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Christ·mas  (krĭs mäs)

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- n.*
1. A Christian feast commemorating the birth of Jesus.
 2. December 25, the day on which this feast is observed as a public holiday in many countries.
 3. Christmastide.

[Middle English *Cristemas*, from Old English *Crīstes mæsse*, Christ's festival : *Crīst*, Christ; see [CHRIST](#) + *mæsse*, festival; see [MASS](#).]

Christ mas·sy, **Christ mas·y** *adj.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European Roots](#).

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