

Macalester College  
Calendar of Religious Holidays  
Center for Religious and Spiritual Life

Religious holidays are celebrated through special festivals and prayers across the world. In the spirit of Macalester's international, multicultural, and multifaith commitments, the Center for Religious and Spiritual Life (CRSL) dedicates a special care for the celebration of such holidays. Macalester students, faculty and staff members may contact the CRSL with their questions about their own religious celebrations, events, and holidays. The current calendar lists some of the most important religious holidays, and by no means it is the exhaustive one. Please note that some dates mentioned in this list may be different since they are based on the Lunar cycle. Additionally, note about Jewish/Muslim holidays beginning at sundown on 1<sup>st</sup> date listed. For further information, including questions about special festivals, worships, observances, work-restrictions, etc. please contact [crsl@macalester.edu](mailto:crsl@macalester.edu).

2025			
Date	Holy Day	Tradition	Observance
<b>January</b>			
January 6	Epiphany	Protestant and Catholic	Special festival
January 6	Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh Sahib	Sikhism	Special worship
January 7	Christmas	Eastern Orthodox Christianity	Special festival
January 14	Pongal/Makar Sankranti	Hinduism	Special festival
<b>February</b>			
February 1	Imbolc	Pagan/Wiccan	Special festival
February 2	Vasant Panchami	Hindu	Special festival
February 15	Nirvana Day	Buddhism	Special festival
February 28- March 1	Feast of Ala / Loftiness	Bahá'í	Special Festival
February 28	Beginning of Ramadan	Islam	Special Worship, Fast
<b>March</b>			
March 5	Ash Wednesday (first day of lent)	Christian	Special festival
March 14	Holi	Hindu	Special festival
March 13-14	Purim	Judaism	Special festival
March 20	Ostara/Alban Eilir	Pagan/Wiccan	Special festival
March 20	Naw-Rúz (Baha'i New Year)	Baha'i	Special festival
March 27	Laylat al-Qadr	Islam	Special festival
March 29-30	Eid al-Fitr	Islam	Special festival
<b>April</b>			
April 12-20	Passover	Judaism	Special Festival
April 11-12	Hanuman Jayanti	Hinduism	Special Festival
April 13	Palm Sunday	Christian	Special Festival
April 14	Vaisakhi	Hinduism, Jainism, Sikhism	Work-restricted
April 17	Holy/Maundy Thursday	Catholic and Protestant Christianity	Special Festival

April 18	Orthodox/Good Friday	Christian/Eastern Orthodox	Special Worship, Fast Day
April 20	Easter/Pascha	Christian/Eastern Orthodox	Special Festival
April 20	Ridvan	Bahá'í	Special Festival
<b>May</b>			
May 1	Beltane	Paganism, Wicca, Druidry	Special festival
May 12	Vesak (Buddha Day)	Buddhism	Special festival
May 22-23	Declaration of the Báb	Bahá'í	Special festival
May 27-28	Ascension of Baha'u'llah	Bahá'í	Special festival
<b>June</b>			
June 1-3	Shavuot	Judaism	Work-restricted
June 6	Yawm al Arafa (Day of Arafa)	Islam	Special worship
June 6-7	Eid-al-Adha	Islam	Special festival and Work-restricted
June 8	Pentecost Sunday	Protestant and Catholic	Special worship
June 20	Summer Solstice/Litha (Midsummer)	Pagan/Wiccan	Special festival
June 27	Muharram (al-Hijra New Year)	Islam	Special festival
<b>July</b>			
July 5-6	Ashura	Islam	Special festival
July 8-9	Martyrdom of the Báb	Baha'í	Special festival
July 10	Asalha Puja Day	Buddhism	Special worship
<b>August</b>			
August 1	Lammas/Lughnasdh	Pagan/Wiccan	Special worship
August 2-3	Tisha b'Av	Judaism	Special worship, fast day
August 9	Raksha Bandhan	Hindu	Special festival
August 13-16	Obon	Buddhist/Shinto	Special festival
August 16	Janmashtami	Hindu	Special festival
August 21-28	Paryushan	Jain	Special Worship
<b>September</b>			
September 4-5	Mawlid-al-Nabi	Islam	Special festival
September 22	Autumnal Equinox/Mabon	Pagan/Wiccan	Special festival
September 22-24	Rosh Hashanah, Jewish New Year	Judaism	Special festival
September 28-October 2	Durga Puja	Hindu	Special festival
<b>October</b>			
October 1-2	Yom Kippur, Day of Atonement	Judaism	Special festival (Work-restricted)
October 6-13	Sukkot, Festival of Booths	Judaism	Special worship (Work-restricted)
October 20	Diwali / Kali Puja	Hindu	Special festival
October 22	Birth of the Báb	Baha'í	Special worship
October 23	Birth of Bahá'u'lláh	Baha'í	Special worship

October 31	Reformation Day	Protestant Christianity	Special Worship
<b>November</b>			
November 1	All Saints Day	Protestant/Catholic	Special worship
November 2	All Souls Day	Protestant/Catholic	Special Worship
November 5	Guru Nanak's Birthday	Sikh	Special worship (Work-restricted)
November 24-25	Day of the Covenant	Baha'i	Special worship
<b>December</b>			
December 8	Bodhi Day (Rohatsu)	Buddhist	Special festival
December 21	Winter Solstice/Yule (Midwinter)	Pagan/Wiccan	Special festival
December 25	Christmas	Christian	Special festival
December 14-22	Hanukkah (Chanukah), Festival of Lights	Judaism	Special festival
December 26-January 1	Kwanzaa	Interfaith/African-American	Special festival

<b>2026</b>			
<b>Date</b>	<b>Holy Day</b>	<b>Tradition</b>	<b>Observance</b>
<b>January</b>			
January 6	Epiphany	Protestant and Catholic	Special festival
January 7	Christmas	Eastern Orthodox Christianity	Special festival
January 14-17	Pongal/Makar Sankranti	Hinduism	Special festival
January 20	Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh Sahib	Sikhism	Special worship
January 23	Vasant Panchami	Hindu	Special festival
<b>February</b>			
February 1	Imbolc	Pagan/Wiccan	Special festival
February 15	Nirvana Day	Buddhism	Special festival
March 2	Feast of Ala / Loftiness	Bahá'í	Special Festival
February 17	Beginning of Ramadan	Islam	Special Worship, Fast
February 18	Ash Wednesday (first day of lent)	Christian	Special festival
<b>March</b>			
March 2-3	Purim	Judaism	Special festival
March 4	Holi	Hindu	Special festival
March 16	Laylat al-Qadr	Islam	Special festival
March 20	Ostara/Alban Eilir	Pagan/Wiccan	Special festival
March 20	Naw-Rúz (Baha'i New Year)	Baha'i	Special festival
March 19-20	Eid al-Fitr	Islam	Special festival
March 29	Palm Sunday	Christian	Special Festival
<b>April</b>			
April 1-9	Passover	Judaism	Special Festival
March 31-April 1	Hanuman Jayanti	Hinduism	Special Festival
April 2	Holy/Maundy Thursday	Catholic and Protestant Christianity	Special Festival
April 3	Good Friday	Catholic and Protestant Christianity	Special Worship, Fast Day

April 5	Easter	Christian	Special Festival
April 10	Orthodox Good Friday	Eastern Orthodox	Special Festival
April 12	Easter/Pascha	Christian/Eastern Orthodox	Special Festival
April 14	Vaisakhi	Hinduism, Jainism, Sikhism	Work-restricted
April 20 – May, 2	Ridvan	Baha’i	Special Festival

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<b>May</b>			
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May 1	Beltane	Paganism, Wicca, Druidry	Special festival
May 1	Vesak (Buddha Day)	Buddhism	Special festival
May 21-23	Shavuot	Judaism	Work-restricted
May 24	Pentecost Sunday	Protestant and Catholic	Special worship
May 23-24	Declaration of the Báb	Bahá’í	Special festival
May 26	Yawm al Arafa (Day of Arafa)	Islam	Special worship
May 26-27	Eid-al-Adha	Islam	Special festival and Work-restricted
May 28-29	Ascension of Baha'u'llah	Bahá’í	Special festival

<b>June</b>			
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June 16	Muharram (al-Hijra New Year)	Islam	Special festival
June 21	Summer Solstice/Litha (Midsummer)	Pagan/Wiccan	Special festival
June 25-26	Ashura	Islam	Special Festival

<b>July</b>			
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July 8-9	Martyrdom of the Báb	Baha’i	Special festival
July 22-23	Tisha b’Av	Judaism	Special worship, fast day
July 29	Asalha Puja Day	Buddhism	Special worship

<b>August</b>			
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August 1	Lammas/Lughnasdh	Pagan/Wiccan	Special worship
August 13-15	Obon	Buddhist/Shinto	Special festival
August 28	Raksha Bandhan	Hindu	Special festival

<b>September</b>			
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September 4-5	Mawlid-al-Nabi	Islam	Special festival
September 4	Janmashtami	Hindu	Special festival
September 8	Paryushan	Jain	Special Worship
September 11-13	Rosh Hashanah, Jewish New Year	Judaism	Special festival
September 20-21	Yom Kippur, Day of Atonement	Judaism	Special festival (Work-restricted)
September 22	Autumnal Equinox/Mabon	Pagan/Wiccan	Special festival
September 25-October 2	Sukkot, Festival of Booths	Judaism	Special worship (Work-restricted)

<b>October</b>			
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October 17-21	Durga Puja	Hindu	Special festival
October 31	Reformation Day	Protestant Christianity	Special Worship

<b>November</b>			
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November 1	All Saints Day	Protestant/Catholic	Special worship
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November 2	All Souls Day	Protestant/Catholic	Special Worship
November 8	Diwali / Kali Puja	Hindu	Special festival
November 10	Birth of the Báb	Baha'í	Special worship
November 11	Birth of Bahá'u'lláh	Baha'í	Special worship
November 24	Guru Nanak's Birthday	Sikh	Special worship (Work-restricted)
November 25-26	Day of the Covenant	Baha'í	Special worship
<b>December</b>			
December 4–12	Hanukkah (Chanukah), Festival of Lights	Judaism	Special festival
December 8	Bodhi Day (Rohatsu)	Buddhist	Special festival
December 21	Winter Solstice/Yule (Midwinter)	Pagan/Wiccan	Special festival
December 25	Christmas	Christian	Special festival
December 26-January 1	Kwanzaa	Interfaith/African-American	Special festival

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March 26	Good Friday	Catholic and Protestant Christianity	Special Worship, Fast Day
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<b>April</b>			
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