Interfaith Calendar

18-Month

2020 - 2021

Diversity Awareness Partnership
18-MONTH INTERFAITH CALENDAR

To foster and support inclusive communities, Diversity Awareness Partnership is pleased to present the 2020-2021 18-Month Interfaith Calendar. This publication is a handy guide to observances celebrated across 25 religious traditions in the St. Louis region. When planning your organization’s schedule, refer to our Interfaith Calendar to honor the holidays your friends, neighbors, and colleagues celebrate.

CONSIDERATIONS

In order to be more accommodating for people who practice different religions, consider the following:

**FOOD**
Food and drink are central to many traditions’ rituals and practices. Consider vegetarian, vegan, non-alcoholic, and decaf options, which can accommodate a wide variety of religious and ethical choices.

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

**TIME OFF**
Many organizations have standard holidays for all employees or students that are built around the worldview of a particular religion - Christianity, for example. Consider allowing practitioners of other religions to float these holidays or make shifts in their schedules. Again, the priority should be the quality of the work, not where or when it takes place.

**DEADLINES/WORK FLOW**
During holidays that require prayer at late/early hours or that require fasting, some individuals may experience decreased stamina. Examine project schedules or work deadlines to see if they can be adjusted, if need be.

**PRAYER**
Some religions require daily or periodic 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. Make sure that your organization’s attire policy is communicated clearly to employees.
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. However, we are always open to adding more holidays and more religions. Please contact us directly if there’s something you’d like us to consider adding for next year’s calendar.

All content in this calendar represents information that was available at the time of 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 certain observances may vary as well, based on different ways of representing words from other languages.

All Baha’i, 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
- Baha’i
- Buddhist
- Catholic Christian
- Christian
- Confucian
- Ethiopian Orthodox Christian
- Hindu
- Hispanic Christian
- Interfaith
- Jain
- Jehovah’s Witnesses
- Jewish
- The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
- Muslim
- Orthodox Christian
- Pan-African
- Protestant Christian
- Rastafarian
- Scientist
- Seventh Day Adventist
- Shinto
- Sikh
- Swedenborgian Christian
- Taoist
- Unitarian Universalist
- Wiccan/Pagan
- Zoroastrian
1 Wednesday
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God | Catholic Christian
Celebration of the Blessed Virgin
Mary, the mother of Jesus Christ

Shogatsu/Gantan-sai | Shinto
New Year’s Day celebration

5 Sunday
Twelfth Night | Christian
Conclusion of the Twelve Days
of Christmas and marking of the
coming of the Epiphany

The Birth of the Tenth Sikh Master
| Sikh
Honoring the birth of Guru
Gobind Singh

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

7 Tuesday
Orthodox Christmas | Orthodox
Christian
Celebration of the birth of Jesus
Christ

Ethiopian Christmas | Rastafarian
Celebration of the birth of Jesus
Christ

8 Wednesday
Mahayana New Year | Buddhist
Buddhist New Year, as celebrated
in Mahayana countries

12 Sunday
Baptism of the Lord Jesus | Christian
Celebration of the baptism
of Jesus in the Jordan River by St.
John the Baptist

13 Monday
Maghi | Sikh
Commemoration of a battle in
which 40 Sikhs died for Guru
Gobind Singh

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

15 Wednesday
Makar Sankranti | Hindu
Celebration marking the turning
of the Sun toward the north; festival
in reverence to deity Surya, god of
the Sun

17 Friday
Feast of St. Anthony the Abbot/
Blessing of the Animals | Hispanic
Catholic
Observance of showing respect
for domestic animals that are
significant to people

18 Saturday
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
| Christian (until 1/25/20)
Ecumenical observance focused
on prayer for church unity

20 Monday
Timkat | Ethiopian Orthodox
Christian
Commemoration of the baptism of
Jesus in the Jordan River by John
the Baptist

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

Lunar New Year | Confucian,
Taoist, Buddhist
New Year’s celebration marking
the start of the lunar new year;
Begins a fifteen-day festival for
Chinese people of all religions,
who give thanks for family and
remember ancestors

29 Wednesday
Vasant Panchami | Hindu
Festival of spring honoring the
goddess of learning

A Primer on Important Terms

**Ecumenical:** Including or representing multiple denominations within Christianity. Relevant this month because of the annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, traditionally observed in St. Louis with a prayer service coordinated by Catholic and multiple Protestant groups.

**Interfaith:** Including or representing multiple faiths or religions.

**Religious diversity:** A characteristic of a group of people wherein a large number of religious identities are included compared to the group size.

**Religious inclusivity:** Intentional efforts to include those who would otherwise be excluded based on their religion (or lack thereof).

**World religions:** One of the most common ways that we describe the many systems of religious belief that are practiced around the world. There are an estimated 4,200 religions in the world. This month, the Baha’i faith hosts World Religion Day, dedicated to illuminating the universal principles among the world’s religions.
1 Saturday
Imbolc | Wiccan/Pagan
Halfway between the Winter Solstice and the Spring Equinox, celebrates the passage from winter to spring

2 Sunday
Presentation of Christ in the Temple | Christian
Remembrance of the infant Jesus being brought to the temple in Jerusalem

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

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

9 Sunday
Tu B’Shvat | Jewish (until 2/10/20)
Celebration of the coming of spring

10 Monday
Spring Lantern Festival | Confucian, Taoist, Buddhist
Marks the final day of the Lunar New Year celebrations

12 Wednesday
Triodion begins | Orthodox Christian
Time period leading up to Lent

14 Friday
Race Relations Day | Christian
Day recognizing the importance of interracial relations and learning

St. Valentine’s Day | Christian
Feast day of St. Valentine, celebrating love and affection

15 Saturday
Nirvana Day | Buddhist
Also known as Parinirvana Day, remembering the death of Buddha when he reached Nirvana. Nirvana day is believed to be the festival that marks the end of the cycle of birth and rebirth

18 Tuesday
National Founding Day United States | Scientology
Founding of the first Church of Scientology in the U.S., the Church of Scientology of Los Angeles in 1954

22 Saturday
Maha Shivaratri | Hindu
Festival honoring Lord Shiva and his marriage to the goddess Parvati

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

26 Wednesday
Ash Wednesday | Christian
Observance to begin the 40-day season of Lent; ashes are marked on worshippers’ foreheads as a sign of repentance

Intercalary Days | Bahá’í (until 3/1/20)
Insertion of days into the calendar in order to maintain the solar calendar, considered ‘days outside of time’

29 Saturday
Nineteen Day Fast | Bahá’í (until 3/19/20)
Fast to be observed by adults of the Bahá’í faith in good health from sunrise to sunset
MARCH 2020

2 Monday
Clean Monday | Orthodox Christian
Start of Lent for Orthodox Christians, refers to the leaving behind of sinful attitudes and non-fasting foods

8 Sunday
Orthodox Sunday | Orthodox Christian
First Sunday of Lent, at which time restoration of icons in the church is celebrated

9 Monday
Ta’anit Esther | Jewish
Fast on Purim eve, commemorating the fast of the Jewish people in the story of Purim

10 Tuesday
Hola Mohalla | Sikh
Created by Guru Gobind Singh as an occasion for Sikhs to show their martial arts skills and host mock battles

13 Friday
L. Ron Hubbard’s Birthday | Scientology
Marks the birth of L. Ron Hubbard, founder of Scientology

17 Tuesday
St. Patrick’s Day | Christian
Feast Day of St. Patrick who brought Christianity to Ireland

19 Thursday
Naw Ruz (Norooz) | Bahá’í, Zoroastrian
Marks the start of the New Year which occurs on the date of the Vernal Equinox (also known as Persian New Year)

20 Friday
Ostara | Wiccan/Pagan
Welcoming of spring and celebration of the goddess-as-maiden (Vernal Equinox)

25 Wednesday
Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary | Christian
Feast day commemorating Mary being told by the angel Gabriel that she would be the mother of Jesus, the son of God

28 Saturday
Khordad Sal | Zoroastrian
Remembrance of the birth of the prophet Zarathustra
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Religion</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 Thursday</td>
<td>Rama Navami</td>
<td>Hindu</td>
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<td>3 Friday</td>
<td>Laylat al Miraj</td>
<td>Muslim</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 Saturday</td>
<td>Qingming Festival</td>
<td>Taoist, Confucian</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 Sunday</td>
<td>Palm Sunday</td>
<td>Christian</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 Monday</td>
<td>Founding of the Church</td>
<td>The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 Tuesday</td>
<td>Lord’s Evening Meal</td>
<td>Jehovah’s Witnesses</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 Wednesday</td>
<td>Hanuman Jayanti</td>
<td>Hindu</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 Thursday</td>
<td>Maundy Thursday</td>
<td>Christian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Friday</td>
<td>Good Friday/Holy Friday</td>
<td>Christian, Orthodox Christian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Saturday</td>
<td>Lazarus Saturday</td>
<td>Orthodox Christian</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 Sunday</td>
<td>Easter</td>
<td>Christian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Monday</td>
<td>Khmer New Year</td>
<td>Buddhist (until 4/16/20)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Tuesday</td>
<td>Baisakhi/Vaisakhi</td>
<td>Sikh, Hindu</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 Sunday</td>
<td>Easter/Pasca</td>
<td>Christian, Orthodox Christian</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 Monday</td>
<td>Yom HaShoah</td>
<td>Jewish (ends 4/21/20)</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 Tuesday</td>
<td>Laylat al Bara’ah</td>
<td>Muslim</td>
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<tr>
<td>23 Friday</td>
<td>Ramadan Begins</td>
<td>Muslim (until 5/23/20)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 Tuesday</td>
<td>Ninth Day of Ridvan</td>
<td>Bahá’í</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1 Friday
Beltane | Wiccan/Pagan
Celebration of the conjoining of the goddess with the energy of the god in sacred marriage, the basis of all creation

2 Saturday
Twelfth Day of Ridvan | Bahá’í
Final day of the twelve-day festival which celebrates the beginning of the Bahá’í faith

3 Sunday
Chongmyo Taeje | Confucian
Confucian memorial ceremony to honor the kings and queens of the Yi, or Joseon, Dynasty

7 Thursday
National Day of Prayer | Interfaith
U.S. day of observance encouraging prayer among all faiths

Visakha Puja (Buddha Day) | Buddhist
Commemorates the birth, enlightenment, and death of Guatama Buddha in the Theravada tradition

9 Saturday
Observance of the Publication of Dianetics | Scientology
Observance of the 1950 publication of Dianetics: the Modern Science of Mental Health, which was the forerunner of Scientology

11 Monday
Lag Ba’Omer | Jewish (until 5/12/20)
Holiday that occurs on the 33rd day of the Omer, the 49-day period between Pesach and Shavout

13 Wednesday
World Falun Dafa/Falun Gong Day | Buddhist
Celebration of the spiritual discipline introduced in China in 1992

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

19 Tuesday
Laylat al Qadr | Muslim (until 5/20/20)
The Night of Destiny, the first revelation of the Qur’an to Prophet Muhammad

22 Friday
Ascension of Jesus | Christian
Remembrance of the departure of Jesus from Earth after his resurrection, celebrated 40 days after Easter

23 Saturday
Declaration of the Bab | Bahá’í
Celebration of the Bab, Ali Muhammad’s announcement in 1844 that he was the “gate” to the coming of the promised one of all religions

Eid al Fitr | Muslim (until 5/24/20)
Festival that marks the end to the fasting month of Ramadan

25 Monday
African Liberation Day | Pan-African
Commemoration of the formation of the Organization of African Unity/African Union

27 Wednesday
Ascension of Baha’u’llah | Bahá’í (until 5/28/20)
Remembrance of the death of Baha’u’llah, founder of Bahá’í

28 Thursday
Shavuot | Jewish (until 5/30/20)
Celebration of the descent of Moses from Mt. Sinai with the Ten Commandments

Ascension Day | Orthodox Christian
Remembrance of the departure of Jesus from Earth after his resurrection, celebrated 40 days after Easter

31 Sunday
Pentecost | Christian, Orthodox Christian
Commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles
7 Sunday
Trinity Sunday | Christian
Celebrates doctrine of the Trinity, remembering and honoring God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit

11 Thursday
Corpus Christi | Catholic Christian
Celebration of the presence of the body and blood of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist, also known as transubstantiation

14 Sunday
Race Unity Day | Bahá’í
Day to promote racial harmony and understanding

Sunday of All Saints | Orthodox Christian
Celebrating the memory of all saints

16 Tuesday
Guru Arjan Martyrdom | Sikh
Honoring the first Sikh martyr whose death resulted in changes in the faith’s tradition

19 Friday
New Church Day | Swedenborgian Christian
Annual commemoration of the vision document “The True Christian Religion,” in 1770

Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus | Catholic Christian
Occasion to pay homage to Christ’s all-encompassing love for humanity

Juneteenth | Interfaith
Juneteenth (short for “June Nineteenth”) is a holiday commemorating this day, which marked the effective end of slavery in the United States. Also known as Freedom Day or Emancipation Day, Juneteenth has its own celebratory traditions including community events and prayer services and holds deep significance for many African Americans.

21 Sunday
Litha | Wiccan/Pagan
Celebration of the sacred marriage, in which the energy of the gods is poured into the services of life (Summer Solstice)

25 Thursday
Dragon Boat Festival | Taoist
Chinese festival commemorating fealty and filial piety and recognizing the life and death of Chinese Scholar, Qu Yuan
Travel and Visitation

For Americans, July is prime time for summer vacations, which frequently include opportunities for tourism. Both domestically and abroad, holy sites and congregations are destinations for visitors wishing to learn more about their own or other religions. The hot summer weather can often be at odds with expected dress codes at holy sites, so the following tips are offered for visitors:

- Regardless of where you visit, plan to cover your shoulders and legs. Shorts and tank tops are nearly universal no-nos for houses of worship, including Muslim, Catholic, Orthodox Christian, Jewish, and Hindu sites.
- In Muslim sites, plan to remove your shoes. If you’d be uncomfortable walking barefoot around a mosque, bring socks if you’re wearing sandals over bare feet. Women should consider bringing a light scarf or pashmina to cover their heads. Though visitors are often not asked to cover their heads, honoring internal expectations of hijab can create a sense of mutual respect between visitor and host. Be mindful that men and women may have separate entrances to buildings as well as separate worship spaces.
- In Catholic and Orthodox Christian cathedrals and churches, the basic rules apply regarding knees and shoulders. Some Orthodox churches require women to cover their heads and to wear skirts (no miniskirts), and some separate men and women in the sanctuary seating. Distracting or too-tight clothing, as well as clothing with logos, are not appropriate here.
- “Except in Reform temples, all men and boys are expected to cover their heads. This is often optional at Reform services. Out of respect, even non-Jewish guests should follow the custom of the synagogue and wear a kippah. Men who have been Bar-Mitzvahed also typically put on a tallis. This is not expected of non-Jews, who may politely decline if offered one. Today, in more liberal synagogues, women sometimes also wear a kippah and tallis, but this is not obligatory.” (www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/synagogue-customs-and-etiquette)
- If you are visiting someone else’s house of worship, the best way to honor your hosts is to inquire about appropriate dress. This shows your good intentions and desire to show respect. Many sites will have backup head coverings and scarves to cover the shoulders for visitors.
1 Saturday
Lammas | Wiccan/Pagan
Celebration of the early harvest in the Northern Hemisphere
Fast in Honor of Holy Mother of Jesus | Orthodox Christian
Beginning of the period of preparation, leading up to the Dormition of Mary

3 Monday
Raksha Bandhan | Hindu
Festival honoring the loving ties between brothers and sisters in family

6 Thursday
Transfiguration of the Lord | Orthodox Christian
Observance of the transfiguration of Jesus on Mt. Tabor in the presence of his disciples

11 Tuesday
Krishna Janmashtami | Hindu
Commemoration of the birth of Krishna
Beheading of St. John the Baptist | Christian
Remembrance of the death of John the Baptist

13 Thursday
Obon/Ulambana | Buddhist, Shinto
(until 8/15/20)
Also known as Ancestor Day, a time to relieve the suffering of ghosts by making offerings to deceased ancestors

15 Saturday
Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary | Catholic Christian
Commemorating the assumption of Mary, mother of Jesus, into heaven
Dormition of the Virgin Mary | Orthodox Christian
Observance of the death, burial, and transfer to heaven of the Virgin Mary
Paryushana Parva | Jain
Festival signifying human emergence into a new world of spiritual and moral refinement, and a celebration of the natural qualities of the soul

17 Monday
Marcus Garvey’s Birthday | Rastafarian
Celebration of the birth of Marcus Garvey

19 Wednesday
Hijri-New Year | Islam (until 8/20/20)
Marks the beginning of the new Islamic calendar year

28 Friday
Ashura | Muslim
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)
SEPTEMBER 2020

1 Tuesday
Religious year begins | Orthodox Christian
Start of the religious calendar year

2 Wednesday
Chinese Ghost Festival | Taoist, Buddhist
Celebration in which the deceased are believed to visit the living

8 Tuesday
Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary | Christian
Celebration of the birth of Mary, the mother of Jesus

11 Friday
Ethiopian New Year’s Day | Rastafarian
First day of the new year for the Ethiopian calendar

13 Sunday
Auditor’s Day | Scientology
Scientology Auditors are acknowledged for their dedication in helping their fellow men and women

16 Wednesday
Pchum Ben | Buddhist
A 15-day Cambodian religious festival, culminating in celebrations on the 15th day of the tenth month in the Khmer calendar, at the end of the Buddhist lent, Vassa, primarily to offer foods to the monks in the spiritual hope that those foods would be then offered to ancestors (7 generations back). The final 3 days may be observed as official festival holidays.

18 Friday
Rosh Hashanah | Jewish
Jewish New Year, marked by a call to repentance

21 Monday
Tzom Gedaliah | Jewish
Fast of the Seventh Month
Mabon | Wiccan/Pagan (until 9/22/20)
Observance of the Autumnal Equinox

22 Tuesday
Ganesh Chaturthi | Hindu
Festival honoring the god of prosperity, prudence, and success

27 Sunday
Yom Kippur | Jewish (until 9/28/20)
Also known as the Day of Atonement with central themes of atonement and repentance

28 Monday
Meskel | Ethiopian Orthodox Christian
Commemoration of the discovery of the True Cross by St. Helen
Confucius’ Birthday | Confucian
Observance of the birth of Confucius
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 Friday</td>
<td>Sukkot</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 Sunday</td>
<td>St. Francis Day/Blessing of the Animals</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 Wednesday</td>
<td>Founding of the International Association of Scientologists</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 Thursday</td>
<td>Hoshanah Rabbah</td>
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<td>9 Friday</td>
<td>Birthday of Guru Ram Das</td>
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<td>10 Saturday</td>
<td>Simchat Torah</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 Monday</td>
<td>Indigenous People's Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>17 Saturday</td>
<td>Navratri</td>
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<tr>
<td>18 Sunday</td>
<td>Birth of Baha’u’llah</td>
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<td>20 Tuesday</td>
<td>Guru Granth Sahib Installation</td>
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<tr>
<td>22 Thursday</td>
<td>Dussehra/Durga Puja</td>
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<tr>
<td>29 Thursday</td>
<td>Mawlid an Nabi</td>
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<tr>
<td>30 Friday</td>
<td>Bon Om Touk</td>
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<tr>
<td>31 Saturday</td>
<td>All Hallow’s Eve</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Reformation Day | Protestant Christian | Anniversary of the tradition of Protestantism, marked by Martin Luther’s nailing of his 95 Theses on a church door in Wittenberg, Germany. |

Samhain | Wiccan/Pagan (until 11/1/20) | Celebration of endings and beginnings. |
1 Sunday
All Saints Day | Christian
Day for honoring and remembering Christian saints

2 Monday
All Souls Day | Catholic Christian
Commemoration of the souls of Christians who have died

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

13 Friday
Jain New Year | Jain
Beginning of the Jain year

14 Saturday
Diwali | Sikh, Jain, Hindu
The Festival of Lights marking the end of the Hindu year

15 Sunday
Vikram New Year | Hindu
Beginning of the Hindu year

Nativity Fast Begins | Orthodox Christian (until 12/24/20)
Period of abstinence and penance in preparation for the birth of Jesus

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

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

24 Tuesday
Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur | Sikh
Commemoration of the death of Guru Tegh Bahadur

26 Thursday
Day of the Covenant | Bahá’í
Celebration of the covenant given in the last will and testament of Baha’u’llah

Thanksgiving | Interfaith
Celebration of the harvest and community

28 Saturday
Ascension of Abdu’l-Baha | Bahá’í
Celebration of the rising of the spirit of Abdu’l-Baha to heavenly dwelling

29 Sunday
Advent | Christian (until 12/24/20)
Season observed as a time to prepare for the birth of Jesus Christ

30 Monday
Guru Nanak Dev Sahib’s birthday | Sikh
Honoring of the birth of the founder of Sikhism
### DECEMBER 2020

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<th>Event Name</th>
<th>Religion</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 Sunday</td>
<td>St. Nicholas Day</td>
<td>Christian</td>
<td>Celebration of St. Nicholas, patron saint of children and role model for gift-giving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Monday</td>
<td>Chalica</td>
<td>Unitarian</td>
<td>A week-long celebration of Unitarian Universalist principles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Tuesday</td>
<td>Bodhi Day</td>
<td>Buddhist</td>
<td>Celebration of the Enlightenment of Buddha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Immaculate Conception of Mary</td>
<td>Catholic</td>
<td>Celebrates the belief in the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Thursday</td>
<td>Hanukkah</td>
<td>Jewish</td>
<td>Festival of lights commemorating the recapture and rededication of the Jerusalem Temple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Saturday</td>
<td>Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe</td>
<td>Catholic</td>
<td>Honoring of a legendary appearance of the Virgin Mary near Mexico City in 1531 CE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Wednesday</td>
<td>Posadas Navidenas</td>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>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</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 Monday</td>
<td>Yule</td>
<td>Wiccan/Pagan</td>
<td>Celebration of the Winter Solstice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 Thursday</td>
<td>Christmas Eve</td>
<td>Christian</td>
<td>Day before Christmas, often celebrated with a midnight Mass/Liturgy of Jesus’ birth</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 Friday</td>
<td>Christmas</td>
<td>Christian</td>
<td>Celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Feast of the Nativity</td>
<td>Orthodox</td>
<td>Commemorates the Nativity in the flesh of Jesus Christ</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Asara B’Tevet</td>
<td>Jewish</td>
<td>The Tenth of Tevet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 Saturday</td>
<td>Zarathosht Diso</td>
<td>Zoroastrian</td>
<td>Anniversary of the death of Prophet Zarathustra</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Kwanzaa</td>
<td>Pan-African</td>
<td>Holiday celebrating family, community, and culture among people of African descent</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 Sunday</td>
<td>Holy Family’s Day</td>
<td>Catholic</td>
<td>Day celebrating family honoring Jesus, his mother Mary, and her husband Joseph as a family</td>
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<tr>
<td>28 Monday</td>
<td>Holy Innocents</td>
<td>Christian</td>
<td>Day of solemn memory of male children killed by King Herod in the same attempt to destroy Jesus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 Thursday</td>
<td>Watch Night</td>
<td>Christian</td>
<td>Occasion to thank God for bringing people safely through another year, and to prepare for the next year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Freedom Day</td>
<td>Scientology</td>
<td>Day celebrating the official recognition of the Church of Scientology in the United States in 1974</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 1 Friday | Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God | Catholic Christian  
Celebration of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the mother of Jesus Christ |
| 3 Sunday | Epiphany/Three Kings Day | Christian  
Feast to celebrate the visit of the Three Wise Men to Baby Jesus |
| 5 Tuesday | Twelfth Night | Christian  
Conclusion of the Twelve Days of Christmas and marking of the coming of the Epiphany |
| 7 Thursday | Orthodox Christmas | Orthodox Christian  
Celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ |
| 10 Sunday | Baptism of the Lord Jesus | Christian  
Commemoration of the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River by St. John the Baptist |
| 11 Monday | Seijin no Hi | Shinto  
Holiday honoring those who have or will reach the age of twenty within the current year |
| 13 Wednesday | Maghi | Sikh  
Commemoration of a battle in which 40 Sikhs died for Guru Gobind Singh |
| 14 Thursday | Makar Sankranti | Hindu  
Celebration marking the turning of the Sun toward the north; festival in reverence to deity Surya, god of the Sun |
| 17 Sunday | Feast of St. Anthony the Abbot/Blessing of the Animals | Hispanic Catholic  
Observance of showing respect for domestic animals that are significant to people  
World Religion Day | Bahá’í  
Day dedicated to the unity and oneness of the world religions |
| 18 Monday | Week of Prayer for Christian Unity | Christian (until 1/25/21)  
Ecumenical observance focused on prayer for church unity |
| 19 Tuesday | Timkat | Ethiopian Orthodox Christian  
Commemoration of the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River by John the Baptist |
| 20 Wednesday | The Birth of the Tenth Sikh Master | Sikh  
Honoring the birth of Guru Gobind Singh |
| 25 Monday | Conversion of St. Paul | Christian  
Honoring the conversion of Paul the Apostle, after which he became a follower of Jesus |
| 27 Wednesday | Tu B’Shvat | Jewish (until 1/28/21)  
Celebration of the coming of spring |
| 28 Thursday | Mahayana New Year | Buddhist  
Buddhist New Year, as celebrated in Mahayana countries |
**February 2021**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Religion/Tradition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>2 Tuesday</strong></td>
<td>Imbolc</td>
<td>Wiccan/Pagan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3 Wednesday</strong></td>
<td>Presentation of Christ in the Temple</td>
<td>Christian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3 Wednesday</strong></td>
<td>Four Chaplains Sunday</td>
<td>Interfaith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3 Wednesday</strong></td>
<td>Setsubun-sai</td>
<td>Shinto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>12 Friday</strong></td>
<td>Triodion begins</td>
<td>Orthodox Christian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>12 Friday</strong></td>
<td>Lunar New Year</td>
<td>Confucian, Taoist, Buddhist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>14 Sunday</strong></td>
<td>Race Relations Day</td>
<td>Christian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>14 Sunday</strong></td>
<td>St. Valentine’s Day</td>
<td>Christian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>15 Monday</strong></td>
<td>Nirvana Day</td>
<td>Buddhist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>16 Tuesday</strong></td>
<td>Vasant Panchami</td>
<td>Hindu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>16 Tuesday</strong></td>
<td>Shrove Tuesday (Fat Tuesday)</td>
<td>Christian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>17 Wednesday</strong></td>
<td>Ash Wednesday</td>
<td>Christian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>18 Thursday</strong></td>
<td>National Founding Day United States</td>
<td>Scientology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>24 Wednesday</strong></td>
<td>Intercalary Days</td>
<td>Bahá’í (until 3/1/21)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>25 Thursday</strong></td>
<td>Ta’anit Esther</td>
<td>Jewish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>25 Thursday</strong></td>
<td>Purim</td>
<td>Jewish (until 2/26/21)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>26 Friday</strong></td>
<td>Spring Lantern Festival</td>
<td>Confucian, Taoist, Buddhist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>27 Saturday</strong></td>
<td>Magha Puja Day</td>
<td>Buddhist</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**MARCH 2021**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Monday</td>
<td>Nineteen Day Fast</td>
<td>Bahá’í (until 3/19/21) Fast to be observed by adults of the Bahá’í faith in good health from sunrise to sunset</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Wednesday</td>
<td>Laylat al Miraj</td>
<td>Muslim Commemorates the Prophet Muhammed’s nighttime journey from Mecca to ‘the farthest mosque’ in Jerusalem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Thursday</td>
<td>Maha Shivaratri</td>
<td>Hindu Festival honoring Lord Shiva and his marriage to the goddess Parvati</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Saturday</td>
<td>L. Ron Hubbard’s Birthday</td>
<td>Scientology Marks the birth of L. Ron Hubbard, founder of Scientology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Monday</td>
<td>Clean Monday</td>
<td>Orthodox Christian Start of Lent for Orthodox Christians, refers to the leaving behind of sinful attitudes and non-fasting foods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 Wednesday</td>
<td>St. Patrick’s Day</td>
<td>Christian Feast Day of St. Patrick who brought Christianity to Ireland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 Friday</td>
<td>Naw Ruz (Norooz)</td>
<td>Bahá’í, Zoroastrian Marks the start of the New Year which occurs on the date of the Vernal Equinox (also known as Persian New Year)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 Saturday</td>
<td>Ostara</td>
<td>Wiccan/Pagan Welcoming of spring and celebration of the goddess-as-maiden (Vernal Equinox)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 Sunday</td>
<td>Orthodox Sunday</td>
<td>Orthodox Christian First Sunday of Lent, at which time restoration of icons in the church is celebrated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 Thursday</td>
<td>Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</td>
<td>Christian Feast day commemorating Mary being told by the angel Gabriel that she would be the mother of Jesus, the son of God</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 Friday</td>
<td>Khordad Sal</td>
<td>Zoroastrian Remembrance of the birth of the prophet Zarathustra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 Saturday</td>
<td>Lord’s Evening Meal</td>
<td>Jehovah’s Witnesses Memorial commemoration of the death of Jesus Christ Passover/Pesach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 Sunday</td>
<td>Laylat al Bara’ah</td>
<td>Muslim Also known as the Night of Records and the Night of Forgiveness, commemorating when God descends from heaven and forgives the people of their sins Palm Sunday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 Monday</td>
<td>Hola Mohalla</td>
<td>Sikh (until 3/31/21) Created by Guru Gobind Singh as an occasion for Sikhs to show their martial arts skills and host mock battles</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### APRIL 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1 Thursday</strong></td>
<td>Maundy Thursday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2 Friday</strong></td>
<td>Good Friday/Holy Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4 Sunday</strong></td>
<td>Easter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6 Tuesday</strong></td>
<td>Founding of the Church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>8 Thursday</strong></td>
<td>Yom HaShoah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>12 Monday</strong></td>
<td>Ramadan Begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>13 Tuesday</strong></td>
<td>Ramayana Week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>14 Wednesday</strong></td>
<td>Khmer New Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>19 Monday</strong></td>
<td>First Day of Ridvan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>21 Wednesday</strong></td>
<td>Rama Navami</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>25 Sunday</strong></td>
<td>Mahavir Jayanti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>26 Monday</strong></td>
<td>Hanuman Jayanti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>27 Tuesday</strong></td>
<td>Theravadin New Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>29 Thursday</strong></td>
<td>Lag Ba’Omer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>30 Friday</strong></td>
<td>Twelfth Day of Ridvan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1 Saturday  
**Beltane | Wiccan/Pagan**  
Celebration of the conjoining of the goddess with the energy of the god in sacred marriage, the basis of all creation

2 Sunday  
**Easter/Pasca | Christian, Orthodox Christian**  
Holy day commemorating the resurrection of Jesus Christ

**Chongmyo Taeje | Confucian**  
Confucian memorial ceremony to honor the kings and queens of the Yi, or Joseon, Dynasty

6 Thursday  
**National Day of Prayer | Interfaith**  
U.S. day of observance encouraging prayer among all faiths

7 Friday  
**Laylat al Miraj | Muslim (until 5/8/21)**  
The Night of Destiny, the first revelation of the Qur’an to Prophet Muhammad

9 Sunday  
**Observance of the Publication of Dianetics | Scientology**  
Observance of the 1950 publication of Dianetics: the Modern Science of Mental Health, which was the forerunner of Scientology

13 Thursday  
**Eid al Fitr | Muslim (until 5/15/21)**  
Festival that marks the end to the fasting month of Ramadan

**World Falun Dafa/Falun Gong Day | Buddhist**  
Celebration of the spiritual discipline introduced in China in 1992

**Ascension of Jesus | Christian**  
Remembrance of the departure of Jesus from Earth after his resurrection, celebrated 40 days after Easter

16 Sunday  
**Shavuot | Jewish (until 5/18/21)**  
Celebration of the descent of Moses from Mt. Sinai with the Ten Commandments

21 Friday  
**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 Sunday  
**Declaration of the Bab | Bahá’í**  
Celebration of the Bab, Ali Muhammad’s announcement in 1844 that he was the “gate” to the coming of the promised one of all religions

25 Tuesday  
**African Liberation Day | Pan-African**  
Commemoration of the formation of the Organization of African Unity/African Union

26 Wednesday  
**Visakha Puja (Buddha Day) | Buddhist**  
Commemorates the birth, enlightenment, and death of Guatama Buddha in the Theravada tradition

28 Friday  
**Ascension of Baha’u’llah | Bahá’í (until 5/29/21)**  
Remembrance of the death of Baha’u’llah, founder of Bahá’í

30 Sunday  
**Pentecost | Christian, Orthodox Christian**  
Commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles

**Trinity Sunday | Christian**  
Celebrates doctrine of the Trinity, remembering and honoring God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit
3 Thursday
Corpus Christi | Catholic Christian
Celebration of the presence of the body and blood of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist, also known as transubstantiation

10 Thursday
Ascension Day | Orthodox Christian
Remembrance of the departure of Jesus from Earth after his resurrection, celebrated 40 days after Easter

11 Friday
Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus | Catholic Christian
Occasion to pay homage to Christ's all-encompassing love for humanity

13 Sunday
Race Unity Day | Bahá’í
Day to promote racial harmony and understanding

14 Monday
Dragon Boat Festival | Taoist
Chinese festival commemorating fealty and filial piety and recognizing the life and death of Chinese Scholar, Qu Yuanc

16 Wednesday
Guru Arjan Martyrdom | Sikh
Honoring the first Sikh martyr whose death resulted in changes in the faith's tradition

19 Saturday
Juneteenth | Interfaith
Juneteenth (short for “June Nineteenth”) is a holiday commemorating this day, which marked the effective end of slavery in the United States. Also known as Freedom Day or Emancipation Day, Juneteenth has its own celebratory traditions including community events and prayer services and holds deep significance for many African Americans.

New Church Day | Swedenborgian Christian
Annual commemoration of the vision document “The True Christian Religion,” in 1770

20 Sunday
Litha | Wiccan/Pagan
Celebration of the sacred marriage, in which the energy of the gods is poured into the services of life (Summer Solstice)

27 Sunday
Sunday of All Saints | Orthodox Christian
Celebrating the memory of all saints
ABOUT DAP
Diversity Awareness Partnership is a catalyst to increase awareness, facilitate engagement and provide education about diversity and inclusion. DAP achieves this through these engagement opportunities:

EDUCATION AND TRAINING
Diversity & Inclusion education and training is delivered through presentations, workshops, seminars, community forums and roundtables. D&I trainings raise awareness around the importance of diversity and inclusion among employees by exposing challenges, facilitating dialogue, and providing tangible resources needed to create a more inclusive workplace.

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT
We offer youth diversity programs for students in K-12:
• Give Respect, Get Respect Program
• EXPLORE Career Immersion Program
• Diverse-City Art Competition

AWARENESS INITIATIVES
Diversity Awareness Partnership provides educational publications addressing a variety of diversity topics. Through the use of digital media and print publications, the message of appreciating and understanding differences is promoted in organizations, schools, corporations and throughout the community.

DAP CONNECT
DAP Connect brings together people interested in diversifying and expanding their professional and social networks.

Call (314) 257-0800 or visit www.dapinclusive.org for more information.
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
3030 S. Grand Boulevard, #201
St. Louis, MO 63118
www.dapinclusive.org