

Who Was Saint Valentine?

9 Saint Valentine was a Roman priest who lived during
19 the third century AD. At the time, Rome was ruled
28 by Emperor Claudius II. Claudius wanted to build a
37 strong army but many men refused to become soldiers
48 as they wanted to stay at home with their wives and
57 children. Claudius is said to have introduced a law
64 that banned soldiers from getting married. Saint
72 Valentine disobeyed this law by still helping couples
82 to get married in secret but he was soon discovered
90 and arrested. During his time in prison, Saint
98 Valentine became close friends with the daughter of
110 one of his guards. He would write letters to her and is
119 said to have always finished the letters with 'your
127 Valentine'. In February each year, we celebrate Valentine's
133 Day in memory of Saint Valentine.



Quick Questions



1. Which word tells us that Saint Valentine broke the law?



2. Why do you think that Claudius wanted to build a strong army?



3. Sum up the main points of this text in 20 words or fewer.



4. Why was Saint Valentine arrested?

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Answers



1. Which word tells us that Saint Valentine broke the law?

Accept: disobeyed



2. Why do you think that Claudius wanted to build a strong army?

Accept any appropriate explanation, such as: Claudius wanted to build a strong army so that he would be able to conquer and rule over other nations.



3. Sum up the main points of this text in 20 words or fewer.

Accept any reasonable summary which includes the key points of the text in 20 words or fewer, such as: Saint Valentine was a Roman priest who wrote letters while imprisoned for breaking Claudius's law.



4. Why was Saint Valentine arrested?
Saint Valentine was arrested because he secretly helped couples to get married when Claudius had banned the marriage of soldiers.