

Father's Day 2021

Father's Day, in the United States, holiday (third Sunday in June) to honor fathers. Credit for originating the holiday is generally given to Sonora Smart Dodd of Spokane, Washington, whose father, a Civil War veteran, raised her and her five siblings after their mother died in childbirth. She is said to have had the idea in 1909 while listening to a sermon on Mother's Day, which at the time was becoming established as a holiday. Local religious leaders supported the idea, and the first Father's Day was celebrated on June 19, 1910, the month of the birthday of Dodd's father. In 1924 U.S. Pres. Calvin Coolidge gave his support to the observance, and in 1966 Pres. Lyndon B. Johnson issued a proclamation that recognized the day. It became a national holiday in 1972, when Pres. Richard Nixon signed legislation designating the third Sunday of June as Father's Day. Father's Day is celebrated on Sunday, June 20, 2021, in most countries.



Although it was originally largely a religious holiday, Father's Day has been commercialized with the sending of greeting cards and the giving of gifts. Some observe the custom of wearing a red rose to indicate that one's father is living or a white rose to indicate that he is deceased. Other males—for example, grandfathers or uncles who have assumed parenting roles—are often also honored on the day. Some Roman Catholics have continued to observe the feast day of St. Joseph, on March 19, as a tribute to fathers.

Source: The Editors of Encyclopaedia Britannica. This article was most recently revised and updated by Amy Tikkanen, Corrections Manager.

Britannica, The Editors of Encyclopaedia. "Father's Day". Encyclopedia Britannica, 20 Apr. 2021, https://www.britannica.com/topic/Fathers-Day. Accessed 29 May 2021.

MEN'S HEALTH VIRTUAL TOWN HALL

Join NAACP and The Ad Council for a timely and important conversation about men's health. Moderated by radio personality Joe Clair, panelists will discuss the most recent CDC guidance, masks, social distancing, vaccines, mental health, and getting info out to the community.

Panelists include:

- Derrick Johnson, President and CEO, NAACP
- Dr. Cameron Webb, White House Senior Policy Advisor for COVID-19 Equity
- Kofi Siriboe, Actor and Health Advocate

