

Macalester Religious Holidays Calendar
Center for Religious and Spiritual Life

Religious holidays are celebrated with special festivals and prayers across the world. In the spirit of Macalester's commitment to internationalization, multicultural, and multifaith approach, the Center for Religious and Spiritual Life gives a special consideration for the celebration of such holidays for Mac students, faculty and staff members. The current calendar lists some of the most important religious holidays. Please note that some dates may differ from actual times since they may be based on Lunar calendar. For further information, including questions about special festivals, worships, etc. please contact cslr@macalester.edu

2024			
Date	Holy Day	Tradition	Observance
January			
January 7	Christmas	Eastern Orthodox Christianity	Special festival
January 15	Pongal/Makar Sankranti	Hinduism	Special festival
January 17	Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh Sahib	Sikh	Special worship
February			
February 1-2	Imbolc	Paganism, Wicca, Druidry	Special festival
February 13	Vasant Panchami	Hinduism	Special festival
February 14 - March 28	Beginning of Lent (Ash Wednesday)	Catholic and Protestant Christianity	Special festival
February 15	Nirvana Day	Buddhism	Special festival
February 29- March 19	Feast of Ala / Loftiness	Bahá'í	Special Festival
March			
March 8	Maha Shivratri	Hinduism	Special festival
March 11 - April 10	Ramadan	Islam	Special worship and festival
Mar 18 - May 4	Great Lent	Orthodox Christianity	Special festival
March 19	Ostara/Alban Eilir	Paganism, Wicca, Druidry	Special festival
March 19-20	Nawruz	Zoroastrianism, Bahá'í	Special festival
March 23-24	Purim	Jewish	Work-restricted
March 25	Holi	Hinduism	Special festival
March 28	Holy/Maundy Thursday	Catholic and Protestant Christianity	Special festival
March 29	Good Friday	Catholic and Protestant Christianity	Special worship, fast day
March 31	Easter	Catholic, Protestant, and Armenian Christianity	Special festival
April			
April 6	Laylat al-Qadr	Islam	Special worship
April 9-12	Eid al-Fitr	Islam	Special festival
April 13	Vaisakhi	Hinduism, Jainism, Sikhism	Special festival
April 21	Mahavir Jayanti	Jainism	Special festival

April 21	Ridvan	Bahá'í	
April 22-30	Passover	Judaism	Work-restricted
April 23	Hanuman Jayanti	Hinduism, Jainism	Special festival
May			
May 1	Beltane	Paganism, Wicca, Druidry	Special festival
May 3	Orthodox Good Friday	Orthodox Christianity	Special worship
May 5	Easter Sunday/Pascha	Orthodox Christianity	Special worship
May 5-6	Yom HaShoah	Judaism	Special festival
May 15	Vesak (Buddha Day)	Buddhism	Special festival
May 22	Declaration of the Báb	Bahá'í	Special festival
May 27	Ascension of Baha'u'llah	Bahá'í	Special festival
June			
June 11-13	Shavuot	Judaism	Work-restricted
June 16	Martyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev	Sikhism	Special worship
June 16-19	Eid al-Adha	Islam	Special festival and Work-restricted
24 - 28	Ayyám-i-Há	Bahá'í	Special festival
June 20	Litha	Pagan/Wicca	Special festival
July			
July 7-August 5	Muharram (al-Hijra New Year)	Islam	Special festival
July 10	Martyrdom of the Báb	Baha'i	Special festival
July 13	Obon	Buddhist/Shinto	Special festival
July 16-17	Ashura	Islam	Special festival
July 9	Martyrdom of the Báb	Baha'i	Special festival
July 26	Asalha Puja Day	Buddhism	Special worship
August			
August 13	Tisha b'av	Judaism	Special worship
August 26	Janmashtami	Hinduism	Special festival
September			
August 31 – September 7	Paryushan	Jain	Special Worship
September 16	Mawlid al-Nabi	Islam	Special festival
September 21	Autumnal Equinox/Mabon	Pagan/Wiccan	Special festival
October			
October 2-4	Rosh Hashanah	Judaism	Work-restricted
October 11-12	Yom Kippur	Judaism	Special worship (Work-restricted)
October 12	Navratri/Dussehra	Hinduism	Special festival
October 16-23	Sukkot	Judaism	Special worship (Work-restricted)
October 23-25	Shemini Atzeret	Judaism	Special worship (Work-restricted)
October 25	Simchat Torah	Judaism	Special worship (Work-restricted)
October 31	Diwali	Hinduism	Special Festival
November			
8-9	Martyrdom of the Báb	Bahá'í	Special worship

			(Work-restricted)
9	Asalha Puja Day	Buddhism	Special worship
13-15	Obon	Shinto/Buddhism	Special festival
December			
December 25	Christmas	Christianity	Special festival
December 25- January 2	Hannukah	Judaism	Special festival
December 26- January 1	Kwanzaa	Interfaith/African-American	Special festival

2025

Date	Holy Day	Tradition	Observance
January			
January 7	Christmas	Eastern Orthodox	Special festival
January 14	Pongal/Makar Sankranti	Hinduism	Special festival
February			
February 1 or 2	Imbolc	Pagan/Wiccan	Special festival
February 2	Vasant Panchami	Hindu	Special festival
February 15	Nirvana Day	Buddhism	Special festival
February 29- March 19	Feast of Ala / Loftiness	Bahá'í	Special Festival
March			
March 5	Ash Wednesday (first day of lent)	Christian	Special festival
March 14	Holi	Hindu	Special festival
March 13-14	Purim	Jewish	Special festival
March 19-22	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 31	Eid al-Fitr	Islam	Special festival
March 29	Good Friday	Catholic and Protestant Christianity	Special Worship, Fast Day
March 31	Easter	Catholic, Protestant, and Armenian Christianity	Special Festival
April			
April 12-14	Passover	Jewish	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	Eastern Orthodox	Special Festival
April 18-20	Passover	Jewish	Special Festival
April 20	Easter	Christian	Special Festival
April 20	Pascha (Easter)	Eastern Orthodox	Special Festival
April 20	Ridvan	Baha'i	Special Festival
May			
May 1	May Day/Beltane	Pagan/Wiccan	Special festival
May 27	Vesak (Buddha Day)	Buddhism	Special festival
June			
June 1-3	Shavuot	Jewish	Work-restricted
June 5	Yawm al Arafah (Day of Arafah)	Islam	Special worship
June 6/7	Eid-al-Adha	Islam	Special festival and Work-restricted
June 19-23	Summer Solstice/Litha (Midsummer)	Pagan/Wiccan	Special festival
June 26-27	Muharram (al-Hijra New Year)	Islam	
July			
July 9	Martyrdom of the Báb	Baha'i	
August			
August 1	Lammas/Lughnasdh	Pagan/Wiccan	Special worship

August 8	Raksha Bandhan	Hindu	Special festival
August 15	Janmashtami	Hindu	Special festival
September			
September 5	Mawlid-al-Nabi	Islam	Special festival
September 21-24	Autumnal Equinox/Mabon	Pagan/Wiccan	Special festival
September 22- October 1	Navaratri	Hindu	Special festival
September 22-24	Rosh Hashanah, Jewish New Year	Jewish	Special festival
September 27- October 1	Durga Puja	Hindu	Special festival
October			
October 1-2	Yom Kippur, Day of Atonement	Jewish	Special festival (Work-restricted)
October 6-8	Sukkot, Festival of Booths	Jewish	Special worship (Work-restricted)
October 13-15	Diwali / Kali Puja	Hindu	Special festival
October 20	Birth of the Báb	Baha'í	Special worship
October 23	Birth of Bahá'u'lláh	Baha'í	Special worship
November			
November 5	Guru Nanak's Birthday	Sikh	Special worship (Work-restricted)
November 25	Day of the Covenant	Baha'í	Special worship
December			
December 8	Bodhi Day (Rohatsu)	Buddhist	Special festival
December 14-22	Hanukkah (Chanukah), Festival of Lights	Jewish	Special festival
December 20-23	Winter Solstice/Yule (Midwinter)	Pagan/Wiccan	Special festival
December 25	Christmas	Christian	Special festival
December 26- January 1	Kwanzaa	Interfaith/African-American	Special festival

2026

Date	Holy Day	Tradition	Observance
January			
January 7	Christmas	Eastern Orthodox	Special festival
January 14	Pongal/Makar Sankranti	Hinduism	Special festival
January 23	Vasant Panchami	Hindu	Special festival
February			
February 1 or 2	Imbolc	Pagan/Wiccan	Special festival
February 17	Spring Festival/Lunar New Year-Year of the Horse	Various	Special festival
February 18	Beginning of Ramadan	Islam	Special festival
February 18	Beginning of Lent (Ash Wednesday)	Catholic and Protestant Christianity	Special festival
March			
March 2-3	Purim	Jewish	Special festival
March 3	Holi	Hindu	Special festival
March 15/16	Laylat al Qadr (Night of Power; 27th day of Ramadan)	Islam	Special festival
March 20	Vernal Equinox (EDT)		Special festival
March 19-22	Spring Equinox/Ostara	Pagan/Wiccan	Special festival
March 20	Eid-al-Fitr (Eid-ul-Fitr)	Islam	Special festival
March 21	Naw-Rúz (Baha'i New Year)	Baha'i	Special festival
March 29	Palm Sunday	Christian	Special festival
April			
April 1-3	Passover	Jewish	Special Worship
April 2	Holy/Maundy Thursday	Catholic and Protestant Christianity	Special Festival
April 3	Good Friday	Christian	Special Festival
April 5	Easter	Christian	Special Festival
April 5	Palm Sunday	Eastern Orthodox	Special Festival
April 7-9	Passover	Jewish	Special festival
April 10	Orthodox Good Friday	Eastern Orthodox	Special Festival
April 12	Pascha (Easter)	Eastern Orthodox	Special festival
April 13	Vaisakhi	Hinduism, Jainism, Sikhism	Special Festival
April 21	Ridvan	Baha'i	Special festival
May			
May 1	May Day/Beltane	Pagan/Wiccan	Special festival
May 21-23	Shavuot	Jewish	Special worship
May 24	Declaration of the Báb	Baha'i	Special festival
May 25/26	Yawm al Arafa (Day of Arafa)	Islam	Special festival
May 26	Eid al-Adha	Islam	Special festival
May 29	Ascension of Bahá'u'lláh	Baha'i	Work-restricted
June			
June 16-17	Muharram (al-Hijra New Year)	Islam	Work-restricted
June 19-23	Summer Solstice/Litha (Midsummer)	Pagan/Wiccan	Special festival and Work-restricted
24 - 28	Ayyám-i-Há	Bahá'í	Special festival
June 20	Litha	Pagan/Wicca	Special festival
July			
July 10	Martyrdom of the Báb	Baha'i	Special festival

August			
August 1	Lammas/Lughnasdh	Pagan/Wiccan	Special worship
August 26	Mawlid-al-Nabi	Islam	Special festival
August 27	Raksha Bandhan	Hindu	
September			
September 3-4	Krishna Janmashtami	Hindu	
September 11-13	Rosh Hashanah, Jewish New Year	Jewish	Special festival
September 14	Ganesh Chaturthi	Hindu	
September 20-21	Yom Kippur, Day of Atonement	Jewish	
September 21-24	Autumnal Equinox/Mabon	Pagan/Wiccan	
September 25-27	Sukkot, Festival of Booths	Jewish	
October			
October 2-4	Shmini Atzeret & Simchat Torah	Jewish	Special festival (Work-restricted)
October 11-20	Navaratri	Hindu	Special worship (Work-restricted)
October 16-20	Durga Puja	Hindu	Special festival
October 31- November 1	Halloween/Samhain	Pagan/Wiccan	Special worship (Work-restricted)
November			
November 8	Diwali / Kali Puja	Hindu	Special worship (Work-restricted)
November 10	Birth of the Báb	Baha'i	Special worship
November 11	Birth of Bahá'u'lláh	Baha'i	Special festival
November 24	Guru Nanak Birthday	Sikh	
November 26	Day of the Covenant	Baha'i	
December			
December 4-12	Hanukkah (Chanukah), Festival of Lights	Jewish	Special festival
December 8	Bodhi Day (Rohatsu)	Buddhist	Special festival
December 21	Winter Solstice (EST)		Special festival
December 20-23	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 7	Christmas	Eastern Orthodox	Special festival
January 15	Pongal/Makar Sankranti	Hinduism	Special festival
February			
February 11	Vasant Panchami / Saraswati Puja	Hindu	Special festival
February 1 or 2	Imbolc	Pagan/Wiccan	Special festival
February 8	Beginning of Ramadan	Islam	Special festival
February 10	Ash Wednesday (first day of Lent)	Christian	Special festival
March			
March 5	Laylat al Qadr (Night of Power; 27th day of Ramadan)	Islam	Special festival
March 22	Holi	Hindu	Special worship and festival
March 20	Vernal Equinox (EDT)		Special festival
March 19-22	Spring Equinox/Ostara	Pagan/Wiccan	Special festival
March 10	Eid-al-Fitr (Eid-ul-Fitr)	Islam	Special Festival
March 21	Naw-Rúz (Baha'i New Year)	Baha'i	Work-restricted
March 22-23	Purim	Jewish	Special Festival
March 21	Palm Sunday	Christian	Special Festival
March 25	Holy/Maundy Thursday	Catholic and Protestant Christianity	Special festival
March 26	Good Friday	Christian	Special festival
March 28	Easter	Christian	Special festival
April			
April 14	Vaisakhi	Hinduism, Jainism, Sikhism	Special Festival
April 21	Ridvan	Baha'i	Special Festival
April 21-23	Passover	Jewish	Special Festival
April 27-29	Passover	Jewish	Work-restricted
April 30	Orthodox Good Friday	Eastern Orthodox	Special festival
May			
May 1	May Day/Beltane	Pagan/Wiccan	Special festival
May 2	Pascha (Easter)	Eastern Orthodox	Special worship
May 15	Yawm al Arafa (Day of Arafa)	Islam	Special festival
May 17	Eid al-Adha	Islam	Special festival
May 24	Declaration of the Báb	Baha'i	Special festival
May 29	Ascension of Bahá'u'lláh	Baha'i	Work-restricted
June			
June 5-6	Muharram (al-Hijra New Year)	Islam	Work-restricted
June 10-12	Shavuot	Jewish	Special worship
June 21	Litha	Pagan/Wicca	Special festival
July			
July 10	Martyrdom of the Báb	Baha'i	Special festival
August			
August 1	Lammas/Lughnasdh	Pagan/Wiccan	Special worship
August 15	Mawlid-al-Nabi	Islam	Special festival
August 17	Raksha Bandhan	Hindu	Special festival
August 25	Krishna Janmashtami	Hindu	Special festival
September			

September 4	Ganesh Chaturthi	Hindu	Special festival
September 21-24	Autumnal Equinox/Mabon	Pagan/Wiccan	Special festival
October			
October 1-October 3	Rosh Hashanah, Jewish New Year	Jewish	Special festival (Work-restricted)
October 7-April 15	Navaratri	Hindu	Special worship (Work-restricted)
October 6-October 10	Durga Puja	Hindu	Special festival
October 10-October 11	Yom Kippur, Day of Atonement	Jewish	Special worship (Work-restricted)
October 15-October 22	Sukkot, Festival of Booths	Jewish	Special worship (Work-restricted)
October 22-October 24	Shmini Atzeret & Simchat Torah	Jewish	Special worship (Work-restricted)
October 29	Diwali	Hindu	Special Festival
October 30	Birth of the Báb	Baha'i	Special Festival
November			
November 11	Birth of Bahá'u'lláh	Baha'i	Special worship (Work-restricted)
November 14	Guru Nanak Birthday	Sikh	Special worship
November 26	Day of the Covenant	Baha'i	Special festival
December			
December 8	Bodhi Day (Rohatsu)	Buddhist	Special festival
December 20-23	Winter Solstice/Yule (Midwinter)	Pagan/Wiccan	
December 21	Winter Solstice (EST)		Special festival
December 24-January 1	Hanukkah (Chanukah), Festival of Lights	Jewish	Special festival
December 25	Christmas	Christian	Special festival
December 26-January 1	Kwanzaa	Interfaith/African-American	Special festival

2028

Date	Holy Day	Tradition	Observance
January			
January 7	Christmas	Eastern Orthodox	Special festival
January 15	Pongal/Makar Sankranti	Hinduism	Special festival
January 31	Vasant Panchami / Saraswati Puja	Hindu	
February			
February 1 or 2	Imbolc	Pagan/Wiccan	Special festival
February 23	Laylat al Qadr (Night of Power; 27th day of Ramadan)	Islam	Special festival
February 27	Eid-al-Fitr	Islam	Special festival
February 1 or 2	Imbolc	Pagan/Wiccan	Special festival
February 23	Laylat al Qadr (Night of Power; 27th day of Ramadan)	Islam	Special festival
February 27	Eid-al-Fitr	Islam	Special Festival
March			
March 1	Ash Wednesday (lent)	Christian	Special festival
March 11	Holi	Hindu	Special worship and festival
March 19	Vernal Equinox (EDT)		Special festival
March 19-22	Spring Equinox/Ostara	Pagan/Wiccan	Special festival
March 20	Naw-Rúz (Baha'i New Year)	Baha'i	Special Festival
March 11-March 12	Purim	Jewish	Work-restricted
April			
April 9	Palm Sunday	Christian	Special Worship
April 9	Palm Sunday	Eastern Orthodox	Special Festival
April 10-April 18	Passover	Jewish	Special Festival
April 13	Holy/Maundy Thursday	Catholic and Protestant Christianity	Special Festival
April 14	Good Friday	Christian	Work-restricted
April 14	Orthodox Good Friday	Eastern Orthodox	Special Festival
April 16	Easter	Christian	Special festival
April 16	Pascha (Easter)	Eastern Orthodox	
April 20	Ridvan	Baha'i	
April 10-April 18	Passover	Jewish	
May			
May 1	May Day/Beltane	Pagan/Wiccan	Special festival
May 4/5	Yawm al Arafa (Day of Arafa)	Islam	Special festival
May 5	Eid al-Adha	Islam	Special festival
May 23	Declaration of the Báb	Baha'i	Special worship
May 24-25	Muharram (al-Hijra New Year)	Islam	Special festival
May 28	Ascension of Bahá'u'lláh	Baha'i	Special festival
May 30-June 1	Shavuot	Jewish	Work-restricted
June			
June 19-23	Summer Solstice/Litha (Midsummer)	Pagan/Wiccan	Special worship
June 20	Litha	Pagan/Wicca	Special festival
24 - 28	Ayyám-i-Há	Bahá'í	Special festival
July			
July 16-17	Ashura	Islam	Special festival

August			
August 13	Tisha b'av	Judaism	Special worship
August 26	Janmashtami	Hinduism	Special festival
September			
September 16	Mawlid al-Nabi	Islam	Special festival
October			
October 2-4	Rosh Hashanah	Judaism	Special festival (Work-restricted)
October 11-12	Yom Kippur	Judaism	Special worship (Work-restricted)
October 12	Navratri/Dussehra	Hinduism	Special festival
October 16-23	Sukkot	Judaism	Special worship (Work-restricted)
October 23-25	Shemini Atzeret	Judaism	Special worship (Work-restricted)
October 25	Simchat Torah	Judaism	Special worship (Work-restricted)
October 31	Diwali	Hinduism	Special Festival
November			
8-9	Martyrdom of the Báb	Bahá'í	Special worship (Work-restricted)
9	Asalha Puja Day	Buddhism	Special worship
13-15	Obon	Shinto/Buddhism	Special festival
December			
December 25	Christmas	Christianity	Special festival
December 25- January 2	Hannukah	Judaism	Special festival
December 26- January 1	Kwanzaa	Interfaith/African- American	Special festival

2029

Date	Holy Day	Tradition	Observance
January			
January 7	Christmas	Eastern Orthodox Christianity	Special festival
January 14	Pongal/Makar Sankranti	Hinduism	Special festival
February			
February 1-2	Imbolc	Paganism, Wicca, Druidry	Special festival
February 13	Vasant Panchami	Hinduism	Special festival
February 14 - March 28	Beginning of Lent (Ash Wednesday)	Catholic and Protestant Christianity	Special festival
February 15	Nirvana Day	Buddhism	Special festival
February 29- March 19	Feast of Ala / Loftiness	Bahá'í	Special Festival
March			
March 8	Maha Shivratri	Hinduism	Special festival
March 11 - April 10	Ramadan	Islam	Special worship and festival
Mar 18 - May 4	Great Lent	Orthodox Christianity	Special festival
March 19	Ostara/Alban Eilir	Paganism, Wicca, Druidry	Special festival
March 19-20	Nawruz	Zoroastrianism, Bahá'í	Special Festival
March 23-24	Purim	Jewish	Work-restricted
March 25	Holi	Hinduism	Special Festival
March 28	Holy/Maundy Thursday	Catholic and Protestant Christianity	Special Festival
March 30	Good Friday	Catholic and Protestant Christianity	Special Worship, Fast Day
March 31	Easter	Catholic, Protestant, and Armenian Christianity	Special Festival
April			
April 6	Orthodox Good Friday	Eastern Orthodox	Special Worship
April 9-12	Eid al-Fitr	Islam	Special Festival
April 13	Vaisakhi	Hinduism, Jainism, Sikhism	Special Festival
April 21	Mahavir Jayanti	Jainism	Special Festival
April 22-30	Passover	Judaism	Work-restricted
April 23	Hanuman Jayanti	Hinduism, Jainism	Special Festival
April 28	Ridván	Bahá'í	Special festival
May			
May 1	Beltane	Paganism, Wicca, Druidry	Special festival
May 5	Easter Sunday/Pascha	Orthodox Christianity	Special worship
May 5-6	Yom HaShoah	Judaism	Special festival
May 15	Vesak (Buddha Day)	Buddhism	Special festival
May 22	Declaration of the Báb	Bahá'í	Special festival
May 27	Ascension of Baha'u'llah	Bahá'í	Work-restricted
June			
June 11-13	Shavuot	Judaism	Work-restricted

June 16	Martyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev	Sikhism	Special worship
June 16-19	Eid al-Adha	Islam	Special festival and Work-restricted
24 - 28	Ayyám-i-Há	Bahá'í	Special festival
June 20	Litha	Pagan/Wicca	Special festival
July			
July 7-August 5	Muharram (al-Hijra New Year)	Islam	Special festival
July 16-17	Ashura	Islam	Special festival
August			
August 13	Tisha b'av	Judaism	Special worship
August 26	Janmashtami	Hinduism	Special festival
September			
September 16	Mawlid al-Nabi	Islam	Special festival
October			
October 2-4	Rosh Hashanah	Judaism	Special festival (Work-restricted)
October 11-12	Yom Kippur	Judaism	Special worship (Work-restricted)
October 12	Navratri/Dussehra	Hinduism	Special festival
October 16-23	Sukkot	Judaism	Special worship (Work-restricted)
October 23-25	Shemini Atzeret	Judaism	Special worship (Work-restricted)
October 25	Simchat Torah	Judaism	Special worship (Work-restricted)
October 31	Diwali	Hinduism	Special Festival
November			
8-9	Martyrdom of the Báb	Bahá'í	Special worship (Work-restricted)
9	Asalha Puja Day	Buddhism	Special worship
13-15	Obon	Shinto/Buddhism	Special festival
December			
December 25	Christmas	Christianity	Special festival
December 25-January 2	Hannukah	Judaism	Special festival
December 26-January 1	Kwanzaa	Interfaith/African-American	Special festival