

# January



## Quadrantids Meteor Shower:

Up to 40 meteors per hour at its peak, made by debris left behind by an extinct comet. It runs annually from January 1-5, peaking on the night between the 3rd and 4th, it will be best viewed after midnight in the constellation Bootes, but can appear anywhere in the sky!



# 2020

Sun Day    Moon Day    Tiw's Day    Woden's Day    Thor's Day    Freya's Day    Saturn's Day

<p>"Now no witch ever flew through the air on a broomstick or on anything else, at least not until aeroplanes came in. There is indeed a fertility charm to bring good crops which is performed by riding on a pole, or broom, as a hobby-horse. Doubtless ancient witches practised this rite, leaping high to make the crops grow."</p> <p>Gerald Gardner - <i>Witchcraft Today</i></p>		<p>"The witch's broomstick is a substitute for the old symbol of Priapus which used to be carried at pagan fertility festivals."</p> <p>Doreen Valiente <i>Where Witchcraft Lives</i></p>	<p>1</p> <p>Roman Feast of Janus and also Fortuna. German Day of the Three Fates: Bertha, the Morrigan, and the Parcae. Sir James George Frazer born, 1854.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Birth of Inanna. Egyptian Advent of Isis from Phoenecia.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Festival of Sleep. Pueblo Indian "Deer Dances" fertility ceremony wearing deer headdresses. Greek Lenaia festival of Dionysus. J.R.R. Tolkien born, 1892.</p>	<p><b>Doreen Dominy Valiente</b></p> <p>born, 1922</p>
<p>John Belham-Payne born, 1952. Roman Feast of Befana. Kore's Day, Greek Goddess of wells, springs &amp; life-giving. English Wassail Eve. Nile River holds special powers on this date.</p> <p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Day of Proserpina (Roman). Festival of Sirona (Celtic). Circle Sanctuary legally recognized as a Wiccan Church by its local government, 1988.</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Egyptian New Year Feast of Sekhmet</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Monica English born, 1920 (Mary Monica Barrett) Greek Midwife's Day to honor the Goddess Baubo. Roman Justica's Day. Norse feast of Freya. S.L. MacGregor-Mathers, 1854. Stephen Hawking born, 1942.</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Roman Feast of Janus</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Storm Moon, Cancer Penumbral Eclipse Iroquois Feast of Dreams to celebrate the New Year.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>15-day Roman Carmentalia begins, honoring the Nymphs of prophecy. Feast of Juturna, Goddess of pools and still waters (Rome)</p>
<p>12</p> <p>Roman feast of Compitalia to honor the household Gods. Hindu Makara-Sankranti celebrated in India with saffron, songs of joy, and ritual baths in sacred rivers.</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Plough Monday, to drive off evil spirits. Norse Midvintersblot, also celebrating Tiw, the chief Teutonic God. Druid Feast of Brewing (Ireland) Greek feast of the Wind Gods of the Eight Directions.</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Greek Gamelion Noumenia. Psychedelic "Human Be-In" San Francisco, 1967. Indian 3-day Pongal festival begins for sun-god Surya and spirits who bring rains.</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Roman Feast of the Ass, celebrated in honor of the Goddess Vesta.</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Religious Freedom Day Greek Feast of the Charities, Two-day festival to honour Goddesses of Beneficence. Indonesian fire-god Betoro Bromo honored at midnight, food &amp; flowers cast into the volcano where He dwells.</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Roman Feast of Felicitas, Goddess of good luck. Two-day Feast of Aphrodite (Greek) Wassailing the Apple Trees, (Celtic Britain)</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Chinese kitchen-god Zao Jun is honored. Sabbat of Lilitu (Assyrian) when the Goddess battles the Wyvore dragon of the transmuting alkahest.</p>
<p>19</p> <p>Dorothy Clutterbuck born in Bengal, India in 1880. Thorrablottar, feast of Thor (Iceland). Icelandic Husband's Day.</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Martin Luther King Day Divination by Fire was traditionally performed on this date. Women would dream of their future husband on this night. Aquarius begins</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Feast of the Danish Goddess Yngona.</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Sir Francis Bacon born, 1561, founder, Rosicrucian Order. Greek Festival of the Muses; (the word "museum" means Temple of the Muses.)</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Day of Hathor</p> <p>Libation of cow's milk is poured into the Nile River</p>	<p>24</p> <p>New Moon, Capricorn Sementivae begins, nine-day Roman festival of sowing, to honor of Goddesses Terra, Ceres and Proserpina. Day of Bolivian prosperity god Ekeko.</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Robert Boyle born, 1627-1691 Irish scientist, alchemist and co-founder of secret Oxford laboratory, the Invisible College, catalyst for the Royal Society.</p>
<p>26</p> <p>Feast of Aphrodite</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Day of Ishtar, Goddess of love, fertility, and battle. (Assyria/Babylonia)</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Phoenix (Long Island Line) born in Brooklyn, New York. (1933)</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Vietnamese Parade of the Unicorns. Goddesses Irene and Pax were born on this day.</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Roman festival of Pax, Goddess of Peace. Roger Bacon finished writing the Opus Maius, 1266. He was jailed as a "possessor of forbidden knowledge."</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Feast of Sarasvati, Hindu Goddess of Education, honored by students seeking help with exams. Chinese annual festival honoring Kuan Yin.</p>	<p>"Tis a phallic religion," said Thur, "and the broomstick symbolises the phallus."</p> <p>Gerald Gardner <i>High Magic's Aid</i></p>

January, the first month of the current Gregorian calendar and the second month of Winter's rule. January derives its name from the ancient Roman God, Janus, who looks both forward to the new year and the future, while also looking backward at the year past. The traditional birthstone of January is the garnet; and the carnation and the snowdrop are the month's traditional flowers. January is shared by the astrological signs of Capricorn the Goat and Aquarius the Water Bearer. January begins the year anew!

"However, the broomstick was only one of the means witches were supposed to use for the purpose of flight. Its frequent occurrence in folklore points to the fact that it possessed some special significance. This significance is in fact a phallic one. In Yorkshire folk-belief, it was unlucky for an unmarried girl to step over a broomstick, because it meant that she would be a mother before she was a wife. In Sussex, the May-Pole, which was itself a phallic symbol, used to be topped with a large birch broom. A 'besom' is a dialect term for a shameless, immoral female."

Doreen Valiente - *An ABC of Witchcraft*

To Order: [www.GBGcalendar.com](http://www.GBGcalendar.com)