Chapel Calendar 2019-20

Events and Religious Holidays
(updated February 13, 2020)

Fall Term 2019

August 9-14        Hajj (Muslim)
Annual pilgrimage to Mecca. Obligatory for all Muslims, who are physically and financially able, to perform once in a lifetime. It is of Abrahamic origin and employs different devotional rites and rituals. The Hajj is performed each year by over two million pilgrims from all over the world. *Based on lunar cycle

August 11         Eid al Adha Celebration (Muslim)
Begins sundown of August 10
*In North America, Eid falls on August 11, beginning at sundown on August 10th.
Marks the close of the Hajj and commemorates the Prophet Abraham’s sacrifice and devotion. It is celebrated with a special congregational prayer and the exchange of gifts.

August 28        Faculty Convocation
Cochran Chapel
5:45 p.m.

September 5      Matriculation Ceremony (NEW students only)
Cochran Chapel
5:45 p.m.

September 8      Sunday Worship Services Begin

September 10     Ashura (Muslim)
Begins sundown on September 9.
For Sunnis this observance commemorates Moses and the liberation of the Israelites and is a “Day of Atonement” during which fasting is recommended. For the Shi’a it honors the martyrdom of Husayn ibn Ali at the Battle of Karbala in 680 C.E.

September 11     Community “Tolling of the Bells”
Bell Tower
8:46 a.m.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 22</td>
<td>Interfaith Ice Cream Truck Social&lt;br&gt;Chapel Parking Lot&lt;br&gt;4:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.</td>
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<td>September 27</td>
<td>ASM&lt;br&gt;Speaker: Megan Phelps Roper&lt;br&gt;(Former Member of the Westboro Baptist Church)</td>
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<td>September 28</td>
<td>“Poets in Autumn” Tour&lt;br&gt;Collins Center, Andover&lt;br&gt;7:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 30</td>
<td>Rosh Hashanah (Jewish)&lt;br&gt;Begin sundown of September 29.&lt;br&gt;This marks the beginning of the Jewish year and the beginning of the High Holy Days.</td>
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<td>October 4</td>
<td>Feast of St. Francis&lt;br&gt;Celebration of Pets</td>
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<td>October 8</td>
<td>Dussehra (Hindu)&lt;br&gt;The celebration of the Hindu New Year, marked by the blessing of work-related tools, such as books and computers. An observance marking the triumph of Good or Evil.</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 9</td>
<td>Yom Kippur (Jewish)&lt;br&gt;Begin sundown of October 8.&lt;br&gt;The “Day of Atonement”, marked by prayer, fasting, and repentance.</td>
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<td>October 14-20</td>
<td>Sukkot (Jewish)&lt;br&gt;Begin sundown of October 13.&lt;br&gt;The feast of the Tabernacles, commemorating the dwelling of Israelites in the wilderness.&lt;br&gt;*The construction of the campus Sukkah will take place at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 13th. A Sukkah snack will be served at 9:50 a.m. on Tuesday, October 15th.</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 19-20</td>
<td>Family Weekend</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 22</td>
<td>Simchat Torah (Jewish)&lt;br&gt;Begin sundown of October 21.&lt;br&gt;The “Rejoicing of the Torah” is the end of the Torah reading cycle.</td>
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</table>
October 24-29  Lighting of Samuel Phillip Hall (in honor of Diwali)

October 27  Diwali (Hindu)
*The “Festival of Lights” celebrates different sacred stories in the Hindu tradition.*

October 31  Reformation Day (Christian)
*Anniversary of the start of the Protestantism and its emphasis on the importance of the Bible.*

November 1  Shabbat and Speaker Series
5:30 p.m. – Shabbat service (Mural Room)
6:30 p.m. – Speaker Neil Lazarus
Topic: Update on the Middle East (Andover Inn)
*Event sponsored by the Jewish Student Union*

November 1  Diwali Celebration (Hindu)
Dinner and diya painting, co-sponsored with Indo-Pak.
6:00 p.m. – Underwood Room

November 1  All Saints Day (Christian)
*Recognizes all those who have achieved beatification.*

November 2  All Souls Day (Christian)
*The day commemorating the faithful departed.*

November 7-9  Trustee Meetings

November 10  Mawlid al-Nabi (Muslim)
*Begins sundown of November 9.
Birthday of the Prophet Muhammad. While not formally recognized in scripture, the Mawlid has nonetheless taken on cultural and spiritual importance in much of the Muslim world. It is a national holiday in most Muslim majority countries.*

November 11  Veterans’ Day (Monday)

November 11  Cupcake/Card Writing Campaign
Lobby of Paresky Commons

November 11  Andover in the Military Dinner
Mural Room

November 11-15  NO FAITH GROUP MEETINGS
(Penultimate Week)
November 22  Final Day of the Fall Term
November 23 – Dec 4  FALL VACATION
November 28  Thanksgiving

**Winter Term 2019**

December 1  First Sunday of Advent (Christian)
*The season of preparation for the birth of Jesus.*

December 5  Classes Begin (Winter Term)

December 8  Bodhi Day (Buddhist)
*Marks the Buddha's attainment of Enlightenment.*

December 15  Lessons and Carols Service
Cochran Chapel
4:30 p.m.

December 20 - January 6  WINTER VACATION

December 21  Winter Solstice (Pagan/Wiccan)
*The shortest day of the year.*

December 23-30  Hanukkah (Jewish)
*Begins sundown of December 22.*
*The “Festival of Lights”, commemorating the victory of the Maccabees and the rededication of the Temple.*

December 25  Christmas (Christian)
*The celebration of the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem.*

December 26 - January 1  Kwanzaa
*An African-American celebration honoring African values and belief.*

January 6  Epiphany (Christian)
*A feast day commemorating the visit of the Magi to the newborn Jesus.*

January 7  Winter Term Classes Resume

January 10-12  Mahayana New Year (Buddhist)

January 20  Martin Luther King Jr. Day
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 24-26</td>
<td>Jewish Cultural Weekend (events listed below)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday:</strong></td>
<td>6:00 p.m. - Shabbat dinner&lt;br&gt;Mural Room, Paresky Commons&lt;br&gt;7:00 p.m. - Performance by comedians Jess Salomon and Eman El-Husseini&lt;br&gt;Den, Paresky Commons</td>
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<td><strong>Sunday:</strong></td>
<td>Bagel Brunch&lt;br&gt;Mural Room, Paresky Commons&lt;br&gt;10:00 a.m.</td>
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<td>January 31</td>
<td>ASM&lt;br&gt;Speaker: Dr. Albert Silverstein&lt;br&gt;(WWII Kindertransport Participant)</td>
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<td>February 1-7</td>
<td>World Interfaith Harmony Week&lt;br&gt;<em>An initiative design to promote peace, dialogue, and the promotion of love of God and love of neighbor.</em></td>
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<td>February 5</td>
<td>Chinese New Year</td>
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<td>February 6-8</td>
<td>Trustee Meetings</td>
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<td>February 8</td>
<td>Nirvana Day (Buddhist)&lt;br&gt;<em>Celebrates the death of the Gautama when he reached total Nirvana.</em></td>
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<td>February 14</td>
<td>Speaker: Angela Davis&lt;br&gt;(Activist, Black Panther Party)</td>
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<td>February 22</td>
<td>Mahashivaratri Celebration (Hindu)&lt;br&gt;<em>A celebration for the devotees of Shiva.</em></td>
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<td>February 24-28</td>
<td>NO FAITH GROUP MEETINGS&lt;br&gt;(Penultimate Week)</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 25</td>
<td>Shrove Tuesday (Christian)</td>
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<td>February 26</td>
<td>Ash Wednesday (Christian)&lt;br&gt;<em>Marks the first day of Lent.</em></td>
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<td>March 6</td>
<td>Final Day of Winter Term</td>
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<td>March 10</td>
<td>Holi (Hindu)&lt;br&gt;<em>A festival that includes throwing colored water or powder</em></td>
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in celebration of events in the life of Krishna.

March 10
Purim (Jewish)
*Begins sundown of March 9.*
*Commemoration of the defeat of Haman's plot to massacre the Jews.*

March 7-23
SPRING VACATION

March 13
L. Ron Hubbard’s Birthday (Scientology)

**Spring Term 2020**

March 24
Classes Begin (Spring Term)

April 2
Ramanavami (Hindu)
*Nine-day festival, celebrating the birth of the god Ram.*

April 5
Palm Sunday (Christian)
*The beginning of “Holy Week”.*

April 9-16
Passover (Jewish)
*Begins sundown of April 8.*
*Commemorates the liberation of the Israelites from Egyptian bondage.*

April 9
Maundy/Holy Thursday (Christian)
*Marks the “Last Supper” of Jesus and his disciples.*

April 10
Good Friday (Christian)
*Recalls the crucifixion of Jesus.*

April 10
Good Friday Service
Stations of the Cross
Cochran Chapel
*(followed by a soup and bread luncheon)*

April 12
Easter Sunday (Christian)
*Celebrates the resurrection of Jesus.*

April 21
Yom HaShoah/Holocaust Remembrance Day (Jewish)
*Begins sundown of April 20.*
*Marks the anniversary of the Warsaw ghetto uprising.*
April 24 – May 23  Ramadan (Muslim)
   Begins sundown of April 23.
   The ninth month of the Muslim calendar. Food, drink, and sexual relations are to be abstained from during daylight hours. The month is seen as a time of devotion and spiritual self-purification.

April 20  Patriots Day
   NO CLASSES

April 24  Non-Sibi Day

April 29  Yom Ha’atzmaut/Independence Day (Jewish)

April 30 - May 2  Trustee Meetings

May 7  National Day of Prayer (Interfaith)

May 7  Visakha Puja (Buddhist)
   Holiest of days in the Buddhist year, celebrates the birth of the Buddha.

May 9  Grandparents Day

May 10  Mother’s Day

May 10  Roman Catholic Confirmation Service
   Cochran Chapel
   10:30 a.m.

May 24  Eid al Fitr (Muslim)
   Begins sundown of May 23. The festival of the breaking of the fast marks the end of Ramadan. It is celebrated with a special congregational prayer and the exchange of gifts.

May 25  Memorial Day
   NO CLASSES

May 25-29  NO FAITH GROUP MEETINGS
   (Penultimate Week)
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>May 29-30</td>
<td>Shavuot (Jewish)</td>
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<td>Begins sundown of May 28.</td>
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<td>The “Feast of Weeks”, celebrates the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai.</td>
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<td>May 31</td>
<td>Pentecost (Christian)</td>
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<td>Marks the coming of the Holy Spirit to the disciples of Jesus. Considered the founding of the Christian Church.</td>
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<td>June 4</td>
<td>Final Day of Spring Term</td>
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<td>June 4</td>
<td>Community Convocation</td>
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<td>Cochran Chapel</td>
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<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>June 5</td>
<td>Senior Prom</td>
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<td>June 6</td>
<td>Roman Catholic Mass</td>
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<td>Commencement Weekend</td>
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<td>Kemper Chapel</td>
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<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>June 6</td>
<td>Baccalaureate Candlelight Service</td>
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<td>Cochran Chapel</td>
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<td>8:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>June 7</td>
<td>Commencement</td>
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<td>Great Lawn</td>
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<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
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<td>June 12-14</td>
<td>Alumni Reunion Weekend</td>
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<td>‘5’s and ‘0’s</td>
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<td>June 21</td>
<td>Summer Solstice (Pagan/Wiccan)</td>
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<td>Longest day of the year.</td>
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<td>June 30</td>
<td>Summer Session Begins</td>
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