

## **8 Holidays and celebrations**

In Hungary families celebrate birthdays, namedays, wedding anniversaries, Mother's Day, Christmas and Easter.

The most important family festival is Christmas, when we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, the families get together for the Christmas dinner. The traditional dishes are fish soup, stuffed cabbage and poppy seed and nut rolls. The Christmas tree is decorated before the dinner. The presents under the tree are opened in the evening.

On New Year's Eve people usually go to parties to celebrate the coming of the new year.

At Easter we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. On Easter Monday boys visit their relatives and friends and sprinkle them with perfume or water and they get chocolate or painted eggs.

The Hungarians celebrate March 15, the day of the Hungarian Revolution and War of Independence of 1848-49. August 20, the day of King Stephen I. and October 23, the day of the Declaration of Hungarian Republic.

Questions:

1. What is the greatest family festival for you? Why?
2. How do you celebrate your birthday?
3. What celebrations are there at schools in Hungary?
4. Can you name festivals celebrated in the USA or in England?

/ Source:Haavisto Kirsi-Bajnóczi Beatrix:Kérdések és válaszok angol nyelvből Maxim kiadó 2008./