



**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>. 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’mini Atzeret October 23 – 24, 2024  
 Simchat Torah October 24 – 25, 2024  
 Hanukkah December 25, 2024 – January 2, 2025

Pesach (Passover)  
Shavuot

April 12 – 20, 2025  
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