

# St Dwynwen's Story

A long time ago there was a beautiful princess called Dwynwen. Her father was King Brychan Brycheiniog and he had arranged for her to marry an important prince. However, Dwynwen was in love with another prince called Maelon Dafodrill. She went to see her father to say she did not want to marry the prince he had chosen for her.

"You have to marry a prince I've chosen for you!" said the King. Dwynwen ran to Maelon to tell him what her father had told her. When Maelon heard this, he was angry and said he never wanted to see her again.

Dwynwen's heart broke completely. She was so sad that she went to live alone in a forest. Dwynwen felt lonely and upset in the forest. She prayed to God to help her stop loving Maelon.

Then, one night while she was sleeping, an angel came to Dwynwen and gave her a special drink to make her feel better. Dwynwen began to dream. In the dream, she saw the angel giving a drink to Maelon and he turned into a block of ice.

Afterwards, Dwynwen had three wishes from the angel; to thaw Maelon, to make Welsh lovers happy and to make sure she would never get married. The three wishes came true and she decided to dedicate her life to serve God and look after Welsh lovers.

Dwynwen established a church on Llanddwyn Island, Anglesey and became the patron saint of lovers.

Today, lovers in Wales celebrate St Dwynwen's day on January 25th, and send cards to loved ones.

