

## STUDENT: IOANA DUMITRASC-POPA CHRISTMAS

Christmas is undoubtedly the most popular Christian holiday. Bright lights, crowded streets, choosing gifts characterize this period of the year. It is the most expected holiday. Santa Claus is a cute character, with ruddy cheeks, with a friendly belly and a long and white beard. A gentleman who manages to bring a smile to all children.



He is dressed in a white suit and wearing a red thong. He comes with the reindeer sleigh, enters the chimney and puts presents under the tree. The nine reindeer are: Rudolph, Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donner and Blitzen. Their leader is Rudolph, the red nose reindeer.



Christmas is the holiday when all the family meet. They sing carols, eat traditional food and wait for Santa. In Romania, especially in Moldavia we eat pork cakes, cozonac (variations of sweet bread in different shapes round or rectangular) drob, piftie pork sausage, stuffed cabbage with mamaliguta and sour cream.

An important custom followed by housewives in southern Moldova is preparing 12 dishes, in honor of each apostle. On Christmas Eve all the food sits on the table, recalling the Last Supper. The next day, after the return from the Church, Christians eat meat.



On Christmas Eve, women bake a shaped crown cake symbolizing the crown of Jesus. It is kept all the winter. In spring it is fed to animals that are working in the fields to give them strength and health.

# CHRISTMAS CAROL



## O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree!

How are thy leaves so verdant!  
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,  
How are thy leaves so verdant!  
Not only in the summertime,  
But even in winter is thy prime.  
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,  
How are thy leaves so verdant!

O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,  
Much pleasure doth thou bring me!  
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,  
Much pleasure doth thou bring me!

For every year the Christmas tree,  
Brings to us all both joy and glee.  
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,  
Much pleasure doth thou bring me!

O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,  
Thy candles shine out brightly!  
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,  
Thy candles shine out brightly!

Each bough doth hold its tiny light,  
That makes each toy to sparkle bright.  
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,  
Thy candles shine out brightly!



## O brad frumos, O brad frumos!

O, brad frumos, o brad frumos,  
Cu cetina tot verde.  
Tu esti copacul credincios,  
Ce frunza nu si-o pierde,  
O, brad frumos, o brad frumos,  
Cu cetina tot verde.

O, brad frumos, o brad frumos,  
Verdeata ta imi place.  
Cand o revad sunt bucuros  
Si vesel ea ma face.  
O, brad frumos, o brad frumos,  
Verdeata ta imi place.

O, brad frumos, o brad frumos,  
Cu frunza neschimbata.  
Ma mangai si ma faci voios  
Si ma-ntaresti indata.  
O, brad frumos, o brad frumos,  
Cu frunza neschimbata.



## **DROB RECIPE**

### *INGREDIENTS:*

- *liver from a pork*
- *heart from a pork*
- *lungs from a pork*
- *a pork peritoneum*
- *5 green onions*
- *3 green garlic*
- *2 tbs chopped green parsley*
- *1 tbs chopped green dill*
- *1 raw egg*
- *4-5 boiled eggs*
- *2 tbs sour cream*
- *1 tbs oil*
- *salt and pepper*



Boil the liver, heart and lungs in a pot. Wash the peritoneum and let it to cool. Take the boiled organs out on a plate and put them in the fridge (for at last 6 hours). Put the organs together with onion, garlic, parsley, dill and 2 boiled eggs through the hewing machine. Put the mixture in a bowl; add the raw egg, salt, pepper and the sour cream.

Grease a pot with oil or butter; lay the peritoneum at the bottom of the pot. The fat side of peritoneum must be inside. Put 1/2 of the mixture over the peritoneum. Align the rest of eggs in the middle ( in one piece or cut in 2 pieces). Then raise the margins of peritoneum the way an envelop is closed. Grace the whole thing and bake it in the oven for about an hour.

Can be served warm (cut in slices) as main dish near any kind of garnish but it's more healthy to serve it cold like appetizer.

## LOCAL CUSTOMS



From Christmas Eve until New Year's Day, carol singers start the train, stopping at homes to announce the birth of Jesus and wish them health and wealth. Children and young people from villages and towns all are dedicated to this popular custom. With different meanings from one region to another, the Romanian tradition of Christmas carols are part of the magic of winter nights and holidays.

In Moldova and Maramures Cavnic area preserved folk customs with ancient roots, namely characters masked in the devil, death, old people and other characters with grotesque masks, walking masked for three days and not allowed to reveal identity. They scare the hosts and people on the street and it is said that women and girls shouldn't look at them.



Moldova is one of the most famous regions for the many games with masks that are played during the winter holiday. In the week between Christmas and New Year in Romanian villages, groups of boys are preparing for train, respecting the traditions and customs during the winter holidays. Mask games are practiced depending on the area at Christmas, between Christmas and New Year, New Year's Eve and the next day.

From Christmas until the Epiphany children walk with the star, an old custom that meets all Christians. This usually wants to remember the star that announced the birth of Jesus and guided the Three Wise Men.



Sources: <http://www.moldova.org>  
<http://dli.ro/datinide-craciuninmoldova.html>



# DICTIONARY

Hi! I am from  
Romania. Here are  
some words from my



- |                   |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Craciun        | 16. Sanie       |
| 2. Pom de craciun | 17. Traditional |
| 3. Glob           | 18. Mancare     |
| 4. Beteala        | 19. Jocuri      |
| 5. Mos Craciun    | 20. Urari       |
| 6. Cadou          | 21. Zapada      |
| 7. Colind         | 22. Iarna       |
| 8. Ren            | 23. Sarbatoare  |
| 9. Stea           | 24. Carne       |
| 10. Barba         | 25. Prajituri   |
| 11. Jucarii       | 26. Rude        |
| 12. Obiceiuri     | 27. Coroana     |
| 13. Reuniunede    | 28. Vasc        |
|                   | 29. Sap         |



Hi! I am from Great  
Britain. Here are the  
translated words above.

- |                   |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Christmas      | 16. Sleigh      |
| 2. Christmas tree | 17. Traditional |
| 3. Globe          | 18. Food        |
| 4. Tinsel         | 19. Games       |
| 5. SantaClaus     | 20. Wishes      |
| 6. Present        | 21. Snow        |
| 7. Carol          | 22. Winter      |
| 8. Reindeer       | 23. Holiday     |
| 9. Star           | 24. Meat        |
| 10. Beard         | 25. Cakes       |
| 11. Toys          | 26. Relatives   |
| 12. Customs       | 27. Crown       |
| 13. Familyreunion | 28. Mistletoe   |
| 14. ...           | 29. ...         |



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