

# Christmas traditions in Cyprus

Michalis Pempetsios

# Christmas Day

- Going to church
- Family gatherings
- Exchange of wishes and presents





**Traditional  
soup and  
meat meals**





**Playing  
cards and  
traditional  
board  
games with  
family and  
friends.**

# New Year's Eve

- Santa Claus brings presents
- Family gathers and sings as the year turns
- We eat and drink wishing 'Happy New Year'





**A traditional  
cake called  
'vasilopita'  
with a coin  
inside is  
served**

# Theophany

- Traditionally known as Phota('lights')
- Cypriot donuts are thrown on to the roof
- Grandparents also give money to their grandkids







# Represents Jesus' baptism

