

Ognissanti e il giorno dei morti

CULTURE

Two highly celebrated days around the world where there is a significant number of Catholics. On the 1st November, the Italians celebrate Ognissanti, a day commemorating martyrs of the Christian church.

This day is closely linked with another celebration that happens on the 2nd November; il giorno dei morti (day of the dead). This Christian celebration commemorates all the dead. Its idea is to pray for all the souls stuck in purgatory to move forward to Heaven. Many people visit their family members graves, taking particular flowers (common of this time of year); chrysanthemums and candles.

Some people also leave their homes empty so the soul of their dead family members can visit and some also set up an extra seat at the dinner table to remind them about the dead person (especially in northern Italy).

Italians can never celebrate without food and even for this day, there are some typical foods. In some regions such as Sicily and Lombardia, we can find le ossa dei morti (bones of the dead) and il pane dei morti (bread of the dead), meanwhile in Veneto and cities like Perugia, we find le fave dei morti (beans of the dead).

Esercizio 1: Traducete il vocabolario in inglese

Ognissanti
Il giorno dei morti
Un cimitero
I crisantemi
Una tomba
Sbocciare
La credenza
Le ossa dei morti
Le fave dei morti
Il pane dei morti