

2023-2024

18-MONTH
**INTERFAITH
CALENDAR**

18-MONTH INTERFAITH CALENDAR

To foster and support inclusive communities, Diversity Awareness Partnership is pleased to present the 2023-2024 18-Month Interfaith Calendar. This publication can be a useful guide to observances celebrated and practiced across many religious traditions. When planning your organization's schedule, refer to our Interfaith Calendar to honor the special practices and important days that your colleagues and friends may observe.

Considerations

In order to accommodate people with varying religious practices, consider the following:

FOOD

Food and drink are central to many traditions' rituals and practices. Consider vegetarian, vegan, non-alcoholic, and decaf options. Additionally, consider abstinence from food and drink, which is common for those who observe fasting differently.

HOURS

Some holidays or special days may require individuals to worship, pray, or break fast during different hours than they may the rest of the year. Consider flexibility that takes into account the work and objectives of your employee, student, or colleague, rather than the typical time frame when this is normally accomplished.

TIME OFF

Many organizations have standard holidays for all that center a specific religion, like Christianity. Consider allowing practitioners of other religions to float these holidays or make shifts in their schedules.

DEADLINES/WORK FLOW

During holidays or special days that require prayer at late/early hours or that require fasting, some individuals may experience decreased stamina. Try to show empathy, and possibly examine schedules or work deadlines to see if they can be adjusted.

PRAYER

Some religions require daily or regular prayer that requires solitude and quiet. Consider designating a space for individuals to pray that is clean, well-furnished, and accessible.

ATTIRE

For some religions, dress is part of an outward and ongoing commitment to that faith tradition. Therefore, ensure that your organization's attire policy is inclusive enough and provides flexibility should someone need it.

Online Resource

Interfaith Calendar of primary sacred times for world religions: www.interfaith-calendar.org

Notes

This calendar strives to be as inclusive as possible. Therefore, we are always open to adding more holidays, holy days, and religions. Please get in touch with us directly if there's something you'd like us to consider adding to next year's calendar.

All content in this calendar represents the information available during production. To the greatest extent possible, holidays based on lunar phases or other variables that change every Gregorian calendar year have been factored into observance dates. The spelling of specific observances may also vary based on different ways of representing words from other languages.

All Bahá'í, Jewish, and Muslim holidays begin at sunset unless otherwise noted.

We encourage all places of worship to be accessible to persons with disabilities by making necessary accommodations. Contact DAP for additional information on how your organization can become more inclusive in this way.

COLOR KEY

- Bahá'í Faith
- Buddhism
- Catholic Christianity/Catholicism
- Christianity
- Confucianism
- Coptic Christianity
- Ethiopian Orthodox Christianity
- Hinduism
- Hispanic Christianity
- Interfaith
- Islam
- Jainism
- Jehovah's Witnesses
- Judaism
- The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
- Orthodox Christianity
- Pan-Africanism
- Protestant Christianity
- Rastafari
- Shinto Faith
- Sikhism
- Swedenborgian Christianity
- Taoism
- Unitarian Universalist
- Wicca/Paganism
- Zoroastrianism
- Cultural

JULY 2023

- 3 Monday** [Asalha Puja Day | Buddhist](#)
Also known as Dharma Day, the day that marks the beginning of Buddhism
- 9 Sunday** [Martyrdom of the Bab | Bahá'í](#)
Observance of the day Ali Muhammad was executed in 1850 by Persian political and religious powers
- 18 Tuesday** [Hijri New Year | Islam \(until 7/30/22\)](#)
Marks the beginning of the new Islamic lunar calendar
- 23 Sunday** [Birth of the Emperor Haile Selassie | Rastafari](#)
Birthday of the revered messianic figure among Rastafarians
- 24 Monday** [Pioneer Day | The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints](#)
Observation of the arrival of the first settlers at Great Salt Lake, USA
- 26 Wednesday** [Tish'a B'av | Judaism](#)
Day of fasting in remembrance of the destruction of the Temple in 586 BCE and 70 CE
- 27 Thursday** [Ashura | Islam](#)
Optional one-day fast marking the martyrdom of Husayn ibn Ali (Shi'a Islam) and marking the day that Moses fasted in gratitude for liberation of the Israelites (Sunni Islam)

AUGUST 2023

1 Tuesday

Lammas | Christianity

Lammas is a festival in the liturgical calendar to mark the blessing of the First Fruits of harvest, with a loaf of bread being brought to the church for this purpose

Lughnassad | Wicca/Paganism

This day marks one of the eight Wiccan sabbats (a seasonal turning point), the halfway point between summer solstice and fall equinox. It is also an ancient Gaelic feast honoring the Irish deity Lugh, and marks the beginning of the harvest season

Dormition Fast | Christianity (until 8/15/23)

A two-week fast that bars the consumption of red meat, poultry, dairy products, fish, oil, and wine

6 Sunday

Transfiguration of the Lord | Orthodox Christianity

Observance of the transfiguration of Jesus on Mt. Tabor in the presence of his disciples

15 Tuesday

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary | Catholic Christianity

Commemorating the assumption of Mary, mother of Jesus, into heaven

Dormition of the Virgin Mary | Orthodox Christianity

Observance of the death, burial, and transference to heaven of the Virgin Mary

17 Thursday

Marcus Garvey's Birthday | Rastafari

Celebration of the birth of Marcus Garvey

30 Wednesday

Raksha Bandhan | Hinduism

Festival honoring the loving ties between brothers and sisters in family

Obon/Ulambana (Ancestor Day/Ghost Festival) | Buddhism, Shinto Faith, Taoism

On this day the gates of hell are opened on the first day and ghosts are free to visit the world throughout this time, during which offerings are made to relieve their suffering

SEPTEMBER 2023

- 1 Friday** **Guru Granth Sahib Installation | Sikhism**
Remembrance of the eternal installation of the holy books by Granth Sahib at the Golden Temple
- 6 Wednesday** **Krishna Janmashtami | Hinduism**
Commemoration of the birth of Krishna, the eighth avatar of Vishnu (date varies, but this was the most agreed upon date)
- 8 Friday** **Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary | Christianity**
Celebration of the birth of Mary, the mother of Jesus
- 12 Tuesday** **Ethiopian New Year's Day | Rastafari**
First day of the new year for the Ethiopian calendar
- 15 Friday** **Rosh Hashanah | Judaism (until 9/17/23)**
Jewish New Year, marked by a call to repentance
- 18 Monday** **Tzom Gedaliah | Judaism**
A day of fast from dawn until dusk to lament the assassination of Gedaliah, who administered the Jews in Judah after the destruction of the Temple and exile in 586 B.C.E.
- 19 Tuesday** **Ganesh Chaturthi | Hinduism**
Festival honoring the deity Ganesha, the god of prosperity, wisdom, and success
- 21 Thursday** **Mabon | Wicca/Paganism (until 9/29/23)**
Observance of the Autumnal Equinox
- 24 Sunday** **Yom Kippur | Judaism**
Also known as the Day of Atonement with central themes of atonement and repentance
- 26 Tuesday** **Mawlid an Nabi | Islam**
Celebration of Prophet Muhammad's birthday
- 27 Wednesday** **Meskel | Ethiopian Orthodox Christianity**
Commemoration of the discovery of the True Cross by St. Helen
- 28 Thursday** **Confucius' Birthday | Confucian**
Observance of the birth of Confucius
- 29 Friday** **Sukkot | Judaism (until 10/06/23)**
A day commonly known as the Feast of Tabernacles, which celebrates thanking God for the completed harvest and commemorates the huts in which the Israelites dwelt after escaping enslavement in Egypt
- 29 Friday** **Birthdays of Guru Nanak Dev Ji | Sikhism**
Commemoration of the birth of one of the foremost gurus of Sikhism

OCTOBER 2023

4 Wednesday

Feast of St. Francis of Assisi | Catholic Christianity

A day to commemorate the patron saint of animals and ecology which is often celebrated with special blessing of animals and pets

6 Friday

Hoshanah Rabbah | Judaism

This day is the seventh day of Sukkot when the entire Jewish community is judged by God to be worthy or not of seasonal rains; many Jews can be found praying and reading the Torah

Shemini Atzeret | Judaism (until 10/08/23)

A holy day devoted to the spiritual aspects of the festival of Sukkot

7 Saturday

Simchat Torah | Judaism

Day to celebrate the completion of the yearly cycle of Torah reading and new cycle begins

9 Monday

Indigenous Peoples' Day | Interfaith

The City of St. Louis has celebrated Indigenous Peoples' Day since 2018 as a time to celebrate the thriving cultures and values of the Indigenous Peoples of our region. This day is celebrated internationally by many tribes, states, counties, cities, universities, countries and schools.

13 Friday

Pchum Ben | Buddhism

A 15-day Cambodian religious festival, culminating in celebrations at the end of the Buddhist lent, primarily to offer foods to the monks in the spiritual hope that those foods would then be offered to ancestors

15 Sunday

Navratri | Hinduism (until 10/24/23)

A nine-day festival dedicated to Goddess Durga who defeated the demon Mahishasura, signifying the victory of good over evil

16 Monday

Birth of the Bab/Baha'u'llah | Bahá'í Faith (until 10/17/23)

Honoring of the founder of the Babi religion, forerunner to Baha'u'llah and the Bahá'í faith

23 Monday

Dussehra/Durga Puja | Hinduism

Commemoration of the end of Navratri

29 Sunday

Jain New Year | Jainism

Beginning of the Jain year

31 Tuesday

All Hallows' Eve | Christianity

Praying and fasting prior to the feast of All Saints' Day

Reformation Day | Protestant Christianity

Anniversary of the tradition of Protestantism, marked by Martin Luther's nailing of his 95 Theses on a church door in Wittenberg, Germany

Samhain | Wicca/Pagan (until 11/01/23)

A Gaelic festival marking the end of the harvest season and beginning of winter

NOVEMBER 2023

1 Wednesday

All Saints' Day | Christianity
Day for honoring and remembering Christian saints

Dia de los Muertos | Cultural
Dia de los Muertos translates to "Day of the Dead" and largely originated in Mexico, where folks pay respects to friends and family who have died through a decorated alter

2 Thursday

All Souls' Day | Catholic Christianity
Commemoration of the souls of Christians who have died

Coronation of Emperor Haile Selassie | Rastafari
Celebration of the coronation of the messianic figure of the Rastafari movement

12 Sunday

Diwali | Sikhism, Jainism, Hinduism
The Festival of Lights marking the end of the Hindu year

13 Monday

Vikram New Year | Hinduism
Beginning of the Hindu year

15 Wednesday

Nativity Fast Begins | Orthodox Christianity (12/24/23)
Period of abstinence and penance in preparation for the birth of Jesus

16 Thursday

International Day for Tolerance | Interfaith
United Nations observance day to generate public awareness of the dangers of intolerance

24 Friday

Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur | Sikhism
Commemoration of the death of Guru Tegh Bahadur

25 Saturday

Day of the Covenant | Bahá'í Faith
Celebration of the covenant given in the last will and testament of Baha'u'llah

26 Sunday

Bon Om Touk | Buddhism (until 11/28/23)
Bon Om Touk, also known as "the Water Festival," is an annual celebration of the end of the rainy season on the full moon of the Buddhist month of Kadeuk. The full moon is considered to bring good luck that can lead to an abundant harvest.

Christ the King Sunday | Christianity
Feast celebrating the all-embracing authority of Christ, over and above governmental authority

28 Tuesday

Ascension of Abdu'l-Baha | Bahá'í Faith
Celebration of the rising of the spirit of Abdu'l-Baha to heavenly dwelling

30 Thursday

Guru Nanak Dev Sahib's birthday | Sikhism
Honoring of the birth of the founder of Sikhism

DECEMBER 2023

- 3 Sunday** [Advent, Liturgical Calendar New Year | Christianity \(until 12/24/23\)](#)
Season observed as a time to prepare for the birth of Jesus Christ, and also the start of the religious calendar year
- 4 Monday** [Chalica | Unitarian \(until 12/10/23\)](#)
A week-long celebration of Unitarian Universalist principles
- 6 Wednesday** [St. Nicholas Day | Christianity](#)
Celebration of St. Nicholas, the patron saint of children and role model for gift-giving
- 7 Thursday** [Hanukkah | Judaism \(until 12/15/23\)](#)
Called the festival of lights, it commemorates the recapture and rededication of the Jerusalem Temple
- 8 Friday** [Bodhi Day | Buddhism](#)
Celebration of the Enlightenment of Buddha
- [Immaculate Conception of Mary | Catholic Christianity](#)
Celebrates the belief in the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- 12 Tuesday** [Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe | Christianity](#)
Honoring of a legendary appearance of the Virgin Mary near Mexico City in 1531 C.E.
- 16 Saturday** [Posadas Navideñas | Hispanic Christianity \(until 12/24/23\)](#)
Nine-day religious observance during which families participate in nightly processions that re-create the Holy Pilgrimage of Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus to Bethlehem
- 21 Thursday** [Yule | Wicca/Paganism \(until 1/1/24\)](#)
Celebration of the Winter Solstice
- 24 Sunday** [Christmas Eve | Christianity](#)
Day before Christmas, often celebrated with a midnight Mass/Liturgy of Jesus' birth
- 25 Monday** [Christmas | Christianity](#)
Celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ
- 26 Tuesday** [Zarathosht No-Diso | Zoroastrianism](#)
Anniversary of the death of Prophet Zarathustra
- [Kwanzaa | Cultural \(until 1/1/24\)](#)
Holiday celebrating family, community, and culture among people of African descent
- 28 Thursday** [Holy Innocents | Christianity](#)
Christian feast in remembrance of male children killed by King Herod in the same attempt to destroy Jesus
- 31 Sunday** [Holy Family's Day | Catholic Christianity](#)
Celebration honoring Jesus, his mother Mary, and her husband Joseph as a family
- [Watch Night | Christianity](#)
Occasion to thank God for bringing people safely through another year and to prepare for the next year

JANUARY 2024

1 Monday

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God/ Feast of St. Basil/Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus | Catholic Christianity
Celebration of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the mother of Jesus Christ

Shogatsu/Gantan-Sai | Shinto Faith
This festival celebrates Japanese New Year and it's traditional for practitioners to visit a shrine and ask the kami (god) to give them good fortune in the coming year, and make their new year resolutions in the presense of the kami

6 Saturday

Epiphany/Three Kings Day | Christianity
Feast to celebrate the visit of the Three Wise Men to Baby Jesus

7 Sunday

Orthodox Christmas | Orthodox Christianity
Celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ

Ethiopian Christmas | Rastafari
Celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ

Feast of the Nativity | Orthodox Christianity
Commemorates the Nativity in the flesh of Jesus Christ

8 Monday

Coptic Christmas | Coptic Christianity
Celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ

Baptism of the Lord Jesus | Christianity
Commemoration of the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River by St. John the Baptist

Seijin no Hi | Shinto Faith
Honors those who have or will reach the age of twenty within the current year

15 Monday

Makar Sankranti | Hinduism
Celebration marking the turning of the Sun toward the north in reverence to deity Surya, god of the Sun

17 Wednesday

Feast of St. Anthony the Abbot/ Blessing of the Animals | Hispanic Catholicism
An observance to bless domestic animals that are significant to people

18 Thursday

Guru Gobind Singh Jayanti Birthday | Sikhism
The birthday of the tenth Sikh Guru is celebrated by Sikhs by sharing sweets, a cold drink, performing special prayers, and singing devotional songs

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity | Christianity (until 1/25/24)
Ecumenical observance focused on prayer for church unity

Bodhi Day | Buddhism
Celebration of the Enlightenment of Buddha

20 Saturday

Timkat | Ethiopian Orthodox Christianity
Commemoration of the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River by John the Baptist

21 Sunday

World Religion Day | Bahá'í Faith
Day dedicated to the unity and oneness of the world religions

24 Wednesday

Tu B'Shvat | Judaism
Celebration of the coming of spring

25 Thursday

Mahayana New Year | Buddhism
A time of meditation and self reflection to bring in the Buddhist New Year

Conversion of St. Paul | Christianity
Honoring the conversion of Paul the Apostle, after which he became a follower of Jesus

FEBRUARY 2024

1 Thursday

Imbolc | Wicca/Paganism
Celebration of the passage from winter to spring

2 Friday

Presentation of Christ in the Temple | Christianity
Remembrance of the infant Jesus being brought to the temple in Jerusalem

3 Saturday

Setsubun-sai | Shinto Faith
Celebration of the traditional beginning of spring and the end of winter

Four Chaplains Sunday | Interfaith
Commemoration of U.S. Army chaplains who gave their lives to save others during WWII

6 Tuesday

Laylatul Miraj | Islam
Commemorates the Prophet Muhammed's nighttime journey from Mecca to Jerusalem, where he then ascended to heaven

10 Saturday

Lunar New Year | Confucianism, Taoism, Buddhism
Celebration marking the start of the lunar new year and is a time to give thanks for family and remember ancestors

13 Tuesday

Shrove Tuesday (Fat Tuesday) | Christianity
Carnival day on the eve of Ash Wednesday

14 Wednesday

Vasant Panchami | Hinduism
Festival of spring honoring the goddess of learning

St. Valentine's Day | Christianity
Feast day of St. Valentine, celebrating love and affection

Ash Wednesday | Christianity

Observance to begin the 40-day season of Lent; ashes are marked on worshippers' foreheads as a sign of repentance

15 Thursday

Race Relations Day | Cultural
Day recognizing the importance of interracial relations and learning

Nirvana Day (Parinivarna Day) | Buddhism

A day to remember the death of Buddha when he reached Nirvana, ending the cycle of birth and rebirth

24 Saturday

Spring Lantern Festival | Confucianism, Taoism, Buddhism
Marks the final day of the Lunar New Year celebrations

Magha Puja Day | Buddhism

Important Buddhist festival celebrated on the full moon day of the third lunar month to commemorate significant events following the Enlightenment of Buddha

Maghi | Sikhism

Commemoration of a battle in which 40 Sikhs died for Guru Gobind Singh

Laylat al Bara'ah (Night of Forgiveness) | Islam

A significant day where Muslims seek forgiveness for their sins and believe that on this night, one's destiny for the coming year is written by God.

25 Sunday

Triodion Begins | Orthodox Christianity
Time period leading up to Lent

Intercalary Days | Bahá'í Faith (until 3/1/24)

Insertion of days into the calendar in order to maintain the solar calendar, considered 'days outside of time'

MARCH 2024

1 Friday	Nineteen Day Fast Bahá'í Faith (until 3/19/24) A nineteen-day period of the year, during which adults of the Bahá'í Faith adhere to a sunrise-to-sunset fast	24 Sunday	Sunday of Orthodoxy Orthodox Christianity First Sunday of Lent, at which time restoration of icons in the church is celebrated
8 Friday	Maha Shivaratri Hinduism Festival honoring Lord Shiva and his marriage to the goddess Parvati		Palm Sunday Christianity Celebration of the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem which marks the start of Holy Week
11 Monday	Ramadan Begins Islam (until 4/09/24) A holy month in which the Islamic scripture, the Quran, was revealed and Muslims observe fasting, prayer, and spiritual reflection		Lord's Evening Meal Jehovah's Witnesses Memorial commemoration of the death of Jesus Christ
17 Sunday	St. Patrick's Day Christianity Feast Day of St. Patrick who brought Christianity to Ireland	25 Monday	Hola Mohalla Sikhism (until 3/27/24) Created by Guru Gobind Singh as an occasion for Sikhs to show their martial arts skills and host mock battles
18 Monday	Clean Monday Orthodox Christianity Start of Lent for Orthodox Christians, refers to the leaving behind of sinful attitudes and non-fasting foods		Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Christianity Feast day commemorating Mary being told by the angel Gabriel that she would be the mother of Jesus, the son of God
19 Tuesday	Ostara (March Equinox) Wicca/Paganism Celebrates the Spring Equinox, the season's change from dark winter to brightening spring		Holi Hinduism Spring festival known as the "festival of colors" that signifies the victory of good over evil
20 Wednesday	Nowruz (Persian New Year) Bahá'í Faith, Zoroastri, Cultural Marks the start of the New Year which occurs on the date of Spring Equinox	28 Thursday	Maundy Thursday Christianity A day of remembrance of Jesus' last meal with his disciples
23 Saturday	Ta'anit Esther Judaism Fast on Purim eve, commemorating the fast of the Jewish people in the story of Purim Purim Judaism Commemorates the saving of the Jewish people from Haman, who was planning to kill them	29 Friday	Good Friday/Holy Friday Christianity, Orthodox Christianity Remembrance of the crucifixion and death of Jesus
		31 Sunday	Easter Christianity Holy day commemorating the resurrection of Jesus Christ

APRIL 2024

- 4 Thursday** [Qingming Festival | Taoism, Confucianism \(until 4/6/24\)](#)
Also known as Tomb Sweeping Day, commemorates onset of spring and is an occasion to remember ancestors
- 6 Saturday** [Founding of the Church | The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints](#)
Commemoration of the appearance of the angel Moroni in 1830 to Joseph Smith, who subsequently founded the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
- [Laylat al-Qadr \(Night of Power\) | Islam](#)
A special night of prayer in the month of Ramadan where it is believed that the blessings and mercy of God are multiplied by the thousands
- 9 Tuesday** [Ramayana Week | Hinduism \(until 4/17/24\)](#)
A nine day festival that marks the auspicious celebration of the appearance of Hindu Lord, Sri Ram
- 10 Wednesday** [Eid al Fitr | Islam](#)
Festival that marks the end to the fasting month of Ramadan
- 13 Saturday** [Khmer New Year \(Cambodian New Year\) | Buddhism \(until 4/16/23\)](#)
The new year that is celebrated just after the harvest has been gathered and safely stored, when farmers enjoy the fruits of their labor before the rainy season begins.
- [Vaisakhi | Sikhism, Hinduism](#)
In Sikhism, the day commemorates the founding and birth of the Khalsa, and the year this religion was born as a collective faith. In Hinduism, this day marks the new year of the Hindu Solar Calendar. Vaisakhi can be celebrated in different ways, including as a harvest festival.
- 17 Wednesday** [Rama Navami | Hinduism](#)
Celebration of the birth of Lord Rama
- 20 Saturday** [First Day of Ridvan | Bahá'í Faith](#)
Commemorates the beginning of the Bahá'í faith in 1863 when Baha'u'llah first declared his mission
- 21 Sunday** [Mahavir Jayanti | Jainism](#)
Celebration of the birth of Mahavira, founder of Jainism as a religion
- [Grounation Day | Rastafari](#)
Holy day celebrated in honor of Haile Selassie's 1966 visit to Jamaica
- 22 Monday** [Passover/Pesach | Judaism \(until 4/30/24\)](#)
Eight-day celebration of the deliverance of the Jews from slavery in Egypt
- 23 Tuesday** [Hanuman Jayanti | Hinduism](#)
Celebration of Hanuman, an embodiment of Lord Rama; devotion and selfless works are encouraged
- 24 Wednesday** [Theravada New Year | Buddhism \(until 4/26/24\)](#)
The Buddhist New Year, when buddhists devote themselves to meditation, self-reflection, and learning from past mistakes
- 27 Saturday** [Lazarus Saturday | Orthodox Christianity](#)
Celebration of the resurrection of Lazarus by Jesus
- 29 Monday** [Ninth Day of Ridvan | Bahá'í Faith](#)
Day of recognition for the historic and symbolic event of Baha'u'llah's exile from Baghdad

MAY 2024

1 Wednesday

Beltane | Wicca/Paganism

Celebration of the conjoining of the goddess with the energy of the god in sacred marriage, the basis of all creation

2 Thursday

Twelfth Day of Ridvan | Bahá'í Faith

Final day of the twelve-day festival which celebrates the beginning of the Bahá'í faith

National Day of Prayer | Interfaith

U.S. day of observance encouraging prayer among all faiths

5 Sunday

Chongmyo Taeje | Confucianism

Confucian memorial ceremony to honor the kings and queens of the Yi, or Joseon Dynasty

Eastern Orthodox Easter | Orthodox Christianity

Holy day commemorating the resurrection of Jesus Christ

Yom HaShoah | Judaism

Holocaust Day, established to remember the six million Jews killed by the Nazi regime

9 Thursday

Ascension of Jesus | Christianity

Remembrance of the departure of Jesus from Earth after his resurrection, celebrated 40 days after Easter

13 Monday

World Falun Dafa/Falun Gong Day | Buddhism

Celebration of the spiritual discipline introduced in China in 1992

19 Sunday

Pentecost | Christianity, Orthodox Christianity

Commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles

21 Tuesday

World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue & Development | Interfaith

United Nations-sanctioned international holiday that celebrates the richness of the world's cultures while promoting intercultural dialogue

23 Thursday

Declaration of the Bab | Bahá'í Faith

Celebration of the Bab, a beloved messenger of God, on the day he announced that he was the "gate" to the coming of the promised one of all religions

Visakha Puja (Buddha Day) | Buddhism

Commemorates the birth, enlightenment, and death of Guatama Buddha in the Theravada tradition

25 Saturday

African Liberation Day | Pan-African

Commemoration of the formation of the Organization of African Unity/African Union

Lag BaOmer | Judaism

A day of celebration interrupting the sadness and semi-mourning of the Omer period for 24 hours

26 Sunday

Trinity Sunday | Christianity

Celebrates doctrine of the Trinity, remembering and honoring God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit

29 Wednesday

Ascension of Baha'u'llah | Bahá'í Faith

Remembrance of the death of Baha'u'llah, founder of Bahá'í

30 Thursday

Corpus Christi | Catholic Christianity

Celebration of the presence of the body and blood of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist

JUNE 2024

- 7 Friday** **Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus | Catholic Christianity**
Occasion to pay homage to Christ's all-encompassing love for humanity
- 9 Sunday** **Race Unity Day | Bahá'í Faith**
Day to promote racial harmony and understanding
- 10 Monday** **Dragon Boat Festival | Taoism**
Chinese festival commemorating fealty and filial piety and recognizing the life and death of Chinese Scholar, Qu Yuan
- 11 Tuesday** **Shavuot | Judaism (until 6/13/24)**
Celebration of the descent of Moses from Mt. Sinai with the Ten Commandments
- 15 Saturday** **Day of Arafat | Islam**
Observance during Hajj, the Islamic pilgrimage to Mecca, when pilgrims pray for forgiveness and mercy
- 16 Sunday** **Guru Arjan Martyrdom | Sikhism**
Honoring the first Sikh martyr whose death resulted in changes in the faith's tradition
- 17 Monday** **Eid al-Adha | Islam**
Also known as the Sacrifice Feast, a celebration commemorating the Prophet Abraham's willingness to sacrifice his son as an obedience to God (holiday begins on the sunset of the previous day)

- 19 Wednesday** **Juneteenth | Cultural**
Juneteenth (short for "June Nineteenth") is a holiday commemorating the day the news of the abolition of slavery came to Galveston, Texas
- New Church Day | Swedenborgian Christianity**
Annual commemoration of the vision document "The True Christian Religion," in 1770
- 24 Monday** **Litha | Wicca/Paganism**
Celebration of the sacred marriage, in which the energy of the gods is poured into the services of life (Summer Solstice)

JULY 2024

- 7 Sunday** **Hijri New Year | Islam (until 7/08/24)**
Marks the beginning of the new Islamic lunar calendar
- 10 Wednesday** **Martyrdom of the Bab | Bahá'í**
Observance of the day Ali Muhammad was executed in 1850 by Persian political and religious powers
- 16 Tuesday** **Ashura | Islam**
Optional one-day fast marking the martyrdom of Husayn ibn Ali (Shi'a Islam) and marking the day that Moses fasted in gratitude for liberation of the Israelites (Sunni Islam)
- 21 Sunday** **Asalha Puja Day | Buddhist**
Also known as Dharma Day, the day that marks the beginning of Buddhism
- 23 Tuesday** **Birth of the Emperor Haile Selassie | Rastafari**
Birthday of the revered messianic figure among Rastafarians
- 24 Wednesday** **Pioneer Day | The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints**
Observation of the arrival of the first settlers at Great Salt Lake, USA

AUGUST 2024

1 Thursday

Lammas | Christianity

Lammas is a festival in the liturgical calendar to mark the blessing of the First Fruits of harvest, with a loaf of bread being brought to the church for this purpose

Lughnassad | Wicca/Paganism

This day marks one of the eight Wiccan sabbats (a seasonal turning point), the halfway point between summer solstice and fall equinox. It is also an ancient Gaelic feast honoring the Irish deity Lugh, and marking the beginning of the harvest season

Dormition Fast | Christianity (until 8/15/24)

A two-week fast that bars the consumption of red meat, poultry, dairy products, fish, oil, and wine

6 Tuesday

Transfiguration of the Lord | Orthodox Christianity

Observance of the transfiguration of Jesus on Mt. Tabor in the presence of his disciples

12 Monday

Tish'a B'av | Judaism

Day of fasting in remembrance of the destruction of the Temple in 586 BCE and 70 CE

15 Thursday

Assumption Day | Catholic Christianity

Commemorating the assumption of Mary, mother of Jesus, into heaven

Dormition of the Virgin Mary | Orthodox Christianity

Observance of the death, burial, and transfer to heaven of the Virgin Mary

17 Saturday

Marcus Garvey's Birthday | Rastafari

Celebration of the birth of Marcus Garvey

18 Sunday

The Ghost Festival (Zhongyuan Festival, Yulanpen Festival) | Buddhism, Shinto Faith, Taoism

On this day the gates of hell are opened on the first day and ghosts are free to visit the world throughout this time, during which offerings are made to relieve their suffering

19 Monday

Raksha Bandhan | Hinduism

Festival honoring the loving ties between brothers and sisters in family

26 Monday

Krishna Janmashtami | Hinduism

Commemoration of the birth of Krishna, the eighth avatar of Vishnu (date varies, but this was the most agreed upon date)

31 Saturday

Paryushana Parvarambha | Jainism

Festival signifying human emergence into a new world of spiritual and moral refinement, and a celebration of the natural qualities of the soul

SEPTEMBER 2024

- 1 Sunday** **Guru Granth Sahib Installation | Sikhism**
Remembrance of the eternal installation of the holy books by Granth Sahib at the Golden Temple
- 7 Saturday** **Ganesh Chaturthi | Hinduism**
Festival honoring the deity Ganesha, the god of prosperity, wisdom, and success
- 8 Sunday** **Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary | Christianity**
Celebration of the birth of Mary, the mother of Jesus
- 11 Wednesday** **Ethiopian New Year's Day | Rastafari**
First day of the new year for the Ethiopian calendar
- 15 Sunday** **Mawlid an Nabi | Islam**
Celebration of Prophet Muhammad's birthday
- 21 Saturday** **Mabon | Wicca/Paganism (until 9/29/24)**
Observance of the Autumnal Equinox
- 27 Friday** **Meskel | Ethiopian Orthodox Christianity**
Commemoration of the discovery of the True Cross by St. Helen
- 28 Saturday** **Confucius' Birthday | Confucian**
Observance of the birth of Confucius

OCTOBER 2024

1 Tuesday	Pchum Ben Buddhism A 15-day Cambodian religious festival, culminating in celebrations at the end of the Buddhist lent, primarily to offer foods to the monks in the spiritual hope that those foods would then be offered to ancestors	16 Wednesday	Sukkot Judaism (until 10/23/24) A day commonly known as the Feast of Tabernacles, which celebrates thanking God for the completed harvest and commemorates the huts in which the Israelites dwelt after escaping enslavement in Egypt
2 Wednesday	Rosh Hashanah Judaism (until 10/04/24) Jewish New Year, marked by a call to repentance	18 Friday	Jain New Year Jainism Beginning of the Jain year
3 Thursday	Navratri Hinduism (until 10/12/24) A nine-day festival dedicated to Goddess Durga who defeated the demon Mahishasura, signifying the victory of good over evil	20 Sunday	Birth of the Bab/Baha'u'llah Bahá'í Faith (until 11/7/24) Honoring of the founder of the Babi religion, forerunner to Baha'u'llah and the Bahá'í faith
4 Friday	Feast of St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Christianity A day to commemorate patron saint of animals and ecology which is often celebrated with special blessing of animals and pets	22 Tuesday	Hoshanah Rabbah Judaism (until 10/24/24) This day is the seventh day of Sukkot when the entire Jewish community is judged by God to be worthy or not of seasonal rains; many Jews can be found praying and reading the Torah
5 Saturday	Tzom Gedaliah Judaism A day of fast from dawn until dusk to lament the assassination of Gedaliah, who administered the Jews in Judah after the destruction of the Temple and exile in 586 B.C.E.	23 Wednesday	Shemini Atzeret Judaism (until 10/25/24) A holy day devoted to the spiritual aspects of the festival of Sukkot
8 Tuesday	Dussehra/Durga Puja Hinduism (until 10/13/24) Commemoration of the end of Navratri	24 Thursday	Simchat Torah Judaism (until 10/25/24) Day to celebrate the completion of the yearly cycle of Torah reading and new cycle begins
9 Wednesday	Birthday of Guru Ram Das Sikhism Commemoration of the birth of one of the foremost gurus of Sikhism	31 Thursday	All Hallows' Eve Christianity Praying and fasting prior to the feast of All Saints' Day
11 Friday	Yom Kippur Judaism Also known as the Day of Atonement with central themes of atonement and repentance		Reformation Day Protestant Christianity Anniversary of the tradition of Protestantism, marked by Martin Luther's nailing of his 95 Theses on a church door in Wittenberg, Germany
14 Monday	Indigenous Peoples' Day Interfaith The City of St. Louis has celebrated Indigenous Peoples' Day since 2018 as a time to celebrate the thriving cultures and values of the Indigenous Peoples of our region. This day is celebrated internationally by many tribes, states, counties, cities, universities, countries and schools.		Samhain Wicca/Pagan (until 11/01/24) A Gaelic festival marking the end of the harvest season and beginning of winter
			Diwali Sikhism, Jainism, Hinduism The Festival of Lights marking the end of the Hindu year

NOVEMBER 2024

1 Friday

All Saints' Day | Christianity
Day for honoring and remembering Christian saints

2 Saturday

All Souls' Day | Catholic Christianity
Commemoration of the souls of Christians who have died

Coronation of Emperor Haile Selassie | Rastafari

Celebration of the coronation of the messianic figure of the Rastafari movement

Vikram New Year | Hinduism
Beginning of the Hindu year

Dia de los Muertos | Cultural
Dia de los Muertos translates to "Day of the Dead" and largely originated in Mexico, where folks pay respects to friends and family who have died through a decorated alter.

14 Thursday

Bon Om Touk | Buddhism (until 11/16/24)

Bon Om Touk, also known as "the Water Festival," is an annual celebration of the end of the rainy season on the full moon of the Buddhist month of Kadeuk. The full moon is considered to bring good luck that can lead to an abundant harvest.

15 Friday

Birthdate of Guru Nanak Dev Ji | Sikhism

Honoring of the birth of the founder of Sikhism

Nativity Fast Begins | Orthodox Christianity (12/24/24)
Period of abstinence and penance in preparation for the birth of Jesus

16 Saturday

International Day for Tolerance | Interfaith

United Nations observance day to generate public awareness of the dangers of intolerance

24 Sunday

Christ the King Sunday | Christianity
Feast celebrating the all-embracing authority of Christ, over and above governmental authority

Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur | Sikhism
Commemoration of the death of Guru Tegh Bahadur

Day of the Covenant | Bahá'í Faith
Celebration of the covenant given in the last will and testament of Baha'u'llah

26 Tuesday

Ascension of Abdu'l-Baha | Bahá'í Faith
Celebration of the rising of the spirit of Abdu'l-Baha to heavenly dwelling

DECEMBER 2024

1 Sunday	Liturgical Calendar New Year Orthodox Christianity Start of the religious calendar year Advent Christianity (until 12/24/24) Season observed as a time to prepare for the birth of Jesus Christ	25 Wednesday	Christmas Christianity Celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ Feast of the Nativity Orthodox Christianity Commemorates the Nativity in the flesh of Jesus Christ
2 Monday	Chalica Unitarian (until 12/08/24) A week-long celebration of Unitarian Universalist principles		Hanukkah Judaism (until 1/02/25) Festival of lights commemorating the recapture and rededication of the Jerusalem Temple
6 Friday	St. Nicholas Day Christianity Celebration of St. Nicholas, the patron saint of children and role model for gift-giving	26 Thursday	Zarathosht No-Diso Zoroastrianism Anniversary of the death of Prophet Zarathustra
9 Monday	Immaculate Conception of Mary Catholic Christianity Celebrates the belief in the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary		Kwanzaa Cultural (until 1/1/25) Holiday celebrating family, community, and culture among people of African descent
12 Thursday	Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe Christianity Honoring of a legendary appearance of the Virgin Mary near Mexico City in 1531 C.E.	28 Saturday	Holy Innocents Christianity Christian feast in remembrance of male children killed by King Herod in the same attempt to destroy Jesus
16 Monday	Posadas Navideñas Hispanic Christianity (until 12/24/24) Nine-day religious observance during which families participate in nightly processions that re-create the Holy Pilgrimage of Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus to Bethlehem	29 Sunday	Holy Family's Day Catholic Christianity Celebration honoring Jesus, his mother Mary, and her husband Joseph as a family
21 Saturday	Yule Wicca/Paganism (until 1/1/25) Celebration of the Winter Solstice	31 Tuesday	Watch Night Christianity Occasion to thank God for bringing people safely through another year and to prepare for the next year
24 Tuesday	Christmas Eve Christianity Day before Christmas, often celebrated with a midnight Mass/Liturgy of Jesus' birth		



ABOUT DAP

Diversity Awareness Partnership is a catalyst to increase awareness, facilitate engagement, and provide education about diversity and inclusion.

MISSION

Diversity Awareness Partnership is a catalyst to increase awareness, facilitate engagement and provide education about diversity and inclusion.

VISION

Diversity Awareness Partnership's vision is inclusive communities where diversity is respected and embraced, and equity is the norm.

Diversity Awareness Partnership

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www.dapinclusive.org

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION TRAINING

Diversity Awareness Partnership's education and training programs are delivered through presentations, seminars, community forums, and interactive sessions where the focus is understanding and dialogue. These sessions raise awareness around topics of diversity and strategies for inclusion. We take a comprehensive approach to inclusion by working with your organization to contextualize training within a broad array of other services.

GIVE RESPECT, GET RESPECT PROGRAM

Give Respect, Get Respect is a free five-session anti-bias program that takes place throughout a typical academic calendar year. The program connects middle and high school students, school administrators, and associates from local businesses in an effort to address diversity and encourage respect and acceptance among peers/co-workers. Each session is designed with a specific focus on developing deeper understanding and dialogue around race, religion, sexual orientation, gender, and ability.

GRGR gives students the tools to become inclusive leaders within their schools and helps break down walls that separate students from each other. Students grow by interacting with one another, learning more about different communities and identities, and bridging divides through awareness and education.

EXPLORE CAREER IMMERSION PROGRAMS

Wide racial disparities in high-demand career fields led Diversity Awareness Partnership and industry leaders in the St. Louis region to invest in EXPLORE Career Immersion programs. EXPLORE focuses on connecting students of color to professional mentors in the business community here in St. Louis, and strengthening the high school-to-career diversity pipeline critical to supporting an equitable and inclusive workforce in our region. As high school students begin thinking about their careers, they are looking for jobs in places where they see opportunities for people with diverse backgrounds. The heart of the EXPLORE Career Immersion Program is to make St. Louis that place.

D&I SEMINAR SERIES

Diversity & Inclusion are constantly evolving landscapes. We will always have more to learn, more to share, more to explore, and more to innovate around, as our shared spaces grow in the direction of liberation for all marginalized people. DAP's D&I Seminar Series aims to be a part of that collective learning; the program consists of 1.5-hour educational sessions that focus on different aspects of diversity, equity, and inclusion in the workplace. Together we can tackle nuanced topics with humility and excitement - topics that have a huge impact on our everyday lived experiences.

Call (314) 257-0800 or visit dapinclusive.org

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