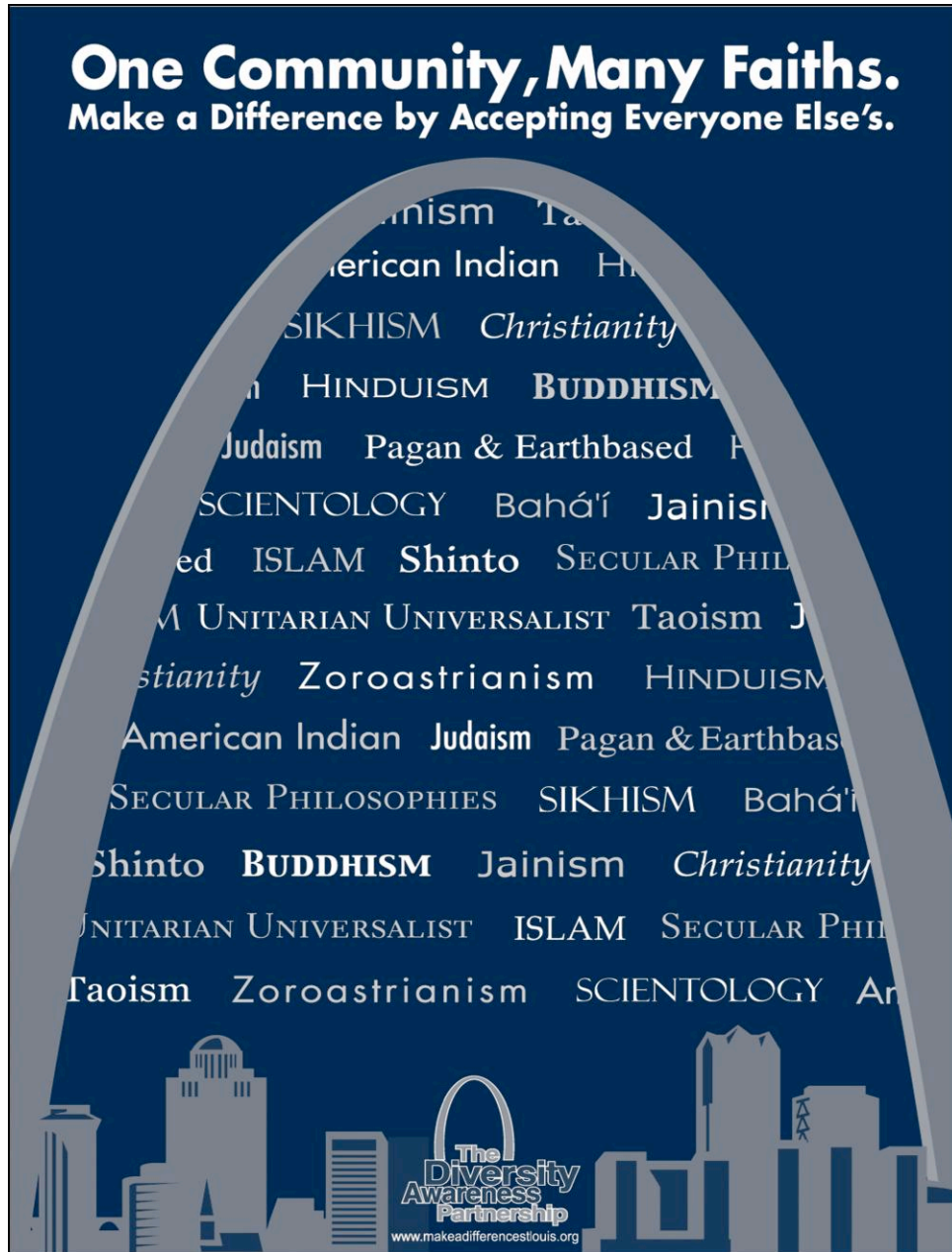




# 2010

## CALENDAR OF RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES

**One Community, Many Faiths.**  
**Make a Difference by Accepting Everyone Else's.**



# 2010

## JANUARY

1	Mary, Mother of God - <b>Catholic Christian</b>
	Feast of St. Basil - <b>Orthodox Christian</b>
	Shogatsu (Gantan-sai) (New Years) – <b>Shinto</b>
	Temple Day - <b>Buddhist</b>
5	Twelfth Night - <b>Christian</b>
	Guru Gobindh Singh birthday - <b>Sikh</b>
6	Epiphany - <b>Christian</b>
	Feast of the Theophany – <b>Orthodox Christian</b>
	Nativity of Christ – <b>Armenian Christian</b>
7	Nativity of Christ - <b>Orthodox Christian</b>
10	Baptism of the Lord Jesus - <b>Christian</b>
14	Maghi - <b>Sikh</b>
	Makar Sakranti - <b>Hindu</b>
17	Blessing of the Animals – <b>Hispanic Christian</b>
	World Religion Day - <b>Baha'i</b>
18-25	Week of Prayer for Christian Unity - <b>Christian</b>
20	Vasant Panchami – <b>Hindu</b>
24	Triodion begins – <b>Orthodox Christian</b>
30	Tu B'shvat- <b>Jewish</b>
30-February 1	Mahayana New Year - <b>Buddhist</b>

## FEBRUARY

2	Candlemas – <b>Christian</b>
	Imbolc* (Candlemas) – <b>Wicca</b>
7	Four Chaplains Sunday – <b>Interfaith</b>
	Meatfare Sunday – <b>Orthodox Christian</b>
12	Maha Shivaratri – <b>Hindu</b>
14	St. Valentine's Day - <b>Christian</b>
	Transfiguration Sunday – <b>Christian</b>
	Chinese New Year- <b>Confucian/Daoist/Buddhist</b>
15	Nirvana Day – <b>Buddhist</b>
	Great Lent – Clean Monday - <b>Orthodox Christian</b>
16	Shrove Tuesday – <b>Christian</b>
17	Ash Wednesday (Lent begins) – <b>Christian</b>
21	Orthodox Sunday – <b>Orthodox Christian</b>
26	Mawlid an Nabi - Islam
26-March 1	Intercalary Days - <b>Baha'i</b>
28	Purim – <b>Jewish</b>

## MARCH

1	St. David of Wales - <b>Christian</b>
	Hola Mohala – <b>Sikh</b>
	Holi – <b>Hindu</b>
2	Four Chaplains Sunday – <b>Christian/Jewish Interfaith</b>
13	L. Ron Hubbard Birthday – <b>Scientology</b>
16	Vaisaki (New Year) - <b>Hindu</b>
17	St. Patrick's Day – <b>Christian</b>
20	Equinox (Ostara/Mabon) – <b>Wicca</b>

21	Norouz (The New Day) – <b>Zoroastrian/Persian</b>
	Naw-Ruz (New Year's Day) - <b>Baha'i</b>
	Passion Sunday - <b>Christian</b>
24	Ramayana Week – <b>Hindu</b>
25	Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary – <b>Christian</b>
28	Khordad Sal (Birth of Prophet Zaranhushtra) - <b>Zoroastrian</b>
	Palm Sunday- <b>Christian</b>
29	Mahavir Jayanti – <b>Jain</b>
30	Magha Puja Day – <b>Buddhist</b>
	Lord's Evening Meal - <b>Jehovah's Witness Christian</b>
	Hanuman Jayanti – <b>Hindu</b>
30-April 6	Pesach (Passover)- <b>Jewish</b>

## APRIL

1	Maundy Thursday – <b>Christian</b>
2	Good Friday- <b>Christian</b>
	Holy Friday- <b>Orthodox Christian</b>
4	Easter- <b>Christian</b>
	Easter – <b>Orthodox Christian</b>
6	Founding of the Church – <b>Mormon</b>
11	Yom HaSho'ah – <b>Jewish</b>
14	Baisakhi – <b>Sikh</b>
19	Yom Ha'Atzmaut – <b>Jewish</b>
21-May 2	Ridvan – <b>Baha'i</b>
28-May 1	Theravadian New Year - <b>Buddhist</b>
30	St. James the Great Day - <b>Orthodox Christian</b>

## MAY

1	Beltane - <b>Wicca</b>
	Samhain – <b>Wicca</b>
2	Lag B'Omer – <b>Jewish</b>
6	National Day of Prayer – <b>Interfaith</b>
13	Ascension of Jesus – <b>Christian</b>
19-20	Shavu'ot – <b>Jewish</b>
23	Declaration of the Bab - <b>Baha'i</b>
	Pentecost – <b>Christian</b>
27	Buddha Day - Visakha Puja - Vesak – <b>Buddhist</b>
29	Ascension of Baha'u'llah - <b>Baha'i</b>
30	Trinity Sunday- <b>Christian</b>
	All Saints Day – <b>Orthodox Christian</b>

## JUNE

3	Corpus Christi - <b>Catholic Christian</b>
9	Saint Columba of Iona – <b>Celtic Christian</b>
11	Sacred Heart of Jesus – <b>Catholic Christian</b>
16	Guru Arjan Dev Martyrdom – <b>Sikh</b>
19	New Church Day - <b>Swedenborgian Christian</b>
21	First nations Day – <b>Canadian Native People</b>
	Summer Solstice- <b>Wicca</b>

29 Feast Day of Saints Peter and Paul- **Orthodox Christian**  
17<sup>th</sup> Tammuz – **Jewish**

## JULY

9 Martyrdom of the Bab - **Baha'i**  
Lailat al Miraj – **Islam**  
11 St. Benedict Day - **Catholic Christian**  
13-15 Ulambana (Obon) - **Buddhist**  
20 Tisha B'Av – **Jewish**  
23 Birthday Guru Har Krishan - **Sikh**  
24 Pioneer Day - **Mormon Christian**  
26 Asalha Puja Day (Nirvana Day) – **Buddhist**  
Lailat al Bara'ah – **Islam**

## AUGUST

1 Lammas - **Christian**  
Fast to honor Holy Mother of Jesus - **Orthodox Christian**  
Lughnassad (Lammas) - **Wicca/Neo Pagan**  
6 Transfiguration of the Lord - **Orthodox Christian**  
11 Ramadan begins – **Islam**  
15 Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary - **Catholic Christian**  
Dormition of the Theotokos - **Orthodox Christian**  
24 Raksha Bandhan – **Hindu**

## SEPTEMBER

1 Ecclesiastical Year begins - **Orthodox Christian**  
Parkash – **Sikh**  
2 Sri Krishna Janmashtami – **Hindu**  
5 Lailat al Kadr – **Islam**  
8 Nativity of Mary, the Mother of God - **Christian**  
9 Rosh Hashanah – **Jewish**  
10 Eid al Fitr(Ramadan Ends) - **Islam**  
11 Ganesa Chaturthi – **Hindu**  
Ethiopian New Year – **Rastafari**  
12 Paryushana – **Jain**  
14 Elevation of the Life Giving Cross (Holy Cross) - **Christian**  
18 Yom Kippur – **Jewish**  
23 Mabon (Fall Equinox) - **Wicca**  
23-29 Sukkot – **Jewish**  
29 Michael and All Angels - **Christian**  
30 Shemini Atzeret - **Jewish**

## OCTOBER

1 Simchat Torah – **Jewish**  
4 St. Francis Day - **Catholic Christian**  
8-16 Navaratri – **Hindu**  
11 Thanksgiving – **Interfaith – Canada**  
17 Dasera – **Hindu**  
20 Birth of the Bab - **Baha'i**  
20 Guru Granth Sahib Installation - **Sikh**  
28 Milvian Bridge Day – **Christian**  
31 All Hallows Eve – **Christian**  
Reformation Day – **Protestant Christian**

## NOVEMBER

1 All Saints' Day - **Christian**  
Samhain – **Wicca**  
2 All Souls' Day - **Catholic Christian**  
5 Diwali (Deepavali) – **Hindu/Jain/Sikh**  
12 Birth of Baha'u'llah - **Baha'i**  
15 Waqf al Arafa (Hajj Day) - **Islam**  
Nativity Fast (through Dec. 24) - **Orthodox Christian**  
16 Eid al-Adha – **Islam**  
21 Christ the King – **Christian**  
Guru Nanak Dev Sahib birthday – **Sikh**  
Guru Tegh Bahadur Martyrdom – **Sikh**  
24 Thanksgiving – **Interfaith (USA)**  
26 Day of the Covenant - **Baha'i**  
28 Ascension of Abdu'l-Baha – **Baha'i**  
First Sunday of Advent – **Christian**

## DECEMBER

2-9 Hanukkah – **Jewish**  
5 Second Sunday of Advent – **Christian**  
7 Hijra (New Year) – **Islam**  
8 Bodhi Day (Rohatsu) - **Buddhist**  
Immaculate Conception of Mary - **Catholic Christian**  
12 Advent Fast begins - **Orthodox Christian**  
Our Lady of Guadalupe - **Catholic Christian**  
Third Sunday of Advent – **Christian**  
16 Ashura – **Islam**  
19 Fourth Sunday of Advent - **Christian**  
21 Yule - **Christian**  
Winter Solstice (Yule) - **Wicca**  
25 Christmas - **Christian**  
26 Zarathosht Diso - **Zoroastrian**  
Kwanzaa (through January 1) - **Interfaith**  
Feast of the Holy Family – **Catholic Christian**  
28 Holy Innocents – **Christian**  
30 Freedom Day – **Scientology**  
31 Watch Night – **Christian**

## Glossary

**Advent:** Christian time of preparation for observing the birth and anticipating the coming again to earth of Jesus Christ.

**All Hallows Eve:** Christian celebration combining prayers and merriment involving children and families.

**All Saints' Day:** Christian day for honoring saints, known and unknown.

**Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary:** Christian celebration of Gabriel announcing to the Virgin Mary the coming birth of Jesus.

**Asalha Puja Day:** One of the sacred days in Buddhism. It marks the coming into existence of the Triple Gems, namely the Lord Buddha, His Teaching, and His Disciples

**Ascension of Abdu'l-Baha:** Baha'i celebration of the rising of the spirit of Abdu'l-Baha to the heavenly dwelling.

**Ascension of Baha'u'llah:** Baha'i recollection of the death of Baha'u'llah, the founder.

**Ascension of Christ:** Christian recognition of the departure of Jesus from earth after the resurrection.

**Ash Wednesday:** Christian observance to begin the 40-day season of Lent.

**Ashura:** An Islamic optional one-day fast recognizing the creation, Noah's departure from the Ark, and the saving of Moses from Pharaoh.

**Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary:** Roman Catholic Christian observance commemorating the assumption of Mary, mother of Jesus, into heaven.

**Baisakhi (Vaisakhi):** Hindu start of the New Year. In Sikhi, commemorates the founding of the Khalsa.

**Beltane:** Wicca celebration of the conjoining of the goddess with the energy of the god in the sacred marriage, the basis of all creation.

**Birth of the Bab:** Baha'i honoring of the founder of the Babi religion, forerunner to Baha'u'llah and the Baha'i faith.

**Birth of Baha'u'llah:** Baha'i celebration of the birth of their founder and teacher.

**Blessing of the Animals:** Christian observance of showing respect for the domestic animals that mean much to people.

**Bodhi Day (Rohatsu):** Buddhist celebration of the Enlightenment of Buddha.

**Buddha Day (Visakha Puja):** Holiest of Buddhist holy days, which celebrates Buddha's birth, enlightenment and death.

**Candlemas:** Presentation of Jesus in the Temple.

**Christmas:** Christian celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ.

**Corpus Christi:** Roman Catholic Christian celebration in recognition of the Eucharist.

**Day of the Covenant:** Baha'i celebration of the covenant given in the last will and testament of Baha'u'llah.

**Declaration of the Bab:** Baha'i recognition of the declaration by Ali Muhammad that he is the anticipated "Coming One" of all religions.

**Diwali (Deepevali):** Hindu celebration marking the end of the Hindu year.

**Dormition (falling asleep) of the Theotokos:** Orthodox Christian observance of the death, burial, resurrection and transfer to heaven of the Virgin Mary.

**Dussehra:** Hindu festival celebrating the victory of Goddess Durga over the Demons.

**Easter:** Most holy of Christian sacred days. Commemorates the resurrection of Jesus Christ from his death by crucifixion.

**Eid al-Adha:** Islamic Feast of Sacrifice. The most important feast of Islam.

**Eid al Fitr ('Id al-Fitr):** A three-day Islamic fast marking the close of Ramadan and a festival of thanksgiving to Allah for enjoying the month of Ramadan.

**Elevation of the Holy Cross:** Celebrates when St. Helen found the Holy Cross.

**Epiphany:** Christian commemoration of the manifestations of the divine nature of Jesus Christ.

**Feast and Commemoration of St. Luke:** Celebrated with the Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom, conducted on the morning of the feast and preceded by a Matins (Orthros) service.

**Feast of St. Basil:** Orthodox Christian commemoration of St. Basil the Great, who wrote a Eucharist Liturgy which bears his name.

**Feast of the Theophany:** Orthodox Christian feast to recall the revelation of the Holy Trinity in the baptism of the Lord.

**Founding of the Church:** Mormon Christian commemoration of the appearance of the angel Moroni in 1830 to Joseph Smith and the founding of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

**Ganesa Chaturthi:** A Hindu festival honoring the god of prosperity, prudence and success.

**Good Friday:** Christian remembrance of the crucifixion of Jesus and related events.

**Guru Granth Sahib Installation:** Sikh remembrance of the eternal installation of the holy books, Granth Sahib.

**Guru Nanak's Day:** Sikh honoring of the birthday of their founder.

**Guru Purnima:** Hindu celebration of the ancient Gurus.

**Hanukkah:** Jewish Festival of Lights commemorating the recapture and rededication of the Jerusalem Temple.

**Holi:** Hindu spring festival dedicated to the god of pleasure.

**Holy Family:** Celebrates the love between the family of Jesus.

**Holy Innocents:** Day of solemn memory of male children killed by King Herod in the attempt to destroy Jesus.

**Imbolc:** Wicca reflection on the power of the gods from which physical and spiritual harvest will come.

**Immaculate Conception:** Roman Catholic Christian day of celebrating the belief that Mary, mother of Jesus, was preserved from original sin all of her life.

**Intercalary Days:** Baha'i insertion of days into the calendar in order to maintain their solar calendar.

**Khordad Sal:** Zoroastrian remembrance of the birth of Prophet Zarathushtra.

**Krishna Janmashtami:** Hindu commemoration of the birth of Krishna.

**Kwanzaa:** An African American and Pan-African holiday celebrating family, community and culture.

**Lailat al-Miraj:** Islamic observance of Mohammed's night journey from Mecca to Jerusalem and his ascension to heaven.

**Lailat al Bara'ah:** Islamic Night of Forgiveness.

**Lailat el qadr:** Islamic Night of Destiny; first revelation of Qur'an to Prophet Mohammed.

**Lammas:** Christian first fruits celebration observed by placing bread baked from first harvest on the altar. From the Celtic Christian tradition.

**Lazarus Saturday -** Orthodox Christian celebration of the resurrection of Lazarus by Jesus, revealing that Jesus is "the resurrection and life" of all mankind.

**Lent:** A Christian time of reflection and preparation for Holy Week and Easter; usually forty days.

**Litha:** Wicca celebration of the sacred marriage in which energy of the gods is poured into the service of life.

**Lord's Evening Meal:** Jehovah's Witness (Christian) primary annual celebration taking place in the evening.

## Glossary (continued)

**Lughnassad:** Wicca/neo pagan observance of first harvest of the year involving agricultural festivals and prosperity magic. The Christian name of Lammas is sometimes used.

**Mabon (Fall Equinox):** Wicca observance of the autumnal equinox.

**Magha Puja Day:** Buddhist celebration of the presentation of teachings by Lord Buddha to an assembly of holy men.

**Maghi:** Sikh commemoration of a battle in which forty Sikhs died for Guru Gobindh Singh Ji.

**Maha Shivaratri:** A Hindu festival in honor of Lord Shiva and his marriage to Goddess Parvati. Ceremonies involving prayers and hymns take place mostly at night. Special foods are not used.

**Martyrdom of the Bab:** Baha'i - Ali Mohammed was executed in 1850 by Persian political and religious powers.

**Mawlid an-Nabi:** Islamic commemoration of the birthday of Prophet Muhammad, founder of Islam.

**Maundy Thursday (Holy Thursday):** Christian observance during Holy Week of the first Lord's Supper.

**Meat Fare (Judgment) Sunday:** Orthodox Christian observance preparing the faithful for the celebration of the resurrection of Christ.

**Milvian Bridge Day:** Christian day of solemn reflection on the relationship of the spiritual community and the powers of civil government.

**Moon Cake Festival:** Third major festival of the Chinese calendar is celebrated on the 15th day of the eighth month. This festival corresponds to harvest festival s observed by Western cultures (in Hong Kong, it is held in conjunction with the annual Lantern Festival).

**Muharram:** The first day of the first month of the Muslim year.  
**Nativity of Mary, the Mother of God:** Christian celebration of the birth of the Virgin Mary.

**Navaratri:** Hindu Festival of the divine mother honoring Durga, wife of Shiva, and seeking her blessings. Also observed as a celebration recalling the days of Lord Krishna.

**Naw-Ruz:** Baha'i observance of the vernal equinox.

**Norooz (the New Day):** The Zoroastrian New Year.

**Nirvana Day:** Buddhist - a regional observance of the death of Buddha.

**Orthodox Sunday:** Orthodox Christian first Sunday of Lent at which restoration of icons to the church is celebrated.

**Ostara:** Wicca welcoming of spring and the goddess-as-maiden.

**Palm/Passion Sunday:** Christian celebration of the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, which begins Holy Week.

**Parryushana:** 8 day festival signifying human emergence into a new world of spiritual and moral refinement. Celebration of the natural qualities of the soul.

**Pascha:** Orthodox Christian feast day of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

**Pentecost:** Christian observation of the day when the Holy Spirit came to the disciples in the forms of tongues of fire and rushing wind.

**Pesach (Passover):** Jewish 8-day celebration of the deliverance of the Jews from slavery in Egypt.

**Pioneer Day:** Mormon observation of arrival of first settlers at Great Salt Lake, USA.

**Purim:** Jewish celebration of the deliverance of the Jewish minority in Persia from genocide.

**Quds Day:** Islamic time of proclaiming solidarity in support of oppressed Muslim people.

**Raksha Bandhan:** Hindu festival honoring the loving ties between brothers and sister in a family.

**Ramadan:** Islamic month devoted to the commemoration of Muhammad's reception of the divine revelation recorded in the Qur'an. The holiest period of the Islamic Year.

**Ramanavami:** Hindu celebration of the birth of Lord Rama.

**Reformation Day:** Protestant Christian anniversary of their tradition and its emphasis on the place of the Bible and religious freedom.

**Ridvan:** Baha'i commemoration of the twelve-day period in 1863 when Baha'u'llah declared that he was God's messenger for this age.

**Rosh Hashanah:** Jewish New Year.

**Sacred Heart of Jesus:** Roman Catholic Christian occasion to pay homage to Christ's all encompassing love for humanity.

**Samhain:** Wicca celebration of endings and beginnings.

**Saturday of Souls:** A day set aside for commemoration of the dead within the liturgical year of the Eastern Orthodox and Greek-Catholic Churches. Saturday is a traditional day for prayer for the dead, because Christ lay dead in the Tomb on Saturday.

**Setsubun:** Shinto celebration of the change of seasons with the coming of spring with shouts of "Devils out, Good Fortune in". Bean throwing protects against demons.

**Shavuot:** Jewish celebration of Moses descent from Mt. Sinai with the Ten Commandments.

**Shemini Azteret:** Jewish completion of the annual cycle of reading of the Torah.

**Shogatsu (Gantan-sai):** Shinto New Year's Day celebration.

**Shrove Tuesday:** Christian carnival day on the eve of Ash Wednesday which begins Lent, a time of fasting and devotions.

**Simchat Torah:** Jewish day to celebrate the reading of the Law.

**Sukkot:** Jewish Feast of Tabernacles, which celebrates the harvest and the protection of the people of Israel as they wandered in the wilderness dwelling in tents.

**Thanksgiving:** Interfaith celebration of the created earth.

**Tisha B'av:** Jewish day of fasting in remembrance of the destruction of the Temple in 586 b.c.e. and 70 c.e.

**Transfiguration of the Lord:** Christian commemoration of the experience on Mt. Tabor when Jesus' physical appearance became brilliant as his connection with traditional Jewish holy figures became evident to the disciples.

**Triodion:** Triodion is the Orthodox Christian time period leading up to Lent. The liturgy involves hymns, odes and scriptures.

**Tu B'shvat:** Jewish celebration of the coming of spring.

**Twelfth Night:** Christian observance of the close of Christmastide.

**Ulambana:** Buddhist celebration of the ritual of saving the deceased from torments after death.

**Vasant Panchami:** Hindu festival of spring honoring the goddess of learning.

**Waqf al Arafa:** Islamic observance day during Hajj when pilgrims pray for forgiveness and mercy.

**Watch Night:** Christian occasion to thank God for bringing people safely through another year. Developed by the African American community in the USA at the time of Emancipation (1863).

**Yom HaSho'ah:** Jewish Holocaust Day established to remember the six million Jews killed by the Nazis in 1933-45.

**Yom Kippur:** Jewish Day of Atonement. The holiest day of the Jewish year.

**Yule:** Christian celebration of the light dawning in Jesus.

**Zarathosht Diso:** Zoroastrian anniversary of death of Prophet Zarathushtra.

## Notes

- While this calendar may not be all inclusive, it highlights many religious observances in our community.
- All information in this calendar is based on information available at time of production. To the greatest extent possible, holidays based on lunar phases or other variables that change yearly have been factored into observance dates. The spelling of certain observances may vary as well.
- The length of some holidays and the extent to which they are observed may vary according to denominational affiliation or region.
- All Baha'i, Jewish and Muslim holidays begin at sunset the previous day.
- We encourage places of worship to be accessible to persons with disabilities by making necessary accommodations.

**The Diversity Awareness Partnership (DAP) promotes the value of diversity through programs and initiatives that focus on embracing acceptance. Our efforts include:**

**Give Respect, Get Respect Youth Diversity Program  
Diversity Arts Program  
Sports Poster Series  
Disability Tool Kit  
One Community, Many Faiths Publications  
Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Initiative  
Diversity Trainings and Presentations**

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