

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 1st date listed. For further information, including questions about special festivals, worships, observances, work-restrictions, etc. please contact crsl@macalester.edu.

2026

Date	Holy Day	Tradition	Observance
January			
January 6	Epiphany	Protestant and Catholic	Special festival
January 7	Christmas	Eastern & Ethiopian Orthodox Christianity	Special festival
January 14-17	Pongal/Makar Sankranti	Hinduism	Special festival
January 19	Epiphany/Timkat	Ethiopian Orthodox Christianity	Special festival
January 20	Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh Sahib	Sikhism	Special worship
January 23	Vasant Panchami	Hindu	Special festival
February			
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
March			
March 2-3	Purim	Jewish	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
April			
April 1-9	Passover	Jewish	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 & Ethiopian Orthodox	Special Festival
April 14	Vaisakhi	Hinduism, Jainism, Sikhism	Work-restricted
April 20 – May, 2	Ridvan	Baha'i	Special Festival

May

May 1	Beltane	Paganism, Wicca, Druidry	Special festival
May 1	Vesak (Buddha Day)	Buddhism	Special festival
May 21-23	Shavuot	Jewish	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

June

June 16-17	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

July

July 9-10	Martyrdom of the Báb	Baha'i	Special festival
July 22-23	Tisha b'Av	Jewish	Fast Day
July 29	Asalha Puja Day	Buddhism	Special worship

August

August 1	Lammas/Lughnasdh	Pagan/Wiccan	Special worship
August 13-16	Obon	Buddhist/Shinto	Special festival
August 28	Raksha Bandhan	Hindu	Special festival
August 25-26	Mawlid-al-Nabi	Islam	Special festival

September

September 4	Janmashtami	Hindu	Special festival
September 8-15	Paryushan	Jain	Special Worship
September 11-13	Rosh Hashanah, Jewish New Year	Jewish	Special festival (Work-restricted)
September 20-21	Yom Kippur, Day of Atonement	Jewish	Special festival, Fast Day (Work-restricted)
September 22	Autumnal Equinox/Mabon	Pagan/Wiccan	Special festival
September 25-October 2	Sukkot, Festival of Booths	Jewish	Special festival (Work-restricted)
September 27	Meskel	Ethiopian Christianity	Special Festival

October			
October 2-4	Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah	Jewish	Special festival (Work-restricted)
October 17-21	Durga Puja	Hindu	Special festival
October 31	Reformation Day	Protestant Christianity	Special Worship

November			
November 1	All Saints Day	Protestant/Catholic	Special worship
November 2	All Souls Day	Protestant/Catholic	Special Worship
November 8	Diwali / Kali Puja	Hindu	Special festival
November 10	Birth of the Báb	Baha'i	Special worship
November 11	Birth of Bahá'u'lláh	Baha'i	Special worship
November 24	Guru Nanak's Birthday	Sikh	Special worship (Work-restricted)
November 26	Day of the Covenant	Baha'i	Special worship

December			
December 4–12	Hanukkah (Chanukah), Festival of Lights	Jewish	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

2027

Date	Holy Day	Tradition	Observance
January			
January 6	Epiphany	Protestant and Catholic	Special Festival
January 7	Christmas	Eastern & Ethiopian Orthodox Christianity	Special Festival
January 14	Pongal/Makar Sankranti	Hinduism	Special Festival
January 15	Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh Sahib	Sikhism	Special worship
January 19	Epiphany/Timkat	Ethiopian Orthodox Christianity	Special Festival

February			
February 1-2	Imbolc	Pagan/Wiccan	Special Festival
February 7	Beginning of Ramadan	Islam	Special Worship, Fast
February 10	Ash Wednesday (first day of lent)	Christian	Special Festival
February 11	Vasant Panchami	Hindu	Special Festival
February 15	Nirvana Day	Buddhism	Special Festival

March			
March 1-2	Feast of Ala / Loftiness	Bahá'í	Special Festival
March 6	Laylat al-Qadr	Islam	Special Festival
March 9-10	Eid al-Fitr	Islam	Special Festival
March 20	Ostara/Alban Eilir	Pagan/Wiccan	Special Festival
March 21	Naw-Rúz (Baha'i New Year)	Baha'i	Special Festival
March 21	Palm Sunday	Christian	Special Festival
March 21-22	Holi	Hindu	Special Festival
March 22-23	Purim	Jewish	Special Festival
March 25	Holy/Maundy Thursday	Catholic and Protestant Christianity	Special Festival
March 26	Good Friday	Catholic and Protestant Christianity	Special Worship, Fast Day
March 28	Easter/Pascha	Christian/Eastern Orthodox	Special Festival

April			
April 14	Vaisakhi	Hinduism, Jainism, Sikhism	Work-restricted
April 19-20	Hanuman Jayanti	Hinduism	Special Festival
April 20	Ridvan	Baha'i	Special Festival
April 21-29	Passover	Jewish	Special Festival & Diet Work-restricted
April 30	Orthodox Good Friday	Eastern Orthodox	Special Festival

May			
May 1	Beltane	Paganism, Wicca, Druidry	Special Festival
May 2	Easter (Fasika)	Ethiopian Orthodox	Special Festival
May 16	Pentecost Sunday	Protestant and Catholic	Special Worship
May 16-17	Eid-al-Adha	Islam	Special Festival and Work-restricted
May 19	Yawm al Arafa (Day of Arafa)	Islam	Special Worship
May 20	Vesak (Buddha Day)	Buddhism	Special Festival
May 22-23	Declaration of the Báb	Bahá'í	Special Festival
May 29	Ascension of Baha'u'llah	Bahá'í	Special Festival

June			
June 6	Muharram (al-Hijra New Year)	Islam	Special festival
June 10-12	Shavuot	Jewish	Special festival Work-restricted
June 14-15	Ashura	Islam	Special festival
June 21	Summer Solstice/Litha (Midsummer)	Pagan/Wiccan	Special festival

July			
July 9	Martyrdom of the Báb	Baha'i	Special festival
July 18	Asalha Puja Day	Buddhism	Special worship

August			
August 1	Lammas/Lughnasdh	Pagan/Wiccan	Special worship
August 11-12	Tisha b'Av	Jewish	Fast Day
August 14-15	Mawlid-al-Nabi	Islam	Special festival
August 17	Raksha Bandhan	Hindu	Special festival

August 13-15	Obon	Buddhist/Shinto	Special festival
August 25	Janmashtami	Hindu	Special festival
August 29- September 5	Paryushan	Jain	Special Worship

September

September 22	Autumnal Equinox/Mabon	Pagan/Wiccan	Special festival
September 28	Meskel	Ethiopian Christianity	Special festival

October

October 1-3	Rosh Hashanah, Jewish New Year	Jewish	Special festival (Work-restricted)
October 6-10	Durga Puja	Hindu	Special festival
October 10-11	Yom Kippur, Day of Atonement	Jewish	Special festival, fast day (Work-restricted)
October 15-22	Sukkot, Festival of Booths	Jewish	Special worship (Work-restricted)
October 22-24	Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah	Jewish	Special festival (Work-restricted)
October 29	Diwali / Kali Puja	Hindu	Special festival
October 30	Birth of the Báb	Baha'i	Special worship
October 31	Birth of Bahá'u'lláh	Baha'i	Special worship
October 31	Reformation Day	Protestant Christianity	Special Worship

November

November 1	All Saints Day	Protestant/Catholic	Special worship
November 2	All Souls Day	Protestant/Catholic	Special Worship
November 13	Guru Nanak's Birthday	Sikh	Special worship (Work-restricted)
November 25-26	Day of the Covenant	Baha'i	Special worship

December

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 24 – January 1	Hanukkah (Chanukah), Festival of Lights	Jewish	Special festival
December 26-January 1	Kwanzaa	Interfaith/African-American	Special festival

2028

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February

February 1	Imbolc	Pagan/Wiccan	Special festival
February 15	Nirvana Day	Buddhism	Special festival
February 23	Laylat al-Qadr	Islam	Special festival
February 25-26	Eid al-Fitr	Islam	Special festival
February 29-March 1	Feast of Ala / Loftiness	Bahá'í	Special Festival

March

March 1	Ash Wednesday (first day of lent)	Christian	Special festival
March 10-11	Holi	Hindu	Special festival
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March 19	Ostara/Alban Eilir	Pagan/Wiccan	Special festival
March 19-20	Naw-Rúz (Baha'í New Year)	Baha'í	Special festival

April

April 9	Palm Sunday	Christian	Special Festival
April 10-18	Passover	Jewish	Special Festival & Diet Work-restricted
April 13	Holy/Maundy Thursday	Catholic and Protestant Christianity	Special Festival
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December 12-20	Hanukkah (Chanukah), Festival	Jewish	Special festival

	of Lights		
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