MEMORANDUM

To: Deans, Department Chairs, Directors and Colleagues
From: Kathy Schnurr, Chaplain
Date: July 2024
Re: Religious Holy Days

As the 2024-2025 academic year draws near, I would like to bring to your attention some of the major religious holidays and holy days that will impact many of our students, faculty, and staff. **Please note that this is not an all-encompassing list for every religious tradition.** A longer list is available on our web site at [https://studentaffairs.jhu.edu/religious-spiritual-life](https://studentaffairs.jhu.edu/religious-spiritual-life). The holidays listed below are those that will not only affect many of our students at some point in the academic year, but could present a clear conflict with academic demands.

In general, food or work restrictions, as well as special worship obligations may impact the ability of our students, faculty and staff to participate in university events that take place on their respective religious holy day. Please keep in mind that some observances require additional time for preparation or travel before and after the actual holy day. I am asking that you please be responsive to requests from students who need to make advance arrangements with you to make up work missed because of a holy observance. **If you have any questions regarding a particular case or would like any guidance, please do not hesitate to contact me at 410-516-1880 or kschnurr@jhu.edu. Thank you for your sensitivity to this matter.**

**BUDDHIST**
- Bodhi Day: December 8, 2024
- Buddha’s Birthday: May 5, 2025 – Note this is during finals
- Vesak Day: May 12, 2025 – Note this is during finals

**CHRISTIAN**
- Christmas (Orthodox): January 7, 2025
- Ash Wednesday: March 5, 2025
- Good Friday: April 18, 2025
- Easter (Western & Orthodox): April 20, 2025

**HINDU**
- Diwali: October 30 – Nov 3, 2024 (New Moon Day is celebrated 11/1)
- Holi: March 14, 2025

**JEWISH (Jewish holy days and religious festivals begin at sunset the evening of the first date).**
- Rosh Hashanah: October 2 – October 4, 2024
- Yom Kippur: October 11 – October 12, 2024
- Sukkot: October 16 – October 23, 2024
- Sh’mi mini Atzeret: October 23 – 24, 2024
- Simchat Torah: October 24 – 25, 2024
- Hanukkah: December 25, 2024 – January 2, 2025
Pesach (Passover)        April 12 – 20, 2025
Shavuot                June 1 – 3, 2025

**MUSLIM** (Muslim holy days are based on a lunar calendar, and the actual dates are determined by direct observation of the moon and announced by the local mosque. The dates listed below may vary by a day or two).

Ramadan                February 28 – March 29, 2025
Eid-al-Fitr             March 30, 2025
Eid-al-Adha             June 6 - 7, 2025