

*Online Course*

# History of Christmas and Christmas in Ireland



*Nollaig Shona Duit* (singular)



*Nollaig Shona Daoibh* (plural)

Irish historian Sean Murphy is presenting a two-week live Zoom course titled ***History of Christmas and Christmas in Ireland*** on Thursdays, December 8 and 15 at 7pm EST.

The presentation will detail the history of the emergence of the Christian annual celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. It explains how and why many of the pre-Christian pagan traditions were incorporated into the Christian celebration. For instance, it will explain the Christmas celebration in a wider historical context that includes the Roman Saturnalia celebration, the diverging views inside the Christian church on the celebration of Christ's birth, the issue of the date of Christ's actual birth, and the history of Christmas in the USA. The origins of Saint Nicholas, Santa Claus, and Father Christmas will be explained.

Christmas in Ireland will detail some specific events that are celebrated in Ireland. This includes *Women's Christmas*, the Wren Boys, various legends and superstitions, and gift giving.

The presentation includes multi-media coverage of some Christmas activities.

**Course fee: \$50. To enroll, email [seanmurphy630@gmail.com](mailto:seanmurphy630@gmail.com)**