

DIVERSITY HOLIDAY CALENDAR



JAN 1ST: NEW YEARS

New Year's Day, the first day of the year according to the modern Gregorian calendar, celebrated within most Western countries.

2021
JANUARY

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JAN 1ST: FEAST DAY OF ST. BASIL

Feast Day of St. Basil, a holiday observed by the Eastern Orthodox Church, commemorating the death of Saint Basil the Great.

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JAN 3RD: HOLY NAME OF JESUS

Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus, which is celebrated in the Roman Catholic Church, commemorates the naming of the child Jesus.

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JAN 4TH: WORLD BRAILLE DAY

World Braille Day, observed in order to raise awareness of the importance of braille as a means of communication in the full realization of the human rights for blind and partially sighted people. Celebrated on Louis Braille's birthday, the inventor of braille.

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JAN 5TH: GURU SINGH JI BIRTHDAY

Guru Gobind Singh Ji's birthday, the Tenth Guru of the Sikhs who initiated the Sikhs as the Khalsa (the pure ones) and is known as the Father of the Khalsa.

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JAN 5TH: TWELFTH NIGHT

Twelfth Night, a festival celebrated by some branches of Christianity that marks the coming of the Epiphany.

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JAN 6TH: DIA DE LOS REYES

Epiphany or Dia de los Reyes (Three Kings Day), a holiday observed by Eastern and Western Christians that recognizes the visit of the three wise men to the baby Jesus 12 days after his birth.

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JAN 6TH: ARMENIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS

Christmas, recognized on this day by Armenian Orthodox Christians, who celebrate the birth of Jesus on Epiphany.

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JAN 7TH: EASTERN ORTHODOX CHRISTMAS

Christmas, recognized on this day by Eastern Orthodox Christians, who celebrate Christmas 13 days later than other Christian churches because they follow the Julian calendar rather than the Gregorian version of the Western calendar.

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JAN 13TH: LORI-MAGHI FESTIVAL

Lori-Maghi, an annual festival celebrated by the Sikhs commemorating the memory of 40 Sikh martyrs.

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JANUARY

JAN 14TH: MAKAR SANKRANTI

Makar Sankranti, a major
harvest festival celebrated
in various parts of India.

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JANUARY 14–APRIL 27 KUMBH MELA EVENT

Kumbh Mela, a mass pilgrimage event that takes place every 12 years and is of deep religious significance to Hindus. Millions of devotees and pilgrims congregate on the banks of the Ganges River to take part in ritual bathing on various dates through April 27. It is believed that taking a dip in the holy water cleanses devotees of their sins. **It is known as the world's largest religious and cultural human gathering.**

JAN 17TH: WORLD RELIGION DAY

World Religion Day,
observed by those of the
Bahá'í faith to promote
interfaith harmony and
understanding.

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JAN 18TH: MLK DAY

Martin Luther King Jr. Day commemorates the birth of Martin Luther King Jr., the recipient of the 1964 Nobel Peace Prize and an activist for nonviolent social change until his assassination in 1968.

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JAN 18-25: WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

The Week of Prayer for
Christian Unity, during which
Christians pray for unity
between all churches of the
Christian faith.

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JAN 19TH: TIMKAT

Timkat, a holiday observed by Ethiopian Orthodox Christians who celebrate the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River on Epiphany.

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JAN 26TH: REPUBLIC DAY OF INDIA

Republic Day of India recognizes the date the Constitution of India came into law in 1950, replacing the Government of India Act of 1935. This day also coincides with India's 1930 declaration of independence.

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JAN 27TH: HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

The International Day of
Commemoration to remember
the victims of the Holocaust.
The anniversary of the
liberation of the Auschwitz
death camp in 1945 and U.N.
Holocaust Memorial Day /
Remembrance Day.

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JAN 27TH: TU B'SHEVAT "NEW YEAR OF THE TREES"

Tu B'shevat or Rosh HaShanah La'llanot, a Jewish holiday recognizing "The New Year of the Trees." It is celebrated on the 15th day of the Hebrew month of Shevat. In Israel, the flowering of the almond tree usually coincides with this holiday, which is observed by planting trees and eating dried fruits and nuts.

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JAN 28TH: MAHAYANA NEW YEAR

Mahayana New Year, a holiday celebrated by the Mahayana Buddhist branch, on the first full-moon day in January.

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FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH IN THE UNITED STATES & CANADA.

Since 1976, the month has been designated to remember the contributions of people of the African diaspora.

2021 FEBRUARY

FEB 1ST: FREEDOM DAY

National Freedom Day,
which celebrates the
signing of the 13th
Amendment that
abolished slavery in 1865.

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2021 FEBRUARY

FEB 1ST: ST. BRIGID OF KILDARE DAY

St. Brigid of Kildare, feast day for St. Brigid celebrated by some Christian denominations.

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2021 FEBRUARY

FEB 1-2: IMBOLC

Imbolc, a Gaelic traditional festival marking the beginning of spring.

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FEB 2ND: CANDLEMAS

A Christian holiday that celebrates three occasions according to Christian belief: the presentation of the child Jesus; Jesus' first entry into the temple; and Virgin Mary's purification.

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FEB 3RD: ST. BLAISE DAY

St. Blaise Day (The Blessing of the Throats), the feast day of St. Blaise of Sebaste celebrated by the Roman Catholic Church and some Eastern Catholic churches.

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2021 FEBRUARY

FEB 3RD: SETSUBUN-SAI

Setsubun-Sai (Beginning of Spring), the day before the beginning of spring in Japan, celebrated yearly as part of the Spring Festival.

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FEB 3RD: FOUR CHAPLAINS DAY

Four Chaplains Day commemorates the 55th anniversary of the sinking of the United States army transport Dorchester and the heroism of the four chaplains aboard.

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FEB 11TH: ASIAN- AMERICAN WOMEN'S EQUAL PAY DAY

Asian-American Women's Equal Pay Day. The aim is to raise awareness about the pay gap between Asian-American women and White men. Asian-American women are paid 90 cents for every dollar paid to white men.

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FEB 12TH: LUNAR NEW YEAR

Lunar New Year, one of the most sacred of all traditional Chinese holidays, a time of family reunion and celebration. The Lunar New Year is also celebrated at this time in Japan, Korea, Vietnam and Mongolia.

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FEB 12-14: LOSAR TIBETAN BUDDHIST NEW YEAR

Losar, the Tibetan Buddhist New Year, a time of renewal through sacred and secular practices.

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FEB 14TH: ST. VALENTINE'S DAY

St. Valentine's Day, a Western Christian feast day honoring one or two early saints named Valentinus. Typically, associated with romantic love and celebrated by people expressing their love via gifts.

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FEB 15TH: PARINIRVANA DAY

Parinirvana Day (or Nirvana Day), the commemoration of Buddha's death at the age of 80, when he reached the zenith of Nirvana. February 8 is an alternative date of observance.

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2021 FEBRUARY

FEB 15TH: PRESIDENTS DAY

Presidents Day, a federally recognized celebration in the United States of George Washington's birthday, as well as every president proceeding Washington.

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FEB 16TH: VASANT PANCHAMI

Vasant Panchami, the Hindu festival that highlights the coming of spring. On this day Hindus worship Saraswati Devi, the goddess of wisdom, knowledge, music, art, and culture.

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FEB 16TH: MARDI GRAS

Mardi Gras, the last day for Catholics to indulge before Ash Wednesday starts the sober weeks of fasting that accompany Lent. The term “Mardi Gras” is particularly associated with the carnival celebrations in New Orleans, Louisiana.

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FEB 16TH: SHROVE TUESDAY

Shrove Tuesday, the day before Ash Wednesday. Though named for its former religious significance, it is chiefly marked by feasting and celebration, which traditionally preceded the observance of the Lenten fast. It is observed by various Christian denominations.

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FEB 17TH: ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent on the Christian calendar. Its name is derived from the symbolic use of ashes to signify penitence. It takes place immediately after the excesses of the two days of Carnival that take place in Northern Europe and parts of Latin America and the Caribbean.

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FEB 25-28: INTERCALARY DAYS

Intercalary Days or *Ayyám-i-Há*, celebrated by people of the Bahá'í faith. At this time, days are added to the Bahá'í calendar to maintain their solar calendar. Intercalary days are observed with gift-giving, special acts of charity, and preparation for the fasting that precedes the New Year.

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2021 FEBRUARY

FEB 25-26: PURIM

Purim, a Jewish celebration that marks the time when the Jewish community living in Persia was saved from genocide. On Purim, Jewish people offer charity and share food with friends.

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FEB 26: LANTERN FESTIVAL

Lantern Festival, the first significant feast after the Chinese New Year, named for watching Chinese lanterns illuminate the sky during the night of the event.

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FEB 27: MAGHI- PURNIMA

Maghi-Purnima, a Hindu festival especially for worshippers of Lord Vishnu. Millions of devotees take a holy bath on this day. Devotees also carry out charity work on this day.

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FEBRUARY 27– MARCH 28: MAGHA PUJA DAY

Magha Puja Day (also known as Maka Bucha), a Buddhist holiday that marks an event early in the Buddha's teaching life when a group of 1,250 enlightened saints, ordained by the Buddha, gathered to pay their respect to him. It is celebrated on various dates in different countries.

FEBRUARY 28 – MARCH 19: NINETEEN-DAY FAST

Nineteen-Day Fast, a time in the Bahá'í Faith to reinvigorate the soul and bring one closer to God. This fast takes place immediately before the beginning of the Bahá'í New Year.

MARCH: WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

March is Women's History Month. Started in 1987, Women's History Month recognizes all women for their valuable contributions to history and society.

MARCH: NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH

March is National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month, which was established to increase awareness and understanding of issues affecting people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

MARCH: NATIONAL MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS EDUCATION MONTH

March is National Multiple Sclerosis Education and Awareness Month. It was established to raise public awareness of the autoimmune disease that affects the brain and spinal cord and assist those with multiple sclerosis in making informed decisions about their health care.

2021
MARCH

MARCH 1ST: ST. DAVID'S DAY

St. David's Day, the feast day of St. David, the patron saint of Wales.

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MARCH 7TH: MEATFARE SUNDAY

Meatfare Sunday (The Sunday of the Last Judgment), traditionally the last day of eating meat before Easter for Orthodox Christians.

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MARCH 8TH: INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

International Women's Day.
First observed in 1911 in
Germany, it has now
become a major global
celebration honoring
women's economic, political
and social achievements.

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MARCH 11TH: MAHA SHIVARATI

Maha Shivarati, Hindu festival celebrated each year to honor Lord Shiva. It is celebrated just before the arrival of spring. It is also known as the Great Night of Shiva or Shivaratri and is one of the largest and most significant among the sacred festival nights of India.

2021 MARCH

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MARCH 11TH: LAILAT AL MIRAJ

Lailat al Miraj, a Muslim holiday that 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. Note that in the Muslim calendar, a holiday begins on the sunset of the previous day, so observing Muslims will celebrate Lailat al Miraj on the **sundown of March 10.**

2021 MARCH

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MARCH 13-APRIL 15: DEAF HISTORY MONTH

Deaf History Month. This observance celebrates key events in deaf history, including the founding of Gallaudet University and the American School for the Deaf.

MARCH 14TH: CHEESEFARE SUNDAY

Cheesefare Sunday or Forgiveness Sunday, the last Sunday prior to the commencement of Great Lent for Orthodox Christians.

2021 MARCH

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MARCH 15-MAY 1: GREAT LENT

Beginning of Great Lent in the Orthodox Christian faith. March 15, the day Great Lent begins this year, is also known as Clean Monday.

MARCH 17TH: ST. PATRICK'S DAY

St. Patrick's Day, a holiday started in Ireland to recognize St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland who brought Christianity to the country in the early days of the faith.

2021 MARCH

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2021 MARCH

MARCH 19TH: ST. JOSEPH'S DAY

St. Joseph's Day, in Western Christianity the principal feast of St. Joseph, the husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

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2021 MARCH

MARCH 19-20: NAW-RÚZ

Naw-Rúz, the Bahá'í New Year is a holiday celebrated on the vernal equinox. It is one of the nine Bahá'í holy days on which work is suspended.

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MARCH 20TH: OSTARA

Ostara, a celebration of the spring equinox commemorated by Pagans and Wiccans. It is observed as a time to mark the coming of spring and the fertility of the land.

2021 MARCH

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2021 MARCH

MARCH 21-22: NOWRUZ

Nowruz/Norooz, Persian New Year, a day of joy, celebration and renewal. It is held annually on the spring equinox.

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MARCH 21TH: INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, observed annually in the wake of the 1960 killing of 69 people at a demonstration against apartheid pass laws in South Africa. The United Nations proclaimed the day in 1966 and called on the international community to redouble its efforts to eliminate all forms of racial discrimination.

2021
MARCH

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MARCH 21TH: ORTHODOX SUNDAY

Orthodox Sunday, celebrated on the first Sunday of Great Lent. It is the celebration of the victory of the iconodules over the iconoclasts by the decision of the Seventh Ecumenical Council. Therefore, the service is to commemorate the restoration of icons for use in services and private devotional life of Christians.

2021 MARCH

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MARCH 25TH: REMEMBRANCE OF THE VICTIMS OF SLAVERY

International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade is a United Nations international observation that offers the opportunity to honor and remember those who suffered and died at the hands of the brutal slavery system. First observed in 2008, the international day also aims to raise awareness about the dangers of racism and prejudice today.

2021 MARCH

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MARCH 25TH: ANNUNCIATION OF THE VIRGIN MARY

Annunciation of the Virgin Mary, a Christian celebration of the announcement by the angel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary that she would conceive and become the mother of Jesus.

2021 MARCH

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MARCH 26TH: KHORDAD SAL

Khordad Sal (Birth of prophet Zoroaster), birth anniversary (or birthdate) of Zoroaster, a spiritual leader and ethical philosopher who taught a spiritual philosophy of self-realization and realization of the divine. Zoroastrians celebrate this day with prayer and feasting.

2021 MARCH

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2021 MARCH

MARCH 27-APRIL 4: PASSOVER

Passover, an eight-day Jewish holiday and festival in commemoration of the emancipation of the Israelites from slavery in ancient Egypt.

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MARCH 27TH: LORD'S EVENING MEAL

Lord's Evening Meal,
Jehovah's Witnesses
commemorate an event
believed to have occurred on
the first night of Passover in
approximately 33 CE, the
Last Supper, known as the
Lord's Evening Meal.

2021 MARCH

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2021 MARCH

MARCH 28TH: PALM SUNDAY

Palm Sunday, a Christian holiday commemorating the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. It is the last Sunday of Lent and the beginning of the Holy Week.

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MARCH 28-29: HOLI

Holi, the annual Hindu and Sikh spring religious festival observed in India, Nepal and Sri Lanka, along with other countries with large Hindu and Sikh populations. People celebrate Holi by throwing colored powder and water at each other. Bonfires are lit the day before in the memory of the miraculous escape that young Prahlada accomplished when demoness Holika carried him into the fire. It is often celebrated on the full moon (the Phalguna Purnima) before the beginning of the Vernal Equinox as based on the Hindu calendar.

2021 MARCH

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MARCH 28-29: LAILAT AL BARA'A

Lailat al Bara'a, also known as Lailat Al Baraah, Barat, or popularly as Shab-e-Bara or Night of Forgiveness. It is an Islamic holiday during which practitioners of the faith seek forgiveness for sins. Muslims spend the night in special prayers. It is regarded as one of the most sacred nights on the Islamic calendar.

2021 MARCH

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2021 MARCH

MARCH 29-31: HOLA MOHALLA

Hola Mohalla, a Sikh festival that takes place on the second day of the lunar month of Chet, a day after the Hindu spring festival Holi.

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MARCH 31ST: INTERNATIONAL TRANSGENDER DAY OF VISIBILITY

International Transgender Day of Visibility, celebrated to bring awareness to transgender people and their identities as well as recognize those who helped fight for rights for transgender people.

2021 MARCH

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APRIL: CELEBRATE DIVERSITY MONTH

April is Celebrate Diversity Month, started in 2004 to recognize and honor the diversity surrounding us all. By celebrating differences and similarities during this month, organizers hope that people will get a deeper understanding of each other.

APRIL: AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

April is Autism Awareness Month, established to raise awareness about the developmental disorder that affects an individual's normal development of social and communication skills.

APRIL 1ST: HOLY THURSDAY

Holy Thursday (Maundy Thursday), the Christian holiday commemorating the Last Supper, at which Jesus and the Apostles were together for the last time before the Crucifixion. It is celebrated on the Thursday before Easter.

2021 APRIL

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2021 APRIL

APRIL 2ND: GOOD FRIDAY

Good Friday, a day celebrated by Christians to commemorate the execution of Jesus by crucifixion. It is recognized on the Friday before Easter.

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APRIL 2ND: WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY

World Autism Awareness Day, created to raise awareness of the developmental disorder around the globe.

2021 APRIL

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2021
APRIL

APRIL 4TH: EASTER

Easter, a holiday celebrated by Christians to recognize Jesus' return from death after the Crucifixion.

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2021
APRIL

APRIL 7-8: YOM HASHOAH

Yom HaShoah, Israel's day of remembrance for the approximately 6 million Jews who perished in the Holocaust.

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APRIL 12TH: HINDI NEW YEAR

According to Hindu New Year or Vikram Samvat, the month of Chaitra (usually falls between the months of March and April) marks the New year or first month of Hindu calendar

2021 APRIL

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APRIL 12TH – MAY 11TH: RAMADAN

Ramadan, an Islamic holiday marked by fasting, praise, prayer and devotion to Islam.

APRIL 13TH: EQUAL PAY DAY

Equal Pay Day, an attempt to raise awareness about the raw wage gap, the figure shows that women, on average, earn about 80 cents for every dollar men earn. The date moves earlier each year as the wage gap closes. Equal Pay Day began in 1996 by the National Committee on Pay Equity as a public awareness event to illustrate the gender pay gap.

2021 APRIL

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2021
APRIL

APRIL 14TH: VAISAKHI

Vaisakhi (also known as Baisakhi), the celebration of the founding of the Sikh community as the Khalsa (community of the initiated) and the birth of the Khalsa.

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APRIL 16-17: YOM HA'ATZMAUT

Yom Ha'Atzmaut, national Independence Day in Israel commemorating the Israeli Declaration of Independence in 1948. The day is marked by official and unofficial ceremonies and observances.

2021 APRIL

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APRIL 20–MAY 1: THE FESTIVAL OF RIDVAN

The Festival of Ridvan, a holiday celebrated by those of the Bahá'í faith, commemorating the 12 days when Bahá'u'lláh, the prophet-founder, resided in a garden called Ridvan (paradise) and publicly proclaimed his mission as God's messenger for this age.

2021
APRIL

APRIL 21ST: RAM NAVAMI

Ram Navami, a Hindu day of worship and celebration of the seventh avatar of Vishnu (Lord Rama). Devotees typically wear red and place extravagant flowers on the shrine of the God.

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2021
APRIL

APRIL 22ND: EARTH DAY

Earth Day promotes world peace and sustainability of the planet. Events are held globally to show support of the environmental protection of the Earth.

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2021
APRIL

APRIL 23RD: ST. GEORGE'S DAY

St. George's Day, the
feast day of St. George
celebrated by various
Christian churches.

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APRIL 23RD: THE DAY OF SILENCE

The Day of Silence, during which students take a daylong vow of silence to protest the actual silencing of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) students and their straight allies due to bias and harassment.

2021 APRIL

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APRIL 24TH: LAZARUS SATURDAY

Lazarus Saturday, a day celebrated by the Eastern Orthodox Church and Oriental Orthodoxy to commemorate the raising of Lazarus of Bethany.

2021 APRIL

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APRIL 24TH: ARMENIAN MARTYRS' DAY

Armenian Martyrs' Day recognizes the genocide of approximately 1.5 million Armenians between 1915 and 1923 in Turkey.

2021 APRIL

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APRIL 25TH: MAHAVIR JAYANTI

Mahavir Jayanti, a holiday celebrated by the Jains commemorating the birth of Lord Mahavira. It is one of the most important religious festivals for Jains.

2021 APRIL

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APRIL 28TH: NINTH DAY OF RIDVAN

Ninth Day of Ridvan, a festival of joy and unity in the Bahá'í faith to commemorate the reunification of Bahá'u'lláh's family, and by extension the unity of the entire human family the Bahá'í faith calls for. It permeates the symbolic meaning of the Ninth Day of Ridvan.

2021 APRIL

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2021
APRIL

APRIL 29-30: LAG BAOMER

Lag BaOmer, a Jewish holiday marking the day of hillula of Rabbi Shimon bar Yochai.

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MAY: ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

May is Asian Pacific American Heritage Month in the United States. The month of May was chosen to commemorate the immigration of the first Japanese to the United States on May 7, 1843, and to mark the anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869. The majority of the workers who laid the tracks on the project were Chinese immigrants.

MAY: OLDER AMERICANS MONTH

May is Older Americans Month, established in 1963 to honor the legacies and contributions of older Americans and to support them as they enter their next stage of life.

MAY: JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

May is Jewish American Heritage Month, which recognizes the diverse contributions of the Jewish people to American culture.

MAY: MENTAL HEALTH MONTH

May is Mental Health Awareness Month (or Mental Health Month), which aims to raise awareness and educate the public about mental illnesses and reduce the stigma that surrounds mental illnesses.

2021
MAY

MAY 1ST: BELTANE

Beltane, an ancient Celtic festival celebrated on *May Day*, signifying the beginning of summer.

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2021
MAY

MAY 2ND: ORTHODOX EASTER

Orthodox Easter (also called Pascha), a later Easter date than observed by many Western churches.

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MAY 3RD: ST. PHILIP & JAMES FEAST DAY

Saints Philip and James, a Roman Rite feast day for the anniversary of the dedication of the church to Saints Phillip and James in Rome.

2021 MAY

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MAY 5TH: CINCO DE MAYO

Cinco de Mayo, a Mexican holiday commemorating the Mexican army's 1862 victory over France at the Battle of Puebla during the Franco-Mexican War (1861-1867). This day celebrates Mexican culture and heritage, including parades and mariachi music performances.

2021 MAY

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MAY 9TH: LAYLAT AL- QADR

Laylat al-Qadr, the holiest night of the year for Muslims, is traditionally celebrated on the 27th day of Ramadan. It is known as the Night of Power and commemorates the night that the Quran was first revealed to the prophet Muhammad.

2021 MAY

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MAY 12-13: EID AL-FITR

Eid al-Fitr, the first day of the Islamic month of Shawwal, marking the end of Ramadan. Many Muslims attend communal prayers, listen to a khutuba (sermon), and give Zakat al-Fitr (charity in the form of food) during Eid al-Fitr.

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MAY 13: ASCENSION DAY

Ascension of Jesus or Ascension Day, is celebrated as the ascension of Christ from Earth in the presence of God within most of the Christian faith.

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MAY 16-18: SHAVUOT

Shavuot, a Jewish holiday that has a double significance. It marks the all-important wheat harvest in Israel and commemorates the anniversary of the day when God gave the Torah to the nation of Israel assembled at Mount Sinai.

2021 MAY

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MAY 17: INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST HOMOPHOBIA, TRANSPHOBIA & BIPHOBIA

International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia, a global celebration of sexual-orientation and gender diversities.

2021 MAY

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MAY 21: WORLD DAY FOR CULTURAL DIVERSITY FOR DIALOGUE AND DEVELOPMENT

World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development, a day set aside by the United Nations as an opportunity to deepen our understanding of the values of cultural diversity and to learn to live together in harmony.

2021 MAY

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MAY 22-23: DECLARATION OF THE BÁB

Declaration of the Báb, the day of declaration of the Báb, the forerunner of Bahá'u'lláh, the founder of the Bahá'í faith.

2021
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2021
MAY

MAY 23RD: PENTECOST

Pentecost, the celebration
of the giving of the Ten
Commandments by God at
Mount Sinai.

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MAY 26TH: BUDDHA DAY

Buddha Day (Vesak or Visakha Puja), a Buddhist festival that marks Gautama Buddha's birth, enlightenment, and death. It falls on the day of the full moon in May and it is a gazetted holiday in India.

2021 MAY

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2021
MAY

MAY 29TH: ASCENSION OF BAHÁ'U'LLÁH

Ascension of Bahá'u'lláh
commemorates the
ascension of Bahá'u'lláh,
the founder of the Bahá'í
faith.

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2021
MAY

MAY 30TH: TRINITY SUNDAY

Trinity Sunday, observed in the Western Christian faith as a feast in honor of the Holy Trinity.

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2021
MAY

MAY 30TH: ALL SAINTS' DAY

All Saints' Day, celebrated by many Eastern Christian churches on the first Sunday after Pentecost, in recognition of all known and unknown saints.

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2021
MAY

MAY 31TH: MEMORIAL DAY

Memorial Day in the United States, a federal holiday established to honor military veterans who died in wars fought by American forces.

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JUNE: PRIDE MONTH

June is Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride Month, established to recognize the impact that gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender individuals have had on the world. LGBT groups celebrate this special time with pride parades, picnics, parties, memorials for those lost to hate crimes and HIV/AIDS, and other group gatherings. The last Sunday in June is Gay Pride Day.

JUNE: IMMIGRANT HERITAGE MONTH

June is Immigrant Heritage Month, established in June 2014, gives people across the United States an opportunity to annually explore their own heritage and celebrate the shared diversity that forms the unique story of America. It celebrates immigrants across the United States and their contributions to their local communities and economy.

JUNE 3TH: CORPUS CHRISTI

Corpus Christi, a Catholic holiday celebrating the presence of the body and blood of Christ, in the Eucharist.

2021 JUNE

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**2021
JUNE**

JUNE 11TH: SACRED HEART OF JESUS

Sacred Heart of Jesus, the Feast of the Most Sacred Heart is a solemnity in the liturgical calendar of the Roman Catholic Church.

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2021
JUNE

JUNE 14TH: FLAG DAY

Flag Day in the United States, observed to celebrate the history and symbolism of the American flag

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JUNE 15TH: NATIVE AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP DAY

Native American Citizenship Day, commemorating the day in 1924 when the U.S. Congress passed legislation recognizing the citizenship of Native Americans.

2021 JUNE

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2021
JUNE

JUNE 16TH: MARTYRDOM OF GURU ARJAN DEV

Martyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev, observed by members of the Sikh faith. Guru Arjan Dev was the fifth Sikh guru and the first Sikh martyr.

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JUNE 19TH: JUNETEENTH

Juneteenth, also known as Freedom Day or Emancipation Day. It is observed as a public holiday in 14 U.S. states. This celebration honors the day in 1865 when slaves in Texas and Louisiana finally heard they were free, two months after the end of the Civil War. June 19, therefore, became the day of emancipation for thousands of African-Americans.

2021 JUNE

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JUNE 19TH: NEW CHURCH DAY

New Church Day, according to Christian belief, on this day the Lord called together the 12 disciples who had followed him on earth, instructed them in the Heavenly Doctrine of the New Jerusalem, and sent them out to teach that “the Lord God Jesus Christ reigns, whose kingdom shall be for ages and ages.” This was the beginning of the New Christian Church.

2021 JUNE

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JUNE 21ST: FIRST NATIONS DAY

National Indigenous Peoples Day or First Nations Day, a day that gives recognition to the indigenous populations affected by colonization in Canada.

2021 JUNE

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2021
JUNE

JUNE 21ST: LITHA

Litha, the summer solstice celebrated by the Wiccans and Pagans. It is the longest day of the year, representing the sun's "annual retreat."

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2021
JUNE

JUNE 28TH: PRIDE DAY

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual,
Transgender (LGBT) Pride
Day in the United States. It
celebrates the Stonewall
Riots on June 28, 1969.

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JUNE 29ST: FEAST DAY OF ST. PETER & PAUL

Feast Day of Saints Peter and Paul, a liturgical feast in honor of the martyrdom in Rome for the apostles St. Peter and St. Paul in Eastern Orthodox Christianity.

2021 JUNE

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JULY 1ST: CANADA DAY

Canada Day, or Fête du Canada, is a Canadian federal holiday that celebrates the 1867 enactment of the Constitution Act, which established the three former British colonies of Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick as a united nation called Canada.

2021 JULY

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JULY 4TH: INDEPENDENCE DAY

Independence Day (also known as the Fourth of July), a United States federal holiday that celebrates the adoption of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. The original 13 American colonies declared independence from Britain and established themselves as a new nation known as the United States of America.

2021 JULY

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**2021
JULY**

JULY 8-9TH: MARTYRDOM OF THE BAB

The Martyrdom of the Bab,
a day when Bahá'ís
observe the anniversary of
the Báb's execution in
Tabriz, Iran, in 1850.

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JULY 11TH: WORLD POPULATION DAY

World Population Day, an observance established in 1989 by the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme. The annual event is designed to raise awareness of global population issues.

2021 JULY

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JULY 14TH: INTERNATIONAL NON-BINARY PEOPLE'S DAY

International Non-Binary People's Day, aimed at raising awareness and organizing around the issues faced by non-binary people around the world while celebrating their contributions.

2021 JULY

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JULY 14TH: BASTILLE DAY

Bastille Day, a French federal holiday that commemorates the Storming of the Bastille, a fortress-prison in Paris that held political prisoners who had displeased the French nobility. The Storming of the Bastille, which took place on July 14, 1789, was regarded as a turning point of the French Revolution. Celebrations are held throughout France.

2021 JULY

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2021
JULY

JULY 15TH: ST. VLADIMIR THE GREAT DAY

St. Vladimir the Great Day, the feast day for St. Vladimir celebrated by the Eastern Orthodox and Roman Catholic churches.

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JULY 17-18: TISHA B'AV

Tisha B'Av, a fast in commemoration of the destruction of two holy and sacred temples of Judaism destroyed by the Babylonians (in 586 B.C.E) and Romans (in 70 C.E.). At the Tisha B'Av, after select passages from the Torah are read and understood, netilat yadayim, or the washing of the hands, is performed.

2021 JULY

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JULY 18TH: NELSON MANDELA INTERNATIONAL DAY

Nelson Mandela International Day, launched on July 18, 2009, in recognition of Nelson Mandela's birthday via unanimous decision of the U.N. General Assembly. It was inspired by a call Nelson Mandela made a year earlier for the next generation to take on the burden of leadership in addressing the world's social injustices: "It is in your hands now." It is more than a celebration of Mandela's life and legacy; it is a global movement to honor his life's work and to change the world for the better.

2021 JULY

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2021
JULY

JULY 18-19: WAQF AL ARAFA

Waqf al Arafa, the second day of pilgrimage within the Islamic faith.

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JULY 19-20: EID AL-ADHA

Eid al-Adha, an Islamic festival to commemorate the willingness of Ibrahim (also known as Abraham) to follow Allah's (God's) command to sacrifice his son, Ishmael. Muslims around the world observe this event.

2021 JULY

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JULY 23RD: HAILE SELASSIE I BIRTHDAY

The birthday of Haile Selassie I, the former Emperor of Ethiopia whom the Rastafarians consider to be their savior.

2021 JULY

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2021
JULY

JULY 24TH: DHARMA DAY

Asalha Puja, or Dharma Day,
is a celebration of Buddha's
first teachings.

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JULY 24TH: PIONEER DAY

Pioneer Day, observed by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to commemorate the arrival in 1847 of the first Latter-day Saint pioneers in Salt Lake Valley.

2021
JULY

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**2021
JULY**

JULY 25TH: ST. JAMES THE GREATER DAY

St. James the Greater
Day, feast day for St.
James the Greater
celebrated by some
Christian denominations.

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JULY 26TH: DISABILITY INDEPENDENCE DAY

Disability Independence Day, celebrating the anniversary of the 1990 signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

2021 JULY

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JULY 30TH: INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FRIENDSHIP

International Day of Friendship,
proclaimed in 2011 by the U.N.
General Assembly with the idea
that friendship between
peoples, countries, cultures and
individuals can inspire peace
efforts and build bridges
between communities.

2021 JULY

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2021
AUGUST

AUGUST 1ST: LAMMAS

Lammas, a festival to mark the annual wheat harvest within some English-speaking countries in the Northern Hemisphere.

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2021 AUGUST

AUGUST 1ST: LUGHNASADH

Lughnasadh, a Gaelic festival marking the beginning of the harvest season.

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AUGUST 1ST: FAST IN HONOR OF HOLY MOTHER OF JESUS

Fast in Honor of Holy Mother of Jesus, beginning of the 14-day period of preparation for Orthodox Christians leading up to the Dormition of the Virgin Mary.

2021 AUGUST

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AUGUST 6TH: FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION

Transfiguration of the Lord
(Feast of the
Transfiguration), celebrated
by various Christian
denominations, the feast
day is dedicated to the
transfiguration of Jesus

2021 AUGUST

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2021
AUGUST

AUGUST 10TH: HIJRI NEW YEAR

Hijri New Year, the day that marks the beginning of the new Islamic calendar year.

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AUGUST 13TH: BLACK WOMEN'S EQUAL PAY DAY

The aim is to raise awareness about the wider-than-average pay gap between Black women and white men. Black women are paid 62 cents for every dollar paid to white men.

2021 AUGUST

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AUGUST 15TH: ASSUMPTION OF BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary, according to the beliefs of the Catholic Church, Eastern and Oriental Orthodoxy, as well as parts of Anglicanism, the day commemorates the bodily taking up of the Virgin Mary into heaven at the end of her earthly life.

2021 AUGUST

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AUGUST 15TH: DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS

Dormition of the Theotokos, a Great Feast of the Eastern Orthodox, Oriental Orthodox and Eastern Catholic Churches that commemorates the "falling asleep," or death, of Mary the Theotokos ("Mother of God") and her bodily resurrection before ascending into heaven.

2021 AUGUST

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AUGUST 17TH: MARCUS GARVEY DAY

Marcus Garvey Day, which celebrates the birthday of the Jamaican politician and activist who is revered by Rastafarians. Garvey is credited with starting the Back to Africa movement, which encouraged those of African descent to return to the land of their ancestors during and after slavery in North America.

2021 AUGUST

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2021 AUGUST

AUGUST 18-19: ASHURA

Ashura, an Islamic holiday commemorating the day Noah left the ark and the day Allah saved Moses from the Egyptians.

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2021 AUGUST

AUGUST 22ND: OBON

Obon (Ullambana), a Buddhist festival and Japanese custom for honoring the spirits of ancestors.

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AUGUST 22ND: RAKSHA BANDHAN

Raksha Bandhan, a Hindu holiday commemorating the loving kinship between a brother and sister.

“Raksha” means “protection” in Hindi and symbolizes the longing a sister has to be protected by her brother. During the celebration, a sister ties a string around her brother’s (or brother-figure’s) wrist and asks him to protect her. The brother usually gives the sister a gift and agrees to protect her for life.

2021 AUGUST

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2021 AUGUST

AUGUST 22ND: HUNGRY GHOST FESTIVAL

Hungry Ghost Festival, a Chinese holiday where the street, market, and temple ceremonies take place to honor dead ancestors and appease other spirits.

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AUGUST 23RD: INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE REMEMBRANCE OF THE SLAVE TRADE AND ITS ABOLITION

International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition and the anniversary of the uprising in Santo Domingo (today Haiti and the Dominican Republic) that initiated the abolition of slavery in the Caribbean.

2021 AUGUST

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AUGUST 26TH: WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY

Women's Equality Day, which commemorates the August 26, 1920, certification of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution that gave women the right to vote. Congresswoman Bella Abzug first introduced a proclamation for Women's Equality Day in 1971. Since that time, every president has published a proclamation recognizing August 26 as Women's Equality Day.

2021 AUGUST

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2021
AUGUST

AUGUST 29-30: KRISHNA JANMASHTAMI

Krishna Janmashtami, a Hindu celebration of Lord Vishnu's most powerful human incarnations, Krishna, the god of love and compassion. Celebrations include praying and fasting.

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SEPTEMBER 15-OCTOBER 15: HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

Hispanic Heritage Month is observed from September 15 to October 15. This month corresponds with Mexican Independence Day, which is celebrated on September 16, and recognizes the revolution in 1810 that ended Spanish dictatorship.

SEPT 4-11: PARYUSHANA PARVA

Paryushana Parva, a Jain festival lasting about eight to ten days that are observed through meditation and fasting. Its main focus is spiritual upliftment, the pursuit of salvation, and a deeper understanding of the religion.

2021 SEPTEMBER

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2021 SEPTEMBER

SEPT 6TH: LABOR DAY

Labor Day in the United States. Labor Day honors the contribution that laborers have made to the country and is observed on the first Monday of September.

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2021 SEPTEMBER

SEPT 6-8: ROSH HASHANAH

Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish
New Year celebration, marking
the creation of the world.

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2021 SEPTEMBER

SEPT 10TH: GANESH CHATURTHI

Ganesh Chaturthi, a Hindu holiday lasting around 10 days, where the elephant-headed Hindu God is praised and given offerings.

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SEPT 11TH: ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST DAY

Beheading of St. John the Baptist, a holy day observed by various Christian churches that follow liturgical traditions. The day commemorates the martyrdom by the beheading of St. John the Baptist on the orders of Herod Antipas through the vengeful request of his stepdaughter, Salome, and her mother.

2021 SEPTEMBER

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2021 SEPTEMBER

SEPT 11TH: ETHIOPIAN NEW YEAR

Rastafarians celebrate the New Year on this date and believe that Ethiopia is their spiritual home.

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2021 SEPTEMBER

SEPT 15-16: YOM KIPPUR

Yom Kippur, the holiest day on the Jewish calendar, a day of atonement marked by fasting and ceremonial repentance.

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SEPT 11TH: PATRIOT DAY

September 11, 2021 is the 20th anniversary of the attacks on the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon in Washington DC. On this day, Americans across the country are called to volunteer in their local communities in tribute to the individuals lost and injured in the attacks, first responders, and the many who have risen in service to defend US freedom.

2021 SEPTEMBER

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SEPT 18TH: INTERNATIONAL EQUAL PAY DAY

International Equal Pay Day, celebrated for the first time in September 2020, represents the longstanding efforts towards the achievement of equal pay for work of equal value. It further builds on the United Nations' commitment to human rights and against all forms of discrimination, including discrimination against women and girls.

2021 SEPTEMBER

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2021 SEPTEMBER

SEPT 20-27: SUKKOT

Sukkot, a seven-day Jewish festival giving thanks for the fall harvest.

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2021 SEPTEMBER

SEPT 22ND: OSTARA MABON

Ostara Mabon, a celebration of the vernal equinox commemorated by Pagans and Wiccans.

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SEPT 24TH: NATIVE AMERICAN DAY

Native American Day, a Federal holiday observed annually on the fourth Friday in September in the state of California and Nevada and on the second Monday in October in South Dakota and Oklahoma, United States.

2021 SEPTEMBER

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SEPT 27TH: ELEVATION OF THE LIFE-GIVING CROSS

Elevation of the Life-Giving Cross (Holy Cross), a day that commemorates the cross used in the Crucifixion of Jesus in some Christian denominations.

2021 SEPTEMBER

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2021 SEPTEMBER

SEPT 27TH: MESKEL

Meskel, a religious holiday in the Ethiopian Orthodox and Eritrean Orthodox churches that commemorates the discovery of the True Cross by the Roman Empress, Helena, in the fourth century.

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SEPT 28TH: TEACHER'S DAY IN TAIWAN

Teacher's Day in Taiwan. This day is used to honor teachers' contributions to their students and to society in general. People often express their gratitude to their teachers by paying them a visit or sending them a card. This date was chosen to commemorate the birth of Confucius, the model master educator in ancient China.

2021 SEPTEMBER

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SEPT 27-29: SHEMINI ATZERET

Shemini Atzeret, a Jewish holiday also known as The Eighth (Day) of Assembly, takes place the day after the Sukkot festival, where gratitude for the fall harvest is deeply internalized.

2021 SEPTEMBER

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SEPT 28-29: SIMCHAT TORAH

Simchat Torah, a Jewish holiday, marks the end of the weekly readings of the Torah. The holy book is read from chapter one of Genesis to Deuteronomy 34 and then back to chapter one again, in acknowledgment of the words of the Torah being a circle, a never-ending cycle.

2021 SEPTEMBER

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2021 SEPTEMBER

SEPT 29TH: MICHAELMAS

Michaelmas, or the Feast of Michael and All Angels, is a minor Christian festival dedicated to Archangel Michael that is observed in some Western liturgical calendars.

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OCTOBER: NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH

October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month. This observance was launched in 1945 when Congress declared the first week in October as “National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week.” In 1998, the week was extended to a month and renamed. The annual event draws attention to employment barriers that still need to be addressed.

OCTOBER: LGBT HISTORY MONTH

October is LGBTQ History Month, a U.S. observance started in 1994 to recognize lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender history and the history of the gay-rights movement.

OCTOBER: GLOBAL DIVERSITY AWARENESS MONTH

October is Global Diversity Awareness Month, a month to celebrate and increase awareness about the diversity of cultures and ethnicities and the positive impact diversity can have on society.

OCT 1ST: NATIVE AMERICAN WOMEN'S EQUAL PAY DAY

Native American Women's Equal Pay Day. The aim is to raise awareness about the wider-than-average pay gap between Native American women and White men. Native American women are paid 57 cents for every dollar paid to white men.

2021 OCTOBER

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2021 OCTOBER

OCT 4TH: ST. FRANCIS DAY

St. Francis Day, the feast day for St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals and the environment, celebrated by many Catholic denominations.

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OCT 4TH: BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Blessing of the Animals, in congruence with St. Francis Day. Many Unitarian Universalists have picked up on the Catholic tradition of blessing animals, particularly pets, as St. Francis was known for his special connection to animals.

2021 OCTOBER

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OCT 6-14: NAVARATRI

Navaratri, the nine-day festival celebrating the triumph of good over evil. It worships God in the form of the universal mother commonly referred to as Durga, Devi or Shakti, and marks the start of fall.

2021 OCTOBER

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OCT 10: WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY

First celebrated in 1993, this day is meant to increase public awareness about the importance of mental health, mental health services, and mental health workers worldwide.

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OCT 11: NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY

National Coming Out Day (U.S.). For those who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender, this day celebrates coming out and the recognition of the 1987 march on Washington for gay and lesbian equality.

2021 OCTOBER

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2021 OCTOBER

OCT 11: NATIONAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY

National Indigenous Peoples Day, an alternative celebration to Columbus Day, gives recognition to the indigenous populations affected by colonization.

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2021 OCTOBER

OCT 15: DASARA

Dasara, Dussehra, or Vijayadashami, in the eastern and northeastern states of India, marks the end of Durga Puja, remembering goddess Durga's victory over the buffalo demon Mahishasura to help restore dharma.

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2021 OCTOBER

OCT 16: MILVIAN BRIDGE DAY

Milvian Bridge Day, a one-day festival in Fayetteville, West Virginia. It is the only day of the year people can BASE jump off a bridge into New River Gorge.

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OCT 18-19: EID MILAD UN-NABI

Eid Milad un-Nabi, an Islamic holiday commemorating the birthday of the prophet Muhammad. During this celebration, homes and mosques are decorated, large parades take place, and those observing the holiday participate in charity events.

2021 OCTOBER

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OCT 19: MAWLID AL-NABI

Mawlid Al-Nabi, the observance of the birthday of Islam founder Prophet Muhammad, celebrated during the month of Rabiulawal, the third month of the Muslim calendar. Shi'a Muslims celebrate it five days later than Sunni Muslims.

2021 OCTOBER

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2021 OCTOBER

OCT 20: SIKH HOLY DAY

Sikh Holy Day, the day Sikhs
celebrate Sri Guru Granth
Sahib, their spiritual guide.

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OCT 20: INTERNATIONAL PRONOUNS DAY

International Pronouns Day seeks to make respecting, sharing, and educating about personal pronouns commonplace. Each year it is held on the third Wednesday of October.

2021 OCTOBER

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OCT 29: LATINX WOMEN'S EQUAL PAY DAY

The aim is to raise awareness about the wider-than-average pay gap between Latinx women and White men. Latinx women are paid 54 cents for every dollar paid to white men.

2021 OCTOBER

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OCT 31: ALL HALLOWS' EVE (HALLOWEEN)

All Hallows' Eve (Halloween), a celebration observed in a number of countries on the eve of the Western Christian feast of All Hallows' Day. It begins the three-day observance of Allhallowtide, the time in the liturgical year dedicated to remembering the dead, including saints (hallows), martyrs and all the faithful departed.

2021 OCTOBER

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OCT 31: REFORMATION DAY

Reformation Day, a Protestant Christian religious holiday celebrated alongside All Hallows' Eve (Halloween) during the triduum of Allhallowtide in remembrance of the onset of the Reformation.

2021 OCTOBER

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31

2021 OCTOBER

OCT 31-NOV 1: SAMHAIN

Samhain, a Gaelic festival marking the end of the harvest season and the beginning of winter or the "darker half" of the year.

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NOVEMBER: NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE

November is National Native American Heritage Month, which celebrates the history and contributions of Native Americans.

NOVEMBER: NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVERS MONTH

November is National Family Caregivers Month, proclaimed in 2012 by Former President Barack Obama. It honors the more than 40 million caregivers across the country who support aging parents, ill spouses, or other loved ones with disabilities who remain at home.

NOV 1-2: DIA DE LOS MUERTOS

The Day of the Dead is a Mexican holiday celebrated in Mexico and elsewhere associated with the Catholic celebrations of All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day, and is held on November 1 and 2. The multi-day holiday involves family and friends gathering to pray for and to remember friends and family members who have died.

2021 NOVEMBER

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NOV 1ST: ALL SAINTS' DAY

All Saints' Day, a Christian holiday commemorating all known and unknown Christian saints. (In Eastern Christianity, the day is observed on the first Sunday after Pentecost.)

2021 NOVEMBER

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NOV 2ND: ALL SOULS' DAY

All Souls' Day, a Christian holiday commemorating all faithful Christians who are now dead. In the Mexican tradition, the holiday is celebrated as **Día de Los Muertos** which is a time of remembrance for dead ancestors and a celebration of the continuity of life.

2021 NOVEMBER

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NOV 4TH: DIWALI

Diwali, the Hindu, Jain, and Sikh five-day festival of lights celebrates new beginnings and the triumph of good over evil and lightness over darkness.

2021 NOVEMBER

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2021 NOVEMBER

NOV 5-6: BIRTH OF BÁB

Birth of Báb, a Bahá'í
holiday celebrating
the birth of the
prophet Báb.

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NOV 6-7: BIRTH OF BAHÁ'U'LLÁH

The birth of
Bahá'u'lláh, the
founder of the Bahá'í
religion.

2021 NOVEMBER

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NOV 19TH: INTERNATIONAL MEN'S DAY

International Men's Day emphasizes the important issues affecting males, including health issues that affect males, improving the relations between genders, highlighting the importance of male role models and promoting gender equality. This holiday is celebrated in over 70 countries.

2021 NOVEMBER

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NOV 20TH: TRANSGENDER DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

Transgender Day of Remembrance, established in 1998 to memorialize those who have been killed as a result of transphobia and to raise awareness of the continued violence endured by the transgender community.

2021 NOVEMBER

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NOV 21TH: FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING

Feast of Christ the King, a Catholic holiday established in thanking God for the gift of time and a rededication to the Christian faith.

2021 NOVEMBER

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2021 NOVEMBER

NOV 25TH: THANKSGIVING

Thanksgiving in the United States began as a day of giving thanks for the blessing of the harvest and of the preceding year.

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NOV 26TH: NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE DAY

Native American Heritage Day, held annually the Friday after Thanksgiving, encourages Americans of all backgrounds to observe and honor Native Americans through appropriate ceremonies and activities. The day was signed into law by George W. Bush in 2008.

2021 NOVEMBER

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NOVEMBER 28–DECEMBER 6: HANUKKAH

Hanukkah, a Jewish holiday that is celebrated around the world for eight days and nights. Hanukkah celebrates the victory of the Maccabees, or Israelites, over the Greek–Syrian ruler, Antiochus, approximately 2,200 years ago.

NOVEMBER 28–JANUARY 6: NATIVITY FAST

Nativity Fast, a period of abstinence and penance practiced by the Eastern Orthodox, Oriental Orthodox, and Eastern Catholic churches in preparation for the Nativity of Jesus.

NOVEMBER 28–DECEMBER 24: ADVENT

Advent, a Christian season of celebration leading up to the birth of Christ.

2021 NOVEMBER

NOV 30TH: ST. ANDREW'S DAY

St. Andrew's Day, the feast day for St. Andrew within various Christian denominations.

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DEC 1ST: WORLD AIDS DAY

World AIDS Day,
commemorating those who
have died of AIDS, and
acknowledging the need
for a continued
commitment to all those
affected by the HIV/AIDS
epidemic.

2021 DECEMBER

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DEC 3RD: INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

International Day of Persons with Disabilities, designed to raise awareness in regards to persons with disabilities in order to improve their lives and provide them with equal opportunity.

2021 DECEMBER

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DEC 8TH: IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF MARY

Immaculate Conception of Mary, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception celebrates the solemn celebration, by various Christian denominations, of belief in the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

2021 DECEMBER

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DEC 8TH: BODHI DAY

Bodhi Day, the Buddhist holiday that commemorates the day that the historical Buddha, Siddhartha Gautama (Shakyamuni), experienced enlightenment, also known as bodhi in Sanskrit and Pali.

2021 DECEMBER

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DEC 10TH: INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

International Human Rights Day, established by the United Nations in 1948 to commemorate the anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

2021 DECEMBER

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DEC 12TH: FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, a religious holiday in Mexico commemorating the appearance of the Virgin Mary near Mexico City in 1531.

2021 DECEMBER

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DEC 13TH: ST. LUCIA'S DAY

St. Lucia's Day, a religious festival of light in Scandinavia and Italy commemorating the martyrdom of St. Lucia, a young Christian girl who was killed for her faith in 304 C.E. She secretly brought food to persecuted Christians in Rome while wearing a wreath of candles on her head so both her hands would be free.

2021 DECEMBER

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2021 DECEMBER

DEC 16-24: LAS POSADAS

Las Posadas, a nine-day celebration in Mexico commemorating the trials Mary and Joseph endured during their journey to Bethlehem.

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DEC 21: YULE WINTER SOLSTICE

Yule Winter Solstice, celebrated by Pagans and Wiccans. The shortest day of the year represents a celebration focusing on rebirth, renewal, and new beginnings as the sun makes its way back to the Earth. A solstice is an astronomical event that happens twice each year when the sun reaches its highest position in the sky.

2021 DECEMBER

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2021 DECEMBER

DEC 25: CHRISTMAS DAY

Christmas Day, the day
that many Christians
associate with Jesus' birth.

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2021 DECEMBER

DEC 26: BOXING DAY

Boxing Day, a secular holiday celebrated in the U.K., Canada, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, and South Africa.

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2021 DECEMBER

DEC 26– JAN 1: KWANZAA

Kwanzaa, an African-American holiday started by Maulana Karenga in 1966 to celebrate universal African-American heritage.

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DEC 26: ZARTOSHT NO-DISO

Zartosht No-Diso (Death of Prophet Zarathushtra), a day of remembrance in the Zoroastrian religion. It is a commemoration of the death anniversary of the prophet Zoroaster, or Zarathushtra.

2021 DECEMBER

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2021 DECEMBER

DEC 26: ST. STEPHEN'S DAY

St. Stephen's Day, a day to
commemorate St.
Stephen, the first Christian
martyr, or protomartyr.

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DEC 26: FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Feast of the Holy Family, a liturgical celebration in the Catholic Church in honor of Jesus, his mother, and his foster father, St. Joseph as a family. The primary purpose of this feast is to present the Holy Family as a model for Christian families.

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2021 DECEMBER

DEC 27: ST. JOHN'S DAY

St. John's Day, Apostle
and Evangelist, feast day
for St. John, celebrated
by Christian
denominations.

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DEC 28: FEAST OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS

Feast of the Holy Innocents, a Christian feast in remembrance of the massacre of young children in Bethlehem by King Herod the Great in his attempt to kill the infant Jesus.

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DEC 31: WATCH NIGHT

Watch Night, a day for Christians to review the year that has passed, make confessions, and then prepare for the year ahead by praying and resolving.

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FlagShip™

Dates & other info taken from Diversity Best Practices