
Valentine

2 oz. banana liqueur

1 oz. vodka

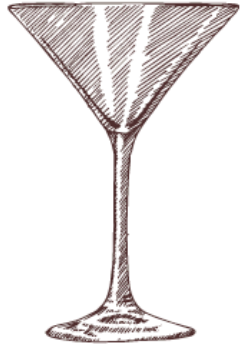
3 oz. cranberry juice



Pour ingredients into a shaker filled with ice and shake forty times. Strain into a red wine glass.



Chocolate Valentine



$\frac{3}{4}$ oz. vanilla vodka

$\frac{3}{4}$ oz. dark crème de cacao

$\frac{1}{2}$ oz. cherry juice

1 splash cream

1 splash soda water

1 sprig of mint



Pour ingredients into a shaker filled with ice and shake forty times. Strain into a cocktail glass and garnish with mint.



ST. VALENTINE, FEBRUARY 14

Valentine was a priest in Rome who was martyred on this day in AD 270. There are several theories regarding his patronage of young lovers. According to one, he administered Holy Communion and last rites to Christian prisoners before being imprisoned himself. As a prisoner, he wrote a letter to the jailer's daughter, signing it "your Valentine." Another version has it that the saintly priest played matchmaker for the jailer's daughter. But the most likely reason is historical happenstance. Valentine's martyrdom falls on the day before the Roman Lupercalia, when young people would choose courtship partners for a year or even propose marriage. It was only natural that once the old gods were dethroned, the Christian faith should baptize some of these harmless customs.

Strega liqueur from Italy is a good after-dinner drink. According to legend, couples who drink it together will remain united in love forever. There are also a couple of cocktails named after St. Valentine. Here are two: the Valentine is great before dinner, and the Chocolate Valentine after.

