

# Jewelry NEWS & VIEWS

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## Did You Know?

Sotheby's Geneva recently held an auction of the royal jewelry collection partially owned by Marie Antoinette. For the first time in 200 years, this extraordinary jewelry collection was revealed to the public. The diamond and pearl pendant that once belonged to Antoinette sold for \$36.2 million, setting a world auction record for a natural pearl.

Before her execution, the Queen wrapped her jewels in a box and sent them to Vienna for safe harbor. In 1796 her daughter was presented with the family jewels.

### December Birthstones

**Turquoise and Zircon** are both prized since Biblical times for their beauty and promise of prosperity. **Tanzanite**, a glittering purple-blue gem, is one of the newest birthstones and has quickly become one of the world's most popular gems.

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## Designs for Spirit & Support



Unique designs inspired by the thought of healing and the comfort of mind, body and soul are being seen in abundance this season. Jewelry created with the intent to enhance spirituality, comfort loss, ward off disease and offer inspiration, hold both meaning and significance, while encouraging the mindset of a positive future.

**Awareness Ribbons.** The meanings of these colorful ribbons folded into a loop depend on the color. Each is a show of support or to raise awareness for a cause. The use of a ribbon was first seen in the early 1970s, when the song "Tie a Yellow Ribbon Round the Ole Oak Tree" was released.

**The Tree of Life.** For centuries, the tree has been a symbol of family and immortality. As the tree grows old, it bears seeds that contain its very essence, allowing

it to become immortal. It is a symbol of strength, a fresh start, positive energy, good health and a bright future.

**The Evil Eye.** Tied to a popular legend dating back 3,000 years, it is considered one of the strongest symbolic images known around the world. Once thought of as a look given to inflict harm and bad luck, today wearing the evil eye is the only way to protect against the power of the evil eye by "reflecting" the evil look.

**The Hamsa (Hand).** A protective sign thought to bring its owner happiness, luck, health, and good fortune, the hand can be worn with the fingers pointing up or down. Most importantly, it is believed to offer its owner protection from the evil eye.

This holiday season, treat yourself or give a gift of meaning and inspiration to someone special.

BIRTHSTONES OF  
 THE MONTH:

Turquoise



Zircon



Tanzanite



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