made better warriors. **St. Valentine**, moved by the plight of young couples, secretly performed Christian marriage ceremonies in defiance of the emperor's orders.

Another story tells of Valentine being imprisoned for his Christian faith. During his imprisonment, he is said to have healed the blind daughter of his jailer through his prayers. Before his execution, he allegedly sent her a note signed, "From Your Valentine," inspiring the modern-day expression.

Historically, St. Valentine was executed for his faith, possibly on **February 14**, around **270 AD**. His name and martyrdom became associated with Christian love and sacrifice.

The romantic association with Valentine's Day emerged much later, during the Middle Ages. Writers like Geoffrey Chaucer linked **February 14** with the mating season of birds, creating the idea of a day for lovers. By the 14th and 15th centuries, Valentine's Day had become a time for expressing romantic affection, evolving into the celebrations we know today.

While St. Valentine's story reflects bravery and faith, it also serves as a reminder of the ultimate expression of love. Jesus Christ demonstrated unparalleled love when He gave His life for humanity. As the Bible says:

**"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:13).**

This Valentine's Day, consider reflecting on the greatest love story of all—God's love for you. Through Christ, He offers forgiveness of sins and eternal life to anyone who believes in Him:

- **"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).**
- **"The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 6:23).**

**If you want to experience this love, here's how:**

- 1. ACKNOWLEDGE** your sins:  
"Lord God, I am sorry for all my sins. Please forgive me."
- 2. BELIEVE** in Jesus Christ:  
"I believe Jesus died for my sins and rose again to give me eternal life."
- 3. COMMIT** your life to Him:  
"Lord Jesus, I accept You as my Savior. Help me live a life that pleases You. Amen."

**"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." -- John 15:13 (The Bible)**

**"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs." – 1 Corinthians 13:4-5 (The Bible)**