DID YOU KNOW THAT THE ST. LOUIS COMMUNITY CELEBRATES HUNDREDS OF DIFFERENT RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS?

Diversity Awareness Partnership’s Interfaith Calendar is distributed annually and features observances celebrated across 20 religious traditions. Take one with you to meetings, keep it in your office, bring it to your class, or just have it handy at home. Please use this calendar as a guide to better understand, acknowledge, and respect friends’, neighbors’, employees’ and co-workers’ holidays.

To be more accommodating, please consider the following:

FOOD
Halal and Kosher restrictions may apply. Consider vegetarian, non-alcoholic, and non-caffeinated options. During some holidays, individuals will be fasting.

HOURS
Consider allowing flexibility in work/school hours, as some holidays may require individuals to attend their place of worship during the day.

ABSENCE
Some individuals may request to use vacation or personal days for holidays that are not recognized as company or school-wide days off.

DEADLINES
Consider allowing flexibility for deadlines around important holidays, as some individuals may be participating in celebrations or fasting, which could cause decreased stamina.

PRAYER
Consider designating a space for employees or students to pray, as some holidays may require increased prayer throughout the day/evening.

NOTES:
This calendar aims to be as inclusive as possible. Please contact us if you would like the 2017 Interfaith Calendar to include a holiday that is not currently listed.

All content in this calendar is based on information available at the 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 affiliations or regions.

All Baha’i, Jewish and Muslim holidays begin at sunset the previous day.

We encourage all places of worship to be accessible to persons with disabilities by making necessary accommodations. Contact DAP for additional information.

More about religions/holidays:
http://www.interfaithcalendar.org/
http://www.pbs.org/wnet/religionandethics/multifaith-calendar/
http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/

USE THE FOLLOWING COLORS AS A GUIDE TO FIND CELEBRATIONS BY SPECIFIC RELIGIONS/DENOMINATIONS:

Rastafarian
Buddhist
Sikh
Hindu
Wiccan/Pagan
Jain
Jewish
Shinto
Pan-African
Baha’i
Muslim
Interfaith
Zoroastrian

Scientologist
Catholic Christian
Swedenborgian Christian
Christian
Orthodox Christian
Mormon
Protestant Christian
Jehovah’s Witnesses
Anglican Christian
Ethiopian Orthodox Christian

Interested in ordering calendars for your home, office, school or place of worship? Request more at dapstl.org today.
JANUARY

1 FRIDAY
Mary, Mother of God
Catholic Christian
Celebration of the mother of Jesus Christ

Feast of St. Basil
Orthodox Christian
Commemoration of St. Basil the Great, who wrote a great Eucharist Liturgy that bears his name.

Shogatsu/Gantan-sai
Shinto
New Year’s Day
Celebration

5 TUESDAY
Twelfth Night
Christian
Observance of the close of Christmastide

Guru Gobind Singh’s Birthday
Sikh
Honoring of the birth of the founder of Khalsa

6 WEDNESDAY
Epiphany
Christian
Commemoration of the manifestations of the divine nature of Jesus Christ

Feast of the Theophany
Orthodox Christian
Feast to recall the revelation of the Holy Trinity in the baptism of the lord.

7 THURSDAY
Orthodox Christmas
Orthodox Christian
A time to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ

10 SUNDAY
Baptism of the Lord
Jesus
Christian
Commemoration of the beginning of the public ministry of Jesus

11 MONDAY
Seijin no Hi
Shinto
Holiday honoring those who have reached, or will reach the age of twenty within the current year

13 WEDNESDAY
Maghi
Sikh
Commemoration of a battle in which forty sikhs died for Guru Gobind Singh Ji

15 FRIDAY
Makar Sankranti
Hindu
Celebration marking the turning of the sun toward the north; observed by flying kites, feeding the poor and offering libations to the dead.

17 SUNDAY
World Religion Day
Baha’i
Day dedicated to the unity and oneness of all world religions

20 WEDNESDAY
Timkat
Ethiopian Orthodox Christian
Celebration of the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River

24 SUNDAY
Mahayana New Year
Buddhist
Buddhist New Year, as celebrated in Mahayana countries

25 MONDAY
Conversion of St. Paul
Christian
Event in the life of Paul the Apostle, after which he became a follower of Jesus.

Blessing of the Animals
Christian
Observance of showing respect for domestic animals that are significant to people.

18 MONDAY
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
Christian
Ecumenical observance focused on prayer for church unity.

20 WEDNESDAY
Timkat
Ethiopian Orthodox Christian
Celebration of the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River

24 SUNDAY
Mahayana New Year
Buddhist
Buddhist New Year, as celebrated in Mahayana countries

25 MONDAY
Conversion of St. Paul
Christian
Event in the life of Paul the Apostle, after which he became a follower of Jesus.

Tu B’Shvat
Jewish
Celebration of the coming of Spring
1 MONDAY
Clean Monday
Orthodox Christian
First day of Lent

2 TUESDAY
Imbolc | Wiccan/Pagan
Halfway between the winter solstice and the Spring Equinox; celebrates the passage from winter to spring.

Candlemas | Christian
Celebration of the presentation of Jesus in the Temple

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

3 WEDNESDAY
Setsubun-sai | Shinto
Celebration of the change of seasons with the coming of spring with shouts of, “Devils out, Good Fortune In”

8 MONDAY
Chinese New Year
Confucian, Taoist, Buddhist
 Begins a fifteen-day festival for Chinese people of all religions, who give thanks for family and remember ancestors

9 TUESDAY
Shrove Tuesday
Christian
Carnival day on the eve of Ash Wednesday

10 WEDNESDAY
Ash Wednesday
Christian
Observance to begin the 4-day season of Lent; ashes are marked on worshippers as a sign of penitence.

12 FRIDAY
Vasant Panchami | Hindu
Festival of spring honoring the goddess of learning.

Triodion Begins | Orthodox Christian
Time period leading up to Lent.

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

St. Valentine’s Day
Christian
Celebration of the love of God present in Jesus and in the lives of Christian believers.

15 MONDAY
Nirvana Day | Buddhist
Observance of the physical death and spiritual enlightenment of the Buddha

18 THURSDAY
National Founding U.S.A
Scientologist
Founding of the first Church of Scientology in the U.S., the Church of Scientology of Los Angeles, in 1954

21 SUNDAY
Tridion Begins
Orthodox Christian
Time period leading up to Lent

26 FRIDAY
Intercalary Day | Baha’i
(u til 3/1)
Insertion of days into the calendar in order to maintain the solar calendar, thought of as days outside of time, and celebrated by acts of love, fellowship, and charity
2 WEDNESDAY
Nineteen Day Fast
Baha’i (until 3/20)
Fast to be observed by adult Baha’is in good health from sunrise to sunset.

6 SUNDAY
Meatfare Sunday
Orthodox Christian
Observance preparing the faithful for the celebration of the resurrection of Christ

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

7 MONDAY
Maha Shivarastri
Hindu
Festival honoring Lord Shiva and his marriage to the goddess, Parvati

13 SUNDAY
L. Ron Hubbard’s Birthday
Scientologist
Observance day marking the birth of L. Ron Hubbard, the founder

17 THURSDAY
St. Patrick’s Day
Christian
Celebration of St. Patrick, who brought Christianity to Ireland in the early days of the faith

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

Palm Sunday
Christian
Celebration of the entry of Jesus to Jerusalem, which begins Holy Week

21 MONDAY
Naw-Ruz
Baha’i
Observance of the Vernal Equinox

Nowruz
Zoroastrian
New year

23 WEDNESDAY
Holi
Hindu
Spring festival dedicated to the god of pleasure

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

Magha Puja Day
Buddhist
Celebration of the presentation of teachings by Lord Buddha to an assembly of Holy men

Lord’s evening meal
Jehovah’s Witnesses
Annual memorial commemorating Christ’s death as a ransom

24 THURSDAY
Purim
Jewish
Celebration of the deliverance of the Jewish minority in Persia from genocide

Maudy Thursday
Christian
Observance of the first Lord’s supper during Holy Week

Hola Mohalla
Sikh
Weeklong event including mock fights, kirtan, music poetry, and community meals

25 FRIDAY
Good Friday
Christian
Remembrance of the crucifixion of Jesus

26 SATURDAY
Khordad Sal
Zoroastrian
Remembrance of the birth of Prophet Zarathurstra

27 SUNDAY
Easter
Christian
Holy day that commemorates the resurrection of Jesus Christ from His death by crucifixion
4 MONDAY
Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Christian
Celebration of Gabriel’s announcement to the Virgin Mary of the coming birth of Jesus

6 WEDNESDAY
Founding of the Church
Mormon
Commemoration of the appearance of the angel, Moroni, in 1830 to Joseph Smith; subsequently, the founding of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

8 FRIDAY
Week of the Ramayana
Hindu (until 4/15)
Festival celebrating Lord Rama, in which the Ram Lila is staged and the Ramayana is recited

13 WEDNESDAY
Baisaki/Vaisaki
Sikh/Hindu
Festival commemorating the establishment of the Khalsa, or the nation of Sikhs. Hindu beginning of the New Year

19 TUESDAY
Mahavir Jayanti
Jain
Festival honoring Lord Mahavira on the founder’s birthday

21 THURSDAY
First Day of 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.

22 FRIDAY
Hanuman Jayanti
Hindu
Celebration of Hanuman, an embodiment of Lord Rama. Devotion and selfless works are encouraged.

23 SATURDAY
Lazarus Saturday
Orthodox Christian
Celebration of the resurrection of Lazarus by Jesus; revealing that Jesus is “the resurrection and life” of all mankind

29 FRIDAY
Ninth Day of Ridvan
Baha’i
Holy Friday
Orthodox Christian
Commemoration of the death of Jesus on the cross

 Pesach/Passover
Jewish (until 4/30)
8-day celebration of the deliverance of the Jews from slavery in Egypt
**1 SUNDAY**
Beltane | Wiccan/Pagan
Celebration of the conjoining of the goddess with the energy of the god in sacred marriage, the basis of all creation

**9 MONDAY**
Observance of the Publication of Dianetics | Scientologist
Observance of the publication of Dianetics: the Modern Science of Mental Health, on May 9, 1950, which was the forerunner of the Scientology religion

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

**22 SUNDAY**
Trinity Sunday | Christian
Day to honor the belief in one God with a threefold nature

**23 MONDAY**
Declaration of the Bab | Baha’i
Recognition of the declaration by Ali Muhammad that he is the anticipated “Coming One” of all religions

**26 THURSDAY**
Corpus Christi | Catholic Christian
Celebration in recognition of the Eucharist

**15 SUNDAY**
Pentecost | Christian
Observation of the day when the Holy Spirit came to the disciples in the forms of tongues of fire and rushing wind

**21 SATURDAY**
Lag B’Omer | Jewish
Observation of the counting of the day - the link - between Pesach and Shavout

**29 SUNDAY**
Ascension of Baha’u’llah | Baha’i
Recollection of the death of Baha’u’llah, the founder

**21 SATURDAY**
Vesak | Buddhist
Day marking the birth, enlightenment, and death of the Buddha

**29 SUNDAY**
World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue & Development | Interfaith
United Nations day to deepen understanding of the values of cultural diversity and to learn to live more peacefully
3 FRIDAY
Sacred Heart of Jesus
Catholic Christian
Occasion to pay homage to Christ’s all-encompassing love for humanity

6 MONDAY
Ramadan
Muslim (until 7/5)
Month devoted to the commemoration of Muhammad’s reception of the divine revelation recorded in the Qur’an

11 SATURDAY
Shavuot
Jewish (until 6/13)
Celebration of Moses descent from Mt. Sinai with the Ten Commandments

12 SUNDAY
Race Unity Day
Baha’i
Day to promote racial harmony and understanding

16 THURSDAY
Guru Arjan Dev’s Martyrdom
Sikh
Time of remembering those who have suffered for this faith

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

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

MORE ABOUT RAMADAN
Ramadan is the Islamic holy month of fasting during which Muslims may not eat or drink during daylight hours.

Ramadan is celebrated as the month in which the prophet Mohammed received the first of the revelations that make up the Quran.

Muslims are encouraged to eat a meal before dawn, and then break the fast immediately after sunset.
JULY

1 FRIDAY
Laylatul Qadr | Muslim
The Night of destiny, the first revelation of the Qur’an to Prophet Muhammad

5 TUESDAY
Eid ul-Fitr | Muslim
Breaking of the Month-long Ramadan fast and a festival of thanksgiving

9 SATURDAY
Martydom of the Bab | Baha’i
Observance of the day Ali Muhammad was executed in 1850 by Persian political and religious powers

19 TUESDAY
Asalha Puja Day / Dharma Day | Buddhist
Sacred day that marks the Buddha’s first teaching following enlightenment

23 SATURDAY
Birth of the Emperor Haile Selassie I | Rastafarian
Birthday of the revered Messianic figure among Rastafarians

24 SUNDAY
Pioneer Day | Mormon
Observation of the arrival of the first settlers at Great Salt Lake, USA

MORE ABOUT UNITARIANISM

Religious freedom for each individual is at the heart of Unitarianism. Everyone is free to search for meaning in life in a responsible way and to reach their own conclusions.

In line with their approach to religious truth, Unitarians see diversity and pluralism as valuable rather than threatening. They want religion to be broad, inclusive, and tolerant. They therefore include people of various faiths.
1 MONDAY
Lammas | Wiccan/Pagan
Celebration of the early harvest

6 SATURDAY
Transfiguration of the Lord | Orthodox 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

13 SATURDAY
Obon / Ullambana | Shinto/Buddhist
Celebration of the ritual of saving the deceased from torments after death the Ten Commandments

14 SUNDAY
Tish’a B’Av | Jewish
Day of fasting in the remembrance of the destruction of the Temple in 586 BCE and 70 CE

15 MONDAY
Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary | Catholic Christian
Observance commemorating the assumption of Mary, mother of Jesus, into heaven

Dormition of the Theotokos | Orthodox Christian
Observance of the death, burial, resurrection, and transfer to heaven of the Virgin Mary

18 THURSDAY
Raksha Bandhan | Hindu
Festival honoring the loving ties between brothers and sisters in a family

25 THURSDAY
Krishna Janmashtami | Hindu
Commemoration of the birth of Krishna

29 MONDAY
Beheading of John the Baptist | Christian
Rememberance of the death of John
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<th>Religion</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 MONDAY</td>
<td>Ganesh Chaturthi</td>
<td>Hindu</td>
<td>Festival honoring the god of prosperity, prudence, and success</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 TUESDAY</td>
<td>Paryushana Parva</td>
<td>Jain</td>
<td>Festival signifying human emergence into a new world of spiritual and moral refinement, and a celebration of the natural qualities of the soul</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 THURSDAY</td>
<td>Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary</td>
<td>Christian</td>
<td>Celebration of the birth of Virgin Mary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 SATURDAY</td>
<td>Waqf al Arafa/Hajj Day</td>
<td>Muslim</td>
<td>Observance during Hajj, the Islamic pilgrimage to Mecca, when pilgrims pray for forgiveness and Mercy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 SUNDAY</td>
<td>Auditors’ Day</td>
<td>Scientologist</td>
<td>Scientology Auditors are acknowledged for their dedication in helping their fellow men</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 WEDNESDAY</td>
<td>Elevation of the Cross</td>
<td>Christian</td>
<td>Celebration of when St. Helen found the Holy Cross</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 THURSDAY</td>
<td>Mabon</td>
<td>Wiccan/Pagan</td>
<td>Observance of the Autumnal Equinox</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 TUESDAY</td>
<td>Meskel</td>
<td>Ethiopian Orthodox Christian</td>
<td>Commemoration of the discovery of the True Cross by St. Helen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Magha Puja Day</td>
<td>Buddhist</td>
<td>Celebration of the presentation of teachings by Lord Buddha to an assembly of Holy men</td>
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</table>

**MORE ABOUT ISLAM**

Islam is the second largest religion in the world with over 1 billion followers.

Muslims believe that Islam was revealed over 1400 years ago in Mecca, Arabia.

Jesus, Moses and Abraham are respected as prophets of God.

Muslims believe that there is only One God. and the Arabic word for God is Allah.
OCTOBER

1 SATURDAY
Navratri | Hindu (until 10/9)
Festival of the divine mother honoring Durga, wife of Shiva, and seeking her blessing.

3 MONDAY
Rosh Hashanah | Jewish
(until 10/4)
New Year, marked by a call to repentance with the shofar.

4 TUESDAY
St. Francis Day | Catholic Christian
Recognition of service to people and appreciation of the natural world, as practiced by St. Francis and the Francisan monastic order that he founded.

7 FRIDAY
Founding of the international Association of Scientologists | Scientology
Scientologists rededicate themselves to the Aims of Scientology: a world without criminals, suffering, and war.

9 SUNDAY
Birthday of Guru Ram Das | Sikh
Commemoration of the birth of one of the foremost 10 Gurus of Sikhism.

11 TUESDAY
Dussehra / Durga Puja | Hindu (until 10/4)
Festival celebrating the victory of the goddess Durga over demons.

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).

12 WEDNESDAY
Yom Kippur | Jewish
Day of Atonement

17 MONDAY
Sukkot | Jewish (until 10/23)
Feast of Tabernacles, which celebrates the harvest and the protection of the people of Israel as they wandered in the wilderness dwelling in tents.

20 THURSDAY
Birth of the Bab | Baha’i
Honoring of the founder of the Babi religion, forerunner to Baha’u’llah and the Baha’i faith.

Guru Granth Sahib Installation | Sikh
Remembrance of the eternal installation of the holy books, Granth Sahib.

23 SUNDAY
Hoshanah Rabbah | Jewish
Commemoration of the last of the Days of Judgement.

24 MONDAY
Shemini Atzeret | Jewish
Completion of the annual cycle of the reading of the Torah.

25 TUESDAY
Simchat Torah | Jewish
Day to celebrate the reading of the Law.

28 FRIDAY
Milvian Bridge Day | Christian
Day of solemn reflection on the relationship of the spiritual community and the powers of the civil government.

30 SUNDAY
Diwali | Hindu, Jain
Celebration marking the end of the Hindu year.

31 MONDAY
All Hallow’s Eve | Christian
Celebration combining prayers and merriment involving children and families.

Reformation Day | Protestant Christian
Anniversary of the tradition and its emphasis on the palce of the Bible and religious freedom.

Jain New Year | Jain
NOVEMBER

1 TUESDAY
All Saints’ Day I Christian
Day for honoring Saints

Samhain I Wiccan/Pagan
Celebration of endings and beginnings

2 WEDNESDAY
All Souls’ Day I Catholic Christian
Commemoration of the faithful departed

Coronation of Emperor Haile Selassie I Rastafarian
Celebration of the coronation of the Messianic figure of Rastafarian

12 SATURDAY
Birth of Baha’u’llah I Baha’i
Celebration of the birth of the founder

14 MONDAY
Guru Nanak Dev Sahib’s Birthday I Sikh
Honoring of the birth of the founder

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

24 THURSDAY
Thanksgiving I Interfaith
Celebration of the created earth and community

26 SATURDAY
Day of the Covenant I Baha’i
Celebration of the covenant given in the last will and testament of Baha’u’llah

27 SUNDAY
Advent Sunday I Christian
Time of preparation for observing the birth of Jesus Christ and for anticipating His return to Earth

28 MONDAY
Ascension of the Abdu’l-Baha I Baha’i
Celebration of the rising of the spirit of Abdu’l-Baha to the heavenly dwelling.

MORE ABOUT SIKHISM

Sikhism was founded in the 16th century in the Punjab district of what is now India and Pakistan. It was founded by Guru Nanak and is based on his teachings, and those of the 9 Sikh gurus who followed him.

The most important thing in Sikhism is the internal religious state of the individual.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Religion(s)</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 Tuesday</td>
<td>St. Nicholas Day</td>
<td>Christian</td>
<td>Celebration of the birth of Saint Nicholas, patron saint of children and role model for gift giving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hanukkah</td>
<td>Jewish (until 12/14)</td>
<td>Festival of Lights commemorating the recapture and rededication of the Jerusalem Temple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Thursday</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>Day of celebrating the belief that Mary, mother of Jesus, was preserved from original sin all her life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Monday</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>21 Wednesday</td>
<td>Yule</td>
<td>Wiccan/Pagan</td>
<td>Celebration of the Winter Solstice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 Sunday</td>
<td>Christmas</td>
<td>Christian</td>
<td>Celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ</td>
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<tr>
<td>26 Monday</td>
<td>Zarathosht Diso</td>
<td>Zoroastrian</td>
<td>Anniversary of the death of Prophet Zarathurstra</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Kwanzaa</td>
<td>Pan-African (until 1/1/17)</td>
<td>Holiday celebrating family, community, and culture.</td>
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<td>28 Wednesday</td>
<td>Holy Innocents</td>
<td>Christian</td>
<td>Day of solemn memory of male children killed by King Herod in the attempt to destroy Jesus</td>
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<tr>
<td>30 Friday</td>
<td>Freedom Day</td>
<td>Scientologist</td>
<td>Day celebrating the official recognition of the Church of Scientology in the United States in 1974</td>
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<tr>
<td>31 Saturday</td>
<td>Watch Night</td>
<td>Christian</td>
<td>Occasion to thank God for bringing people safely through another year</td>
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<td>1 SUNDAY</td>
<td>Mary, Mother of God</td>
<td>Catholic Christian</td>
<td>Celebration of the mother of Jesus Christ</td>
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<td>7 SATURDAY</td>
<td>Orthodox Christmas</td>
<td>Orthodox Christian</td>
<td>A time to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 SUNDAY</td>
<td>Fast of Tevet 10</td>
<td>Jewish</td>
<td>Fast commemorating the siege of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar II</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 MONDAY</td>
<td>Baptism of the Lord</td>
<td>Christian</td>
<td>Commemoration of the beginning of the public ministry of Jesus</td>
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<td>15 SUNDAY</td>
<td>Seijin no Hi</td>
<td>Shinto</td>
<td>Holiday honoring those who have reached, or will reach the age of twenty within the current year</td>
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<td>15 SUNDAY</td>
<td>World Religion Day</td>
<td>Baha’i</td>
<td>Day dedicated to the unity and oneness of all world religions</td>
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<td>17 TUESDAY</td>
<td>Blessing of the Animals</td>
<td>Christian</td>
<td>Observance of showing respect for domestic animals that are significant to people</td>
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<td>19 THURSDAY</td>
<td>Timkat</td>
<td>Ethiopian Orthodox Christian</td>
<td>Celebration of the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River</td>
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<td>25 WEDNESDAY</td>
<td>Conversion of St. Paul</td>
<td>Christian</td>
<td>Event in the life of Paul the Apostle, after which he became a follower of Jesus</td>
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<td>28 WEDNESDAY</td>
<td>Chinese New Year</td>
<td>Confucian, Taoist, Buddhist</td>
<td>Begins a fifteen-day festival for Chinese people of all religions, who give thanks for family and remember ancestors</td>
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1 WEDNESDAY  
Vasant Panchami | Hindu  
Festival of spring honoring the goddess of learning.

2 THURSDAY  
Imbolc | Wiccan / Pagan  
Halfway between the winter solstice and the Spring Equinox; celebrates the passage from winter to spring.

3 FRIDAY  
Setsubun-sai | Shinto  
Celebration of the change of seasons with the coming of spring with shouts of, “Devils out, Good Fortune In”

5 SUNDAY  
Triodion Begins | Orthodox Christian  
Time period leading up to Lent.

11 SATURDAY  
Tu B’Shvat | Jewish  
Celebration of the coming of Spring

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

St. Valentine’s Day | Christian  
Celebration of the love of God present in Jesus and in the lives of Christian believers.

15 WEDNESDAY  
Nirvana Day | Buddhist  
Observance of the physical death and spiritual enlightenment of the Buddha

18 SATURDAY  
National Founding U.S.A | Scientologist  
Founding of the first Church of Scientology in the U.S., the Church of Scientology of Los Angeles, in 1954

19 SUNDAY  
Meatfare Sunday | Orthodox Christian  
Observance preparing the faithful for the celebration of the resurrection of Christ

25 SATURDAY  
Maha Shivaratri | Hindu  
Festival honoring Lord Shiva and his marriage to the goddess, Parvati

26 SUNDAY  
Intercalary Day | Baha’i (until 3/1)  
Insertion of days into the calendar in order to maintain the solar calendar, thought of as days outside of time, and celebrated by acts of love, fellowship, and charity

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

27 MONDAY  
Clean Monday | Orthodox Christian  
First Sunday of Lent, at which time restoration of icons to the church is celebrated

Candlemas | Christian  
Celebration of the presentation of Jesus in the Temple

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

28 TUESDAY  
Shrove Tuesday | Christian  
Carnival day on the eve of Ash Wednesday
1 WEDNESDAY
Ash Wednesday
Christian
Observance to begin the 4-day season of Lent; ashes are marked on worshippers as a sign of penitence.

2 THURSDAY
Nineteen Day Fast
Baha’i (until 3/20)
Fast to be observed by adult Baha’is in good health from sunrise to sunset.

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

12 SUNDAY
Magha Puja Day
Buddhist
Celebration of the presentation of teachings by Lord Buddha to an assembly of Holy men

13 SUNDAY
L. Ron Hubbard’s Birthday
Scientologist
Observance day marking the birth of L. Ron Hubbard, the founder

Holi
Hindu
Spring festival dedicated to the god of pleasure

Holi Mohalla
Sikh
Weeklong event including mock fights, kirtan, music poetry, and community meals

17 FRIDAY
St. Patrick’s Day
Christian
Celebration of St. Patrick, who brought Christianity to Ireland in the early days of the faith

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

21 TUESDAY
Nowruz
Zoroastrian
New year

25 SATURDAY
Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Christian
Celebration of Gabriel’s announcement to the Virgin Mary of the coming birth of Jesus

28 TUESDAY
Khordad Sal
Zoroastrian
Remembrance of the birth of Prophet Zarathurstra

Week of the Ramayana
Hindu (until 4/5)
Festival celebrating Lord Rama, in which the Ram Lila is staged and the Ramayana is recited
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Religion(s)</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 Monday</td>
<td>Rama Navami</td>
<td>Hindu</td>
<td>Celebration of the birth of Lord Rama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Thursday</td>
<td>Founding of the Church</td>
<td>Mormon</td>
<td>Commemoration of the appearance of the angel, Moroni, in 1830 to Joseph Smith; subsequently, the founding of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Saturday</td>
<td>Lazarus Saturday</td>
<td>Orthodox Christian</td>
<td>Celebration of the resurrection of Lazarus by Jesus; revealing that Jesus is “the resurrection and life” of all mankind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Sunday</td>
<td>Palm Sunday</td>
<td>Christian</td>
<td>Celebration of the entry of Jesus to Jerusalem, which begins Holy Week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mahavir Jayanti</td>
<td>Jain</td>
<td>Festival honoring Lord Mahavir on the founder’s birthday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Tuesday</td>
<td>Lord’s evening meal</td>
<td>Jehovah’s Witnesses</td>
<td>Annual memorial commemorating Christ’s death as a ransom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Tuesday</td>
<td>Hanuman Jayanti</td>
<td>Hindu</td>
<td>Celebration of Hanuman, an embodiment of Lord Rama. Devotion and selfless works are encouraged.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Tuesday</td>
<td>Theravadin New Year</td>
<td>Buddhist (until 4/14)</td>
<td>Buddhist New Year, as celebrated in Theravadin countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Thursday</td>
<td>Maudy Thursday</td>
<td>Christian</td>
<td>Observance of the first Lord’s supper during Holy week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Friday</td>
<td>Holy Friday</td>
<td>Orthodox Christian</td>
<td>Commemoration of the death of Jesus on the cross</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
<td>Christian</td>
<td>Remembrance of the crucifixion of Jesus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Sunday</td>
<td>Easter</td>
<td>Christian</td>
<td>Holy day that commemorates the resurrection of Jesus Christ from His death by crucifixion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pascha</td>
<td>Orthodox Christian</td>
<td>Holy day that commemorates the resurrection of Jesus Christ from His death by crucifixion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 Friday</td>
<td>First Day of Ridvan</td>
<td>Baha’i</td>
<td>Commemoration of the twelve-day period in 1863 when Baha’u’llah declared that he was God’s messenger for this age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 Sunday</td>
<td>Yom HaShoah</td>
<td>Jewish</td>
<td>Holocaust Day established to remember the six million Jews killed by the Nazis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 Saturday</td>
<td>Ninth Day of Ridvan</td>
<td>Baha’i</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MAY 2017

1 MONDAY
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 TUESDAY
Twelfth day of Ridvan | Baha’i

4 THURSDAY
National Day of Prayer | Interfaith
United States day of observance encouraging prayer among all faiths

9 TUESDAY
Observance of the Publication of Dianetics | Scientologist
Observance of the publication of Dianetics: the Modern Science of Mental Health, on May 9, 1950, which was the forerunner of the Scientology religion

10 WEDNESDAY
Vesak | Buddhist
Day marking the birth, enlightenment, and death of the Buddha

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

14 SUNDAY
Lag B’Omer | Jewish
Observation of the counting of the day - the link between Pesach and Shavout

21 SUNDAY
World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue & Development | Interfaith
United Nations day to deepen understanding of the values of cultural diversity and to learn to live more peacefully

23 SUNDAY
Declaration of the Bab | Baha’i
Recognition of the declaration by Ali Muhammad that he is the anticipated “Coming One” of all religions

25 THURSDAY
Ascension of Jesus | Christian
Recognition of the departure of Jesus from Earth after the resurrection, celebrated 40 days after Easter/Pascha

27 SATURDAY
Ramadan | Muslim
Month devoted to the commemoration of Muhammad’s reception of the divine revelation recorded in the Qur’an

29 MONDAY
Ascension of Baha’u’llah | Baha’i
Recollection of the death of Baha’u’llah, the founder

31 WEDNESDAY
Shavuot | Jewish
Celebration of Moses descent from Mt. Sinai with the Ten Commandments
JUNE 2017

4 SUNDAY
Pentecost | Christian
Observation of the day when the Holy Spirit came to the disciples in the forms of tongues of fire and rushing wind

11 MONDAY
Trinity Sunday | Christian
Day to honor the belief in one God with a threefold nature

Race Unity Day | Baha’i
Day to promote racial harmony and understanding

15 THURSDAY
Corpus Christi | Catholic Christian
Celebration in recognition of the Eucharist

16 FRIDAY
Guru Arjan Dev’s Martydom | Sikh
Time of remembering those who have suffered for this faith

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

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

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

Birth of the Emperor Haile Selassie | Rastafarian
Birthday of the revered Messianic figure among Rastafarians

25 SUNDAY
Eid ul-Fitr | Muslim
Breaking of the Month-long Ramadan fast and a festival of thanksgiving

MORE ABOUT PENTECOST

Pentecost is the festival when Christians celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit. It is celebrated on the Sunday 50 days after Easter (the name comes from the Greek pentekoste or “fiftieth”). It is also called Whitsun. Pentecost is regarded as the birthday of the Christian church, and the start of the church’s mission to the world. The symbols of Pentecost are those of the Holy Spirit and include flames, wind, the breath of God and a dove.
Diversity Awareness Partnership is a catalyst to increase awareness, facilitate engagement and provide education about diversity and inclusion. DAP achieves its mission through three pillars of impact: education and training, youth engagement, and awareness initiatives. For more information on becoming a partner, participating in our programs, requesting publications, or supporting our efforts, call (314) 246-3146 or visit DAPSTL.ORG

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION TRAINING
Diversity & Inclusion Training is delivered through presentations, workshops, and roundtables. Trainings raise awareness around the importance of diversity and inclusivity among employees by exposing challenges, generating dialogue, and providing tangible resources needed to create a more inclusive workplace.

DAP CONNECT PROGRAM
The DAP Connect Program has one purpose - to help you diversify your social and professional networks. Too often we build personal and working relationships with others “like us”. DAP Connect helps you leave your comfort zone to meet individuals who are different from you, whether by race or ethnicity, age, religion, ability, sexual orientation or gender identity. Through DAP Connect, you will build relationships with leaders throughout the St. Louis region and gain a stronger appreciation for diversity.

GIVE RESPECT, GET RESPECT YOUTH PROGRAM
The Give Respect, Get Respect Youth Program is a collaboration between Diversity Awareness Partnership and local corporations who bring together students and teachers from the St. Louis metro area and company associates to explore race, religion, disability, sexual orientation, and gender identity.

EXPLORE CAREER IMMERSION PROGRAM
Diversity Awareness Partnership is investing in St. Louis high school students through an externship program. Together, DAP and local businesses have developed this program to expose, empower, and encourage students of color to pursue STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) and other careers.

COMMUNITY FORUMS
Community Forums are free to public and are typically held once per year. The forums welcome individuals from all over St. Louis to participate in or observe open dialogue around diversity issues.
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SEMINARS
Diversity Awareness Partnership provides in-depth professional development seminars for diversity and inclusion practitioners or individuals interested in entering the diversity field. Example seminar topics include: Diversity vs. Inclusion, Creating a Diverse Pipeline, HR, Diversity & Employee Engagement, and more.

AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS & PUBLICATIONS
Diversity Publications include the Interfaith Calendar, Diversity Sports Poster series, and We’re All Alike, We’re All Different Disability Toolkit.

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Diversity Awareness Partnership
www.dapstl.org