

## **Holiday Feasts**

-Cassidy Alla

The holiday season is just around the corner, and that means a lot of things: shopping for gifts, spending time with family, enjoying a break from classes, and, of course, eating our favorite holiday foods. No celebration would be the same without both familial and cultural traditions at every meal.

Marblehead High School students were asked about their favorite foods eaten at celebrations for Christmas, Hanukkah, or any other holiday they may observe. One student's family makes mountains of cookies every year. "We make basically every type of cookie we have the recipe for," she says, "and then we eat them all Christmas morning after opening presents. It's why Christmas is my favorite holiday."

Other peers say they enjoy all the typical holiday foods – mashed potatoes, a roast turkey or ham, apple pie – although one student's favorite part of their holiday meal is the Slovakian dish "Piroshky." Which are a small pastry filled with meat, fish, or rice. "My grandma makes them for us every year; they're my favorite," the student expresses. As for Hanukkah food, an overwhelming amount of students spoke of how much they loved their family's kugel. A favorite at many Jewish holidays, kugel is a sweet and savory pudding with potatoes or noodles.

Whatever your celebrations are, meals in this season of the year bring the family together to recognize and build on traditions. The holidays would not be the same without them.

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