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## Free Valentine Greeting Cards

By Cameron Lindblom

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RealEstateGates.com offers its visitors free Valentine Greeting Cards. Express your love and devotion to your beloved friend or spouse with our lovely free flash cards on Valentine's Day!

All the existing legends are telling that Valentine was a priest living in the 3rd century A.D. in Rome. When Emperor Claudius II decided that lonely men make better soldiers than married ones, he prohibited young men best suiting for service to get married. Realizing all the unfairness of this ban, Valentine countered to Claudius and secretly carried out marriage ceremonies. When Claudius learned that, Valentine was sentenced to death.

Stories often stop at this spot. However, there are various sequels to the legend about Valentine.

Being imprisoned, Valentine fell in love with warder's daughter. According to one of the legends, she took care of him during his imprisonment. According to another one, she was blind and the warder asked Valentine to cure her blindness, as Valentine was also a healer. The priest advised her to prepare special ointment. Unfortunately, it didn't help.

On February 14th, 270 A.D. right before the execution Valentine wrote a farewell love-letter and signed it with words "From your Valentine"). He also put a bit of yellow saffron inside of the letter. When the lady was holding it, she could see the bright color of the grass. A miracle happened... The girl became sighted.

In 496 A.D. Pope Gelasius declared January 14th St. Valentine's Day.

Legends describe Valentine as tender, brave and the most romantic person in history. No wonder Valentine was one of the most popular priests throughout England and France in the Middle Ages.

So, don't waste your time to greet people dear to you with our free Valentine Greeting Cards ( <http://www.realestategates.com/postcard/index.html> ) on this day!

Happy Valentine's Day!

from RealEstateGates.com

Author: Cameron Lindblom

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## **The History Of Greeting Cards - An Overview**

**By Gabriel Adams**

Greeting cards started out as simple slips of papyrus, that were exchanged by both the Egyptians and Chinese as messages of goodwill. As the concept of greeting cards evolved, Europeans began to send them to one another for holidays such as Valentine's Day - and this occurred as early as the 1400's. Of course, these cards were handmade and expensive so not everyone could afford to send greeting cards for their holiday well-wishes.

Greeting cards really hit the mainstream in the 1850's, when commercial printing as well as the invention of the postage stamp started to allow people all over the world to send greeting cards to their loved ones. Now, greeting cards are a billion dollar business, with people purchasing and sending cards for holidays including religious celebrations, birthdays, and even just as a simple thank you or gesture of love. The two largest greeting card companies, Hallmark and American Greetings, offer cards that are perfect for any occasion, with themes and illustrations that are great for all tastes.

Of course, you don't need to buy your greeting cards in a store. Computers and home printers have made it easy to create and print out your own cards at home. Many people have also taken up paper crafts, and have taken to hand making their own greeting cards out of many different materials, with embellishments ranging from ribbons to beads. Some even go as far as to make their own paper, which is a time consuming process but definitely shows your recipient just how much you care. Hand painting and rubber stamping with ink can complete your homemade creation.

Greeting cards have evolved from an item used only by the rich to an everyday tradition. Whether you want to communicate with far-off relatives, or just let your sweetie know how much you love them - greeting cards make a great (and inexpensive) way to brighten up someone's day!

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