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**Mother's Day, The Second Sunday In May**

**By James Zeller**

The second Sunday in May comes every year with little fanfare. Many of us nearly forget it as

Mother's day one time or another. Mother's Day can be a joy of sharing thoughtfulness, care, and consideration with Mother's Day cards, flowers, and gift ideas. But, the true gift is showing mom we love her and expressing it in a way that is meaningful to her.

Every year in America we celebrate Mother's Day on the Second Sunday of May. Although we are only half way to Christmas, a special gift is due to a special endearing person, your mother. You can tell your mom, in a very special way, how much you love her and how much you appreciate her, but showing her that you love her is what truly counts.

A bouquet of flowers for her on Mother's Day is certainly an appropriate and thoughtful gift idea. Mother's Day flowers tend to express what words cannot say and fill the home with beauty and soft fragrance. Mother's Day flowers convey tenderness and beauty to a mom who will remember moments of sweetness a bouquet of flowers will bring to mind.

We can show mom our love by taking time out of our busy lives to visit her, to call her, and to be with her. As children we experienced unconditional love from our mother. As adults we need to honor that love in reciprocation. This year, on the second Sunday in May, take time out to tell her how special she is. You may say it with a lovely Mother's Day card or a Mother's Day gift that is selected especially for her.

A Mother-in-law is also entitled to a sincere gesture of care and thoughtfulness on Mother's Day. Mother's Day can help us to strengthen this special relationship. On Mother's Day you can convey that she is truly an integral part of the family, and that you wish to give her a place in your family's daily life. Mother's Day offers an opportunity to share a few moments of consideration for your mother-in-law with caring thoughts, a Mother's Day card and a unique Mother's Day gift she would enjoy.

The ideal Mother's Day gift would be a gift idea that she would find useful and practical. It would also be elegant and exquisite. A gourmet kitchen gift or selections of imported gourmet condiments make great gift ideas for a Mother's Day.

## Mother's Day, The Second Sunday In May

An excellent gift idea would be to present her with a hand blown glass teapot for her kitchen. Perhaps an oil and vinegar set from Europe would be appropriate. A gourmet gift accentuates your appreciation of her cooking and taste, and adds flavor to a time of reflection, such as tea time. Today you will find all of these Mother's Day gift ideas online. The perfect Mother's Day gift is easily found in numerous gift shops and boutiques, but remember **SHOWING** your mother that you do indeed love her, means more than any item you could send her. Mother's Day is always the second Sunday in May, halfway to Christmas, yet "a gift to give" well worth remembering.

James Zeller writes for gift related websites and blogs. One such site for unique gift ideas is

<http://www.cruets.com>

where he found a creative collection of culinary gourmet gifts perfect for

holidays such as Mother's Day.

### **The Origins of Mother's Day**

**By Tony Luck**

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##### **The Origins Of Mother's Day..**

Today Mother's Day or Mothering Sunday is celebrated all over the world. For florists and card shops the event is one of the highlights of the year, but the roots of Mother's Day are not commercial.

Motherhood has been celebrated since ancient times. The ancient Greeks paid homage to Rhea, the Mother of Gods; and there are records of the ancient Romans worshiping a mother Goddess known as Cybele as early as 260 BC. Festivals took place in the spring which was the most fertile time of the year.

The more modern way of honouring mothers began in England in the 1600s where Mothering Sunday was observed on the fourth Sunday of Lent. This day is also known as 'Refreshment Sunday', the only day when you are allowed to eat or do whatever you have given up for Lent. Not surprisingly, families came together and took the opportunity to party with a big meal at which mother was treated as the guest of honour. Traditionally, mothers were given posies of flowers and a cake.

The term 'Mothering Sunday' is now falling into disuse and has mostly been replaced by 'Mother's Day', which is used the world over.

In the USA there were several attempts to introduce a Mother's Day as a way to celebrate peace and heal the scars of war. Julia Ward, who wrote the words to the Battle Hymn of the Republic, suggested the idea in 1872. But the idea didn't really take off until Anna Jarvis campaigned for the establishment of a Mother's Day to commemorate her own mother who died in 1905. Ward's mother herself had tried to establish a similar holiday, Mother's Friendship Day, to heal the pain of the Civil War.

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The first Mother's Day in the USA was held in 1907 when Julia Ward held a ceremony to honour her mother. She then successfully campaigned for a formal holiday to honour mothers and by 1911 most states had taken up the idea. This was followed in 1914 by a declaration by President Woodrow Wilson that Mother's Day should be celebrated as a national holiday on the second Sunday in May. The idea quickly spread to Canada and Mexico and many more countries throughout the world.

The commercialisation of Mother's Day quickly followed, much to the disgust of Anna Jarvis who was arrested in 1923 at a Mother's Day festival for trying to stop women selling flowers. Jarvis said "I wanted it to be a day of sentiment not profit". Ironically Anna Jarvis campaigned for many years against the commercialisation of Mother's Day, the day she had worked so hard to establish.

Although she had no children of her own, each Mother's Day Anna received hundreds of cards from all over the world. Anna Jarvis died in 1948.

Tony Luck runs a site offering advice to moms-to-be and new moms. Included on the site are the

fascinating

chinese pregnancy calendar

which supposedly tells you whether the baby you are

expecting will be a girl or boy, and a

conception chart

to tell you when baby is expected.

The Origins of Mother's Day

Mother's Day, Not Nearly Enough Time, Just One Day For Mothers

Perfect Gifts For Mother's Day

Lisa's Christmas

Are You A Sunday Driver?

65 Tried and True Traditional Amish Recipes

Beat that Fat

The First and Second Adam

Making money at online auctions

See-Thru Guide for Cameras



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