

Multifaith Chaplaincy

**Supporting  
students and staff  
of different faiths and none**

**Major religious dates  
at a glance  
2016/17**

**September 2016**

Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Muslim	Eid-ul-Adha
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Pagan	Autumn Equinox

**October 2016**

Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Hindu	Navaratri (start)
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Jewish	Rosh Hashanah (start)
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Hindu	Dussera
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Jewish	Yom Kippur
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Jewish	Sukkot
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Jewish	Shemini Atzeret
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Jewish	Simchat Torah
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Hindu/Sikh/Jain	Diwali
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup>	Pagan	Samhain

**November 2016**

Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Christian	All Saints Day
	Bahá'í	Birth of the Bab
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Bahá'í	Birth of Baha'u'llah
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Sikh	Birth of Guru Nanak
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Sikh	Martyrdom of Guru Teg Bahadur

**December 2016**

Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Buddhist	Bodhi Day
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Pagan	Winter Solstice/Yule
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Christian (Western)	Christmas
	Jewish	Hanukkah (start)

**January 2017**

Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Sikh	Birth of Guru Gobind Singh
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> /Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Christian (Orthodox)	Christmas

**February 2017**

Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Pagan	Imbolc
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Buddhist	Paranirvana - Nirvana Day
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Hindu	Mahashivratri

**March 2017**

Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Christian	Ash Wednesday
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Jewish	Purim
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Hindu	Holi (start)
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Bahá'í	Naw Ruz (New Year)
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Pagan	Spring Equinox

**April 2017**

Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Hindu	Shri Ram Navami
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Jewish	Pesach/Passover (start)
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Christian	Maundy Thursday
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Christian	Good Friday
	Sikh	Vaisakhi
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Christian	Easter
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Bahá'í	First day of Ridvan

## May 2017

Monday 1st	Pagan	Beltane
Wednesday 3rd	Buddhist	Wesak or Buddha Day
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Christian	Ascension Day
Saturday May 27 <sup>th</sup>	Muslim	Ramadan (start)
Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup>	Jewish	Shavuot (start)

## June 2017

Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Christian	Pentecost
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Christian	Trinity Sunday
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Sikh	Martyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Pagan	Summer Solstice
Monday June 26 <sup>th</sup>	Muslim	Eid-ul-Fitr
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Christian	Saints Peter and Paul

## July 2017

Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Bahá'í	Martyrdom of the Bab
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## August 2017

Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Pagan	Lammas
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Christian (RC)	Assumption of Mary
	Hindu	Shri Krishna Janamashtmi

### Notes about dates

#### **Buddhist festivals**

Wesak is celebrated on different dates by different Buddhist traditions.

#### **Hindu festivals**

Dates may vary by one or two days because of the use of the sighting of the moon in the Hindu calendar. This prevents confirmation of the dates until very near to the festivals.

#### **Islamic festivals**

Dates may vary by one or two days because of the use of the sighting of the moon in the Muslim calendar. This prevents confirmation of the dates until very near to the festivals. Ramadan is the Islamic month of fasting when Muslims are expected to fast between dawn and dusk.

#### **Jewish festivals**

These are understood as starting at sunset on the previous day and ending at nightfall. Jewish students may wish to return to their families for festivals, with implications for travelling time. Pesach (Passover) is an eight-day festival. Religious Jews might request absence for the first two days and the final two days which are major Jewish holy days. Some other festivals are two-day events.

#### **Pagan festivals**

There are many Pagan paths or traditions and therefore many different festivals. Dates and names of common festivals may also vary between traditions. Major gatherings are often held on the nearest weekend to a sacred day. For a lot of people who consider themselves Pagan, the day of celebration and its associated activities actually starts at sunset of the day before

**Please contact us for further information**

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**shuspace**                <http://shuspace.shu.ac.uk> - search 'Chaplaincy'

**Staff Intranet**        <http://go.shu.ac.uk/chaplaincy>

The Multifaith Chaplaincy is part of **Student Wellbeing**