

MULTI-FAITH Calendar 2023



JANUARY

Kindness is a language that the world can see and the deaf can hear...

- *1 January • NEW YEARS DAY • First day of the year in the Gregorian calendar.
- *5 January • SOORNO SINGH JETI BIRTHDAY • Sikh - Guru Gurdin Singh was the 10th Sikh guru of Nanak and founder of the Khalsa.
- *6 January • CHRISTMAS • Armenian Orthodox Christian Armenians celebrate the birth of Jesus on Epiphany, except for Armenians living in Israel, who celebrate Christmas on January 29th.
- *6 January • EPIPHANY • Christian - Known as Theophany in Eastern Christianity, it celebrates the manifestation of Jesus as Christ.
- *13 January • CHRISTMAS • Eastern Christian - Most Orthodox churches celebrate Christmas 13 days later than other Christian churches based on their use of the Julian rather than the Gregorian version of the Western calendar.
- *23 January • MAHAYANA NEW YEAR • Buddhist - In Mahayana countries the New Year starts on the first full moon day in January.
- *14 January • MAKAR SANKRANTI • Hindu - Seasonal celebration marking turning of the sun toward the north.
- 15 January • WORLD RELIGION DAY • Bahá'í - Observance to proclaim the oneness of religion.
- 22 January • JANUARY • Confucian - Daoist and Buddhist also known as the Spring Festival, an important festival celebrated at the turn of the traditional lunisolar Chinese calendar.
- 25 January • VASANT PANCHAMI • Hindu - to mark the beginning of spring.
- *27 January • UN HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY • Annual International Day of Commemoration in memory of the victims of the Holocaust coinciding with the anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz death camp in 1945.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

FEBRUARY

Always be a little kinder than you have to be

- *2 February • CANDELMAS • Christian - presentation of Christ in the temple.
- *2 February • IMBOLC CANDLEMAS • Pagan.
- *2 February • ST BRIGID OF KILDARE • Christian.
- *2 February • SETSUBUN • Shinto - beginning of spring.
- *2 February • ST BLASE DAY • Christian.
- 5 February • TU B'SHARAT • Jewish - New Year's Day for Trees, and traditionally the first year for planting fruit trees. Now a day for environmental awareness and action, such as tree planting.
- 14 February • VALENTINE'S DAY • Celebrates the idea of romantic love.
- *15 February • NIRVANA DAY • Buddhist - Celebrates the day when the historical Buddha achieved Parinirvana, or complete Nirvana, upon the death of his physical body.
- 18 February • MUSLIM • Laylat al-Mi'raj - Commemorates the Prophet Muhammad's nighttime journey from Mecca to the 'Farthest Mosque' in Jerusalem where he ascended to heaven, was purified, and given the instruction for Muslims to pray five times daily.
- 18 February • MAHA SHIVARATRI • Hindu - the Great Night of Shiva, is a festival in reverence of the god Shiva.
- *20 February • WORLD DAY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE UN • day to recognise efforts to achieve fair outcomes for all through employment, social protection, social dialogue, and fundamental principles and rights at work.
- 21 February • SHROVE TUESDAY • Western Christian - A day of penitence as well as the last chance to feast before Lent begins. Also known as Mardi Gras, Fat Tuesday and Carnival day as this day is observed in many ways worldwide.
- 22 February • ASH WEDNESDAY • Western Christian - The first day of Lent for Western Christian churches, a 40-day period of spiritual preparation for Easter, not counting Sundays.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

MARCH

An act of kindness can change a person's life...

- *19 March • NINETEEN DAY FAST • Bahá'í - Bahá'ís between 15 and 70 years of age do not eat or drink from sunrise to sunset and set aside time for prayer and meditation.
- 6 March • PURIM • Jewish The "Feast of Lots" marks the salvation of the Jews of ancient Persia from extermination.
- 6 March • HOLI • Hindu - A spring festival in India and Nepal dedicated to the god of pleasure, also known as the festival of colours or the festival of sharing love.
- 6 March • MAGHA PUJA • Buddhist - Also known as Sangha Day, it commemorates the approximate assembly of 1,250 disciples, completely enlightened monks, in the historical Buddha's presence.
- *8 March • INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY • Celebration of women worldwide.
- 11 March • HOLI MOHALLA • Sikh - An annual event which is a martial arts parade historically coinciding with Holi, the Hindu festival of colours.
- *17 March • ST PATRICK'S DAY • Christian - Feast day of the patron saint of Ireland.
- *20 March • VERNAL EQUINOX • Marks the first day of the season of spring.
- 22 March • HURDI • Hind New Year. Ramanavay begins.
- 23 March • ISLAM • Ramadan begins. Observed by Muslims worldwide as a month of fasting to commemorate the first revelation of the Qur'an to the Prophet Muhammad April • YOM 27 March • MARILUD • Islam - Birth of Imam Mahdi believed by Twelver Shi'a Muslims to be the Mahdi, an ultimate saviour of humankind and the final Imam.
- *28 March • KHORRADO • Zoroastrian - The Zoroastrian celebration of the birth of Zoroaster, the founder of the Zoroastrian religion.
- 30 March • RAMANAVAM • Hindu - Celebrates the birthday of Rama, king of ancient India, hero of the epic Ramayana, and seventh incarnation of Vishnu.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

APRIL

Kindness is more powerful than force...

- 2 April • PALM SUNDAY • Christian - Observed the Sunday before Easter/Pascha to commemorate the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem.
- *5 April • PASSOVER/PESACH • Jewish - The eight-day "Feast of Unleavened Bread" celebrates Israel's deliverance from Egyptian bondage.
- 6 April • THERAVADA NEW YEAR • Buddhist - In Thailand countries the New Year is celebrated on the first full moon day in April.
- 7 April • GOOD FRIDAY • Christian - Known as Holy Friday in Eastern Christianity, it commemorates the Crucifixion of Jesus on the Friday before Easter/Pascha.
- 9 April • EASTER • Christian - Known as Pascha in Eastern Christianity, it celebrates the resurrection of Jesus.
- *14 April • VANSARV (Bakshat) • Sikh - The festival which celebrates the founding of the Sikh community as the Khalsa (community of the initiated).
- 18 April • VOM HAS SIKHAI • Judaism - Holocaust remembrance day.
- 18 April • LAILA AL-QADR • Islamic - Commemorates the night that the Qur'an was first revealed to the Prophet Muhammad. It is known as the "Night of Power".
- 20 April • RAMADAN FINISHES • Islam.
- 23 April • EID AL-FITR • Islamic - The "Feast of the Breaking of the Fast" marks the end of Ramadan, the holy month of fasting from dawn till dusk.
- *21 April to 26-May • FESTIVAL OF KITUBA • Bahá'í - Annual festival commemorating the 12 days when Bahá'u'lláh, the prophet-founder of the Bahá'í Faith, resided in a garden called Kitubá (Pond) and publicly proclaimed his mission as God's messenger for this age.
- 26 April • YOM HA'ATZMAUT • Judaism - Independence Day celebration.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

MAY

Kindness reveals how better and more we all are out of fashion

- *1 May • WICKAED PAGSA • Bektare - May Day Festival.
- *2 May • TWELTH DAY OF RIZVANI • Bahá'í.
- *3 May • ST PHILIPS AND ST JAMES DAY • Christian.
- 4 May • Multi Faith • International Day of prayer.
- 5 May • VISAKHA PUJA • Buddhist - Also known as Vesak or Buddha Day, it marks the birth, spiritual awakening and death (nirvana) of the historical Buddha. (This date may vary based on region or sect).
- 8 May • LAG BOMER • Judaism - Celebrates the end of a divine-seal plague and/or Roman occupation during Rabbi Akiva's lifetime (c. 135 CE).
- 14 May • MOTHER'S DAY • Children show appreciation for their mothers and mother figures.
- 18 May • ASCENSION DAY • Christian - Also known as Holy Thursday, celebrated 40 days after Easter/Pascha. It commemorates the ascension of Jesus into Heaven.
- 20-27 May • OMAGCT • Jewish - The "Feast of Weeks" celebrates the covenant established at Sinai between God and Israel, and the revelation of the Ten Commandments.
- 28 May • PENTECOST • Christian - Also known as Whitsunday, the seventh Sunday after Easter/Pascha commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and women followers of Jesus. Marks the birth of the Christian Church.
- *29 May • ASCENSION OF BAHÁ'U'LLÁH • Bahá'í - Observance of the anniversary of the death in exile of Bahá'u'lláh, the prophet-founder of the Bahá'í Faith.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

JUNE

Be kind to unkind people
They need it the most

- 4 June • TRINITY SUNDAY • Christian.
- 11 June • RACE UNITY DAY • Bahá'í - Observance promoting racial harmony and understanding and the essential unity of humanity.
- *12 June • ANNE FRANK DAY • Birthday of young Jewish girl whose diary describes her family's experiences hiding from the Nazis through assistance of Gentile friends.
- 19 June • FATHER'S DAY • Children show appreciation for their fathers and father figures.
- *19 June • JUNETEENTH • Originally commemorating the announcement of the abolition of slavery in Texas in 1865, it is now celebrated throughout the U.S. to honor African-American freedom and achievement.
- *20 June • SUMMER SOLSTICE • Marks the first day of the season of summer. The length of time between sunrise and sunset is the longest of the year with the sun shining the farthest from the Southern Hemisphere and the closest to the Northern Hemisphere.
- *22 June • WORLD REFUGEE DAY • Raises awareness about the plight of refugees and displaced persons.
- *21 June • SUMMER SOLSTICE
- 28 June • EID AL-ADHA • Islamic - Commemoration of Ibrahim's willingness to sacrifice his son in obedience of a command from God. Marks the end of the annual Hajj (pilgrimage to Mecca).

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

JULY

Kindness gives life significance

- 2 July • CHHAIYA DAY • Buddhist - Also known as Ashtika Puja, it commemorates the historical Buddha's first discourse following his spiritual awakening.
- *9 July • MARTYRDOM OF THE BAR • Bahá'í - Observance of the anniversary of the execution by a firing squad in Tabriz, Persia, of the 30-year-old Sayyid Ali-Muhammad, the Báb, the prophet-founder of the Bahá'í Faith.
- *11 July • ST BENEDICT DAY • Catholic.
- *15 July • ST VALENTINE THE GREAT DAY • Orthodox Christian.
- 18 July • MUHAMMAD • Islamic - The month of Muharram marks the beginning of the Islamic lunar year. This first day, al-Ashura, remembers the migration of Muhammad and his followers from Mecca to Medina in 622 CE.
- *23 July • EMPEROR HAI SEASIDE BATHING • Rastafarian.
- *23 July • JAMES THE GREAT DAY • Christian.
- 26 July • TISHA B'AV • Jewish - Mourning of the destruction of the First and Second Temples in Jerusalem in 586 BCE and 70 CE.
- 28 July • ASHURA • Islamic - A day of fasting observed on the 10th day of the month of Muharram to commemorate 'Naseer' escaping from Egypt. For Shi'a Muslims, it also marks the day of the 21st Remembrance of Muharram, which mourns the martyrdom of Hussein at the Battle of Karbala.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

AUGUST

How beautiful a day becomes when touched by kindness

- *1 August • ULAMBANA (Chon) • Buddhist - Ullambana, a Sanskrit term that means "hanging upside down and suffering," honours the spirits of past ancestors and strives to relieve achings from suffering.
- *9 August • INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLES • Recognises the challenges indigenous peoples face today, ranging from poverty and disease to discrimination, religious persecution and denial of basic human rights.
- *12 August • INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY • Celebrates young people and the integral role they play in helping to create a world fit for children.
- *22 August • INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE REMEMBRANCE OF THE SLAVE TRADE AND ITS ABOLITION • Rememorates the tragedy of the transatlantic slave trade, coinciding with the anniversary of the uprising in Santo Domingo (today Haiti and the Dominican Republic) that initiated its abolition.
- *30 August • RAKSHA BANDHAN • Hindu - Also called Rakhi, this festival celebrates the protective relationship between brothers and their sisters.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

SEPTEMBER

Kindness begins when we understand that we all have struggles

- *1 September • RELIGIOUS YEAR STARTS - Orthodox Christian.
- 6 September • KRISHNA JANMASHTAMI • Hindu - festival celebrating the birth of Krishna, an avatar of the god Vishnu.
- *8 September • NATIVITY OF THE VIRGIN MARY • Christian.
- *11 September • ETHIOPIAN NEW YEAR - Rastafarian.
- 15 September • RIZV HANSHAM • Jewish - Beginning of the Jewish New Year and first of the High Holy Days, which marks the beginning of a ten-day period of penitence and spiritual renewal.
- 18 September • GANESI CHATURTHI • Hindu - Celebrates the birthday of Ganesha, the elephant deity.
- *22 September • AUTUMNAL EQUINOX • Marks the first day of the season of autumn. The sun shines nearly equally on both hemispheres when it falls in the Northern Hemisphere and simultaneously spring in the Southern Hemisphere.
- *23 September • AUTUMN EQUINOX • Wiccan/Pagan.
- 24 September • YOM KIPPUR • Jewish - The "Day of Atonement" marks the end of the Ten Days of Penitence that begins with Rosh Hashanah.
- 27 September • ELEVATION OF THE CROSS • Christian.
- 27 September • MARILUD AL-NABI (MILAD AL-NABI) • Islamic (Sunni) - The observance of the birthday of Islam founder Prophet Muhammad, which is celebrated in Rabi' al-awwal, the third month in the Islamic calendar. Shi'a Muslims celebrate it five days later than Sunni Muslims.
- *29 September • MICHAEL OF ALL ANGELS • Christian.
- 29 September • SUKOT • Jewish - The week-long "Feast of Booths" commemorates the 40-year wandering of the Israelites in the desert on the way to the Promised Land.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

OCTOBER

Kindness is not doing something for someone because they can't, it's doing it because you can.

- *4 October • ST FRANCIS DAY • Catholic Christian.
- 6 October • SHEKHIN ATZET • Jewish - "The Eighth (Day) of Assembly" is observed on the day immediately following Sukkot.
- 15 October • NABARATSE COMPLETES • Hindu - the name translates as 'nine nights' and is a celebration that honours the Mother Goddess Durga.
- *17 October • INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY • Call to action for the eradication of poverty and destitution worldwide.
- 22 October • DUSSEHRA/DASSERA • Hindu - Anniversary of the day when Rama killed the evil demon Ravana. Also known as Durga Puja, which celebrates the goddess Durga.
- *24 October • UNITED NATIONS DAY • Commemorates the founding of the world organisation in 1945.
- *27 October • BIRTH OF BAHÁ'U'LLÁH • Bahá'í.
- *31 October • HALLOWEEN • The eve of All Saints' Day.
- *31 October • REFORMATION DAY • Christian - Commemorates the beginning of the Protestant Reformation in 1517.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

NOVEMBER

Unexpected kindness is a powerful agent of human change

- *1 November • ALL SAINTS' DAY • Western Christian - Commemorates all known and unknown Christian saints. Eastern Christianity observes it on the first Sunday after Pentecost.
- *2 November • ALL SOULS' DAY • Christian - Commemoration of all faithful Christians who are now dead.
- *3 November • GUR-GADRI GURU GRANTH SAHIB • Sikh - Since 1708, Sikhs have accepted Sri Guru Granth Sahib as their eternal Guru that holds the spirit of all Ten Gurus of the Sikhs.
- *4 November • BIRTH OF GURU NANAK DEV • Sikh - A commemorative occasion having no fixed date which occurs in October or November and celebrates the rebirth of the Sixth Guru Nanak Dev Ji. Celebrated from Imphal and coincides with Divali, the Hindu festival of lights.
- *7 November • BIRTH OF BAHÁ'U'LLÁH • Bahá'í Anniversary of the birth in 1817 of Bahá'u'lláh, prophet-founder of the Bahá'í Faith in Haifa, Israel.
- *12 November • DUSSEHRA • Hindu - Also called Dussehra, "Festival of Lights"; it celebrates the victory of good over evil, light over darkness, and knowledge over ignorance.
- 13 November • VIKRAM • Hindu - New Year festival.
- 19 November • GURU NANAK DEV JI'S BIRTHDAY • Sikh - A very important holiday in the Sikh faith as Guru Nanak Dev Ji was the First Guru of the Sikhs and the Founder of Sikhism.
- *25 November • DAY OF THE COVENANT • Bahá'í - Day of the Covenant is a festival observed to commemorate Bahá'u'lláh's appointment of his son, 'Abdu'l-Bahá, as his successor.
- *28 November to 28 December • ADVENT • Christian - Advent is a season of spiritual preparation in observance of the birth of Jesus. In Western Christianity, it starts on the fourth Sunday before Christmas. In Eastern Christianity, the season is longer and begins in the middle of November.
- *29 November to 6 December • CHANUKAH • Jewish - Eight-day "Festival of Lights", also known as Hanukkah, celebrates the rededication of the Temple to the service of God in 344 BCE.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

DECEMBER

Kindness is the greatest of gifts because it can make the greatest of difference

- *8 December • BOODHI DAY • Buddhist - Also known as Rohatsu, commemorates the day that the Buddha, Siddhartha Gautama, experienced enlightenment or spiritual awakening (bodhi). Celebrated on the eighth day after of December or the 12th month of the lunar calendar.
- 12 December • OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE • Christian - Celebrates the apparition of the Blessed Virgin Mary (by her title, Our Lady of Guadalupe, the Patroness of Mexico and the Americas) before Juan Diego, an indigenous convert to Roman Catholicism, on the Mexican hill of Tepeyac, in 1531.
- *18 December • HANUKKAH COMPLETES • Judaism - Hanukkah is an eight-day Jewish festival with the first day known as Chanukah, Festival of Lights.
- *21 December • WINTER SOLSTICE • Marks the first day of the season of winter. The length of time between sunrise and sunset is the shortest of the year with the sun shining closest to the Southern Hemisphere and the farthest from the Northern Hemisphere.
- *24 December • CHRISTMAS EVE • Christian - Celebration of the arrival of Mary and Joseph in Bethlehem for the birth of Jesus.
- 25 December • CHRISTMAS • Western Christian - Commemorates the birth of Jesus.
- *26 December to 1 January • KIWANZAA • A seven-day celebration honoring African American heritage and its continued vitality. "Kwanzaa" means "first fruits (of the harvest)" in Swahili.
- *31 December • NEW YEARS EVE • In the Gregorian calendar, New Year's Eve, the last day of the year.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

This calendar is sample of multi-faith events and is not intended to be an exhaustive listing
Some dates are approximate and will be determined by the sighting of the moon and cultural traditions.

Chaplaincy Service - Ashbourne Centre - Kingsway-Site - Derby - DE22 3LZ
01332 623700 X 33358 dhcft.chaplaincy.service@nhs.net

©2022 Chaplaincy Service DHCFT

