

# Equality and Diversity Calendar 2020



This calendar highlights significant days and festivals during 2020. The purpose of this calendar is to bring together key religious dates, awareness raising days and dates that recognise or celebrate diversity. This is a useful tool to assist in ensuring that planned events do not clash with religious dates and that important awareness raising days are observed and planned for.









It is important to remember that people practice their faith in different ways and it is best not to make assumptions.








- Many Christians have congregational prayer on a Sunday.
- Jewish days begin and end at sunset, and Jewish festivals and holy days always commence a short time before sunset and terminate at nightfall the following day – approximately a 25 hour period.
- The Muslim day is from sunset to sunset, Friday is a day of congregational prayer (usually after noon).

# January

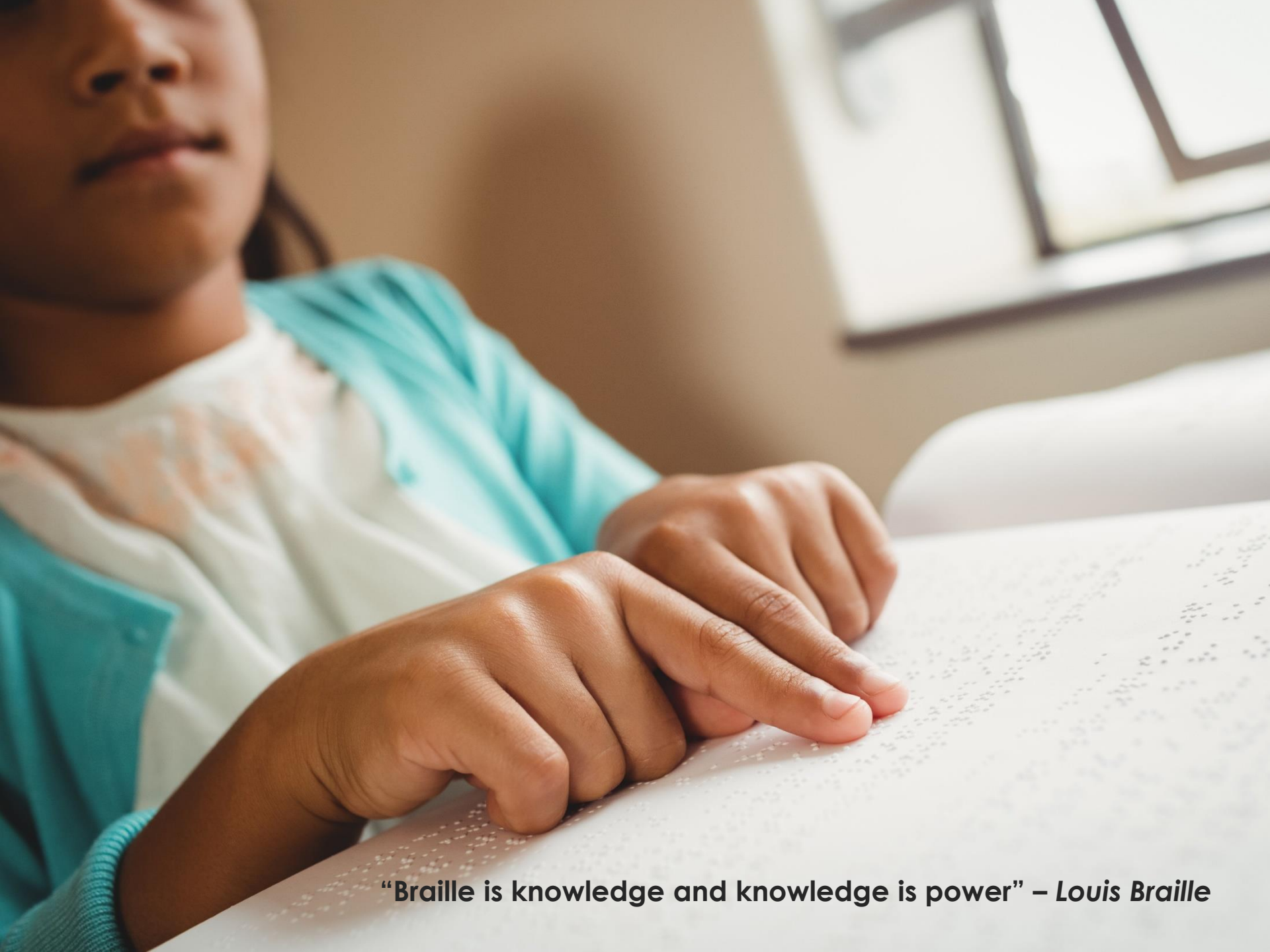
National Braille Literacy Awareness Month

- 1<sup>st</sup> New Year's Day/Hogmanay**  
**Bank Holiday** – UK & ROI  
**Feast of St. Basil** – Orthodox Christian
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Bank Holiday** – Scotland  
**Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh** – Sikhism  
**Bodhi Day** – Buddhism
- 4<sup>th</sup> World Braille Day**
- 5<sup>th</sup> Twelfth Night** – Christian
- 6<sup>th</sup> Epiphany** – Christian
- 7<sup>th</sup> Orthodox Christmas Day**  
**Fast of 10 Tevet** – Judaism
- 10<sup>th</sup> Mahayana New Year** – Buddhism
- 12<sup>th</sup> Baptism of the Lord Jesus** – Christian
- 13<sup>th</sup> Seijin no hi (Coming of Age Day)** – Shinto
- 14<sup>th</sup> Maghi** – Sikhism  
**Orthodox New Year** – Orthodox Christian
- 15<sup>th</sup> Makar Sankranti** – Hinduism
- 19<sup>th</sup> World Religion Day**
- 20<sup>th</sup> Martin Luther King Day**  
**Timkat** – Ethiopian Orthodox Christian
- 25<sup>th</sup> Robert Burns Night**  
**Chinese New Year**
- 27<sup>th</sup> Holocaust Memorial Day**
- 29<sup>th</sup> Vasant Panchami** – Hinduism

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		1 Bank Holiday (UK & ROI)	2 Bank Holiday (Scotland) 	3	4 World Braille Day	5 
6 	7 	8	9	10 	11	12 
13	14 	15 	16	17	18	19 World Religion Day
20	21	22	23	24	25 Chinese New Year Year of the Rat	26
27 Holocaust Memorial Day	28	29 	30	31		

BUDDHISM 
CHRISTIANITY 
ISLAM 
JUDAISM 
HINDUISM 
SIKHISM 
BAHÁ'Í 

Religious dates with a \* next to them usually begin at sundown the day before this date.



**“Braille is knowledge and knowledge is power” – *Louis Braille***

# February

LGBT History Month

1<sup>st</sup> World Hijab Day

2<sup>nd</sup> Candlemas – Christian

Imbolc - Lughassad \* - Wicca/Pagan

Zacchaeus Sunday – Orthodox Christian

3<sup>rd</sup> Setsubun – Shinto

4<sup>th</sup> World Cancer Day

9<sup>th</sup> Autism Sunday

10<sup>th</sup> Tu B'Shvat – Judaism

Magha Puja – Buddhism

11<sup>th</sup> Our Lady of Lourdes - Christian

14<sup>th</sup> Saint Valentine's Day – Christian

15<sup>th</sup> Parinirvana – Buddhism, Jainism

International Childhood Cancer Day

20<sup>th</sup> – World Day of Social Justice

21<sup>st</sup> – Maha Shivaratri – Hinduism

23<sup>rd</sup> – Meatfare Sunday – Orthodox Christian

25<sup>th</sup> – Shrove Tuesday – Christian

26<sup>th</sup> – Ash Wednesday – Christian

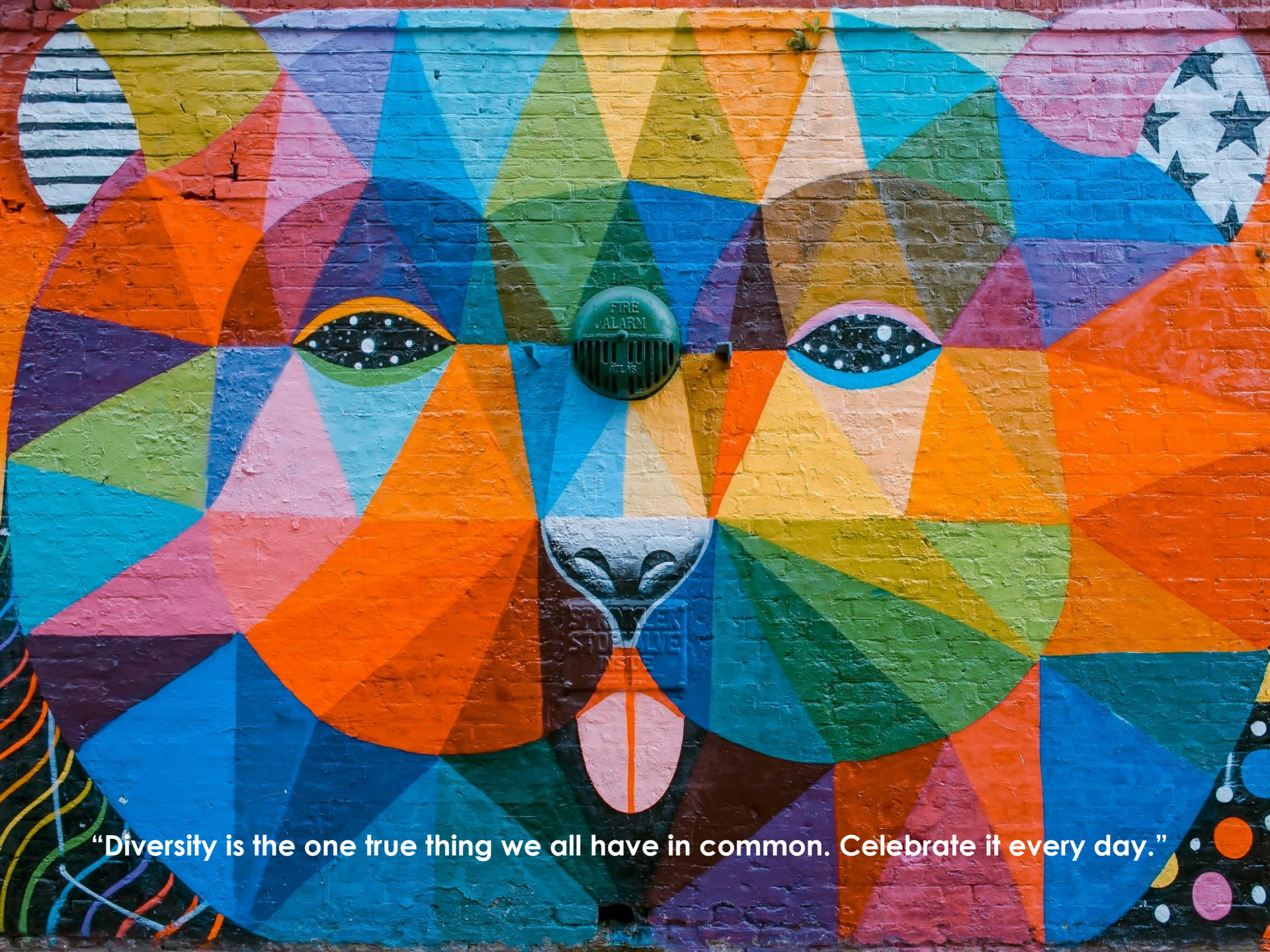
26<sup>th</sup>–29<sup>th</sup> - Intercalary Days – Baha'i

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
					1 World Hijab Day	2 +
3	4 World Cancer Day	5	6	7	8	9 Autism Sunday
10	11 +	12	13	14 +	15 Childhood Cancer Day	16
17	18	19	20 World Day of Social Justice	21 ॐ	22	23
24	25 +	26 Intercalary Days - begin +	27 ✧	28 ✧	29 Intercalary Days - end ✧	

BUDDHISM ✧
 CHRISTIANITY +
 ISLAM ☾
 JUDAISM ☆
 HINDUISM ॐ
 SIKHISM ☸
 BAHÁ'Í ✧

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"Diversity is the one true thing we all have in common. Celebrate it every day."



# March

## International Women's History Month

**1<sup>st</sup> Zero Discrimination Day**  
**Saint David's Day** – Christian  
**Nineteen Day Fast begins\*** – Baha'i  
**Self-Injury Awareness Day**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Great Lent begins** – Orthodox Christian

**8<sup>th</sup> International Women's Day**  
**Sunday of Orthodoxy** – Orthodox Christian

**9<sup>th</sup> Holika Dahan** – Hinduism  
**Fast of Esther** – Judaism

**10<sup>th</sup> Holi \*** – Hinduism  
**Purim\*** – Judaism  
**Hola Mohalla** – Sikhism

**17<sup>th</sup> Saint Patrick's Day** – Christian  
**Bank Holiday** – Northern Ireland & ROI

**19<sup>th</sup> Saint Joseph's Day** – Christian  
**Naw-Rúz (New Year)\*** - Baha'i  
**Nineteen Day Fast (end)** – Baha'i

**20<sup>th</sup> Spring Equinox**  
**Nowruz (New Year)** – Persian/Zoroastrian

**21<sup>st</sup> World Down Syndrome Day**  
**International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination**

**22<sup>nd</sup> World Water Day**  
**Mothering Sunday** - Christian  
**Lailat al Miraj** – Islam

**24<sup>th</sup> World Tuberculosis Day**

**29<sup>th</sup> Daylight Saving Time starts**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
						1 Zero Discrimination Day 
2	3	4	5	6	7	8 International Women's Day
9 	10 	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 +	18	19 	20	21 World Down Syndrome Day	22 World Water Day 
23	24 World Tuberculosis Day	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

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“You will face many defeats in life, but never let yourself be defeated.” – Maya Angelou

# April

## Stress Awareness Month

**2<sup>nd</sup> World Autism Awareness Day**  
Rama Navami – Hinduism

**5<sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday** – Christian

**6<sup>th</sup> Mahavir Jayanti** – Jain

**7<sup>th</sup> World Health Day**  
Theravada New Year – Buddhism

**8<sup>th</sup> Fast of Firstborn** – Judaism  
Hanuman Jayanti – Hinduism

**9<sup>th</sup> Maundy Thursday** – Christian  
Pesach (Passover)\* start – Judaism  
Lailat al Bara'ah \* – Islam

**10<sup>th</sup> Good Friday** – Christian

**11<sup>th</sup> Lazarus Saturday** – Orthodox Christian  
Holy Saturday – Christian

**12<sup>th</sup> Easter Sunday** – Christian  
Palm Sunday – Orthodox Christian

**13<sup>th</sup> Vaisakhi (New Year)** – Sikhism  
Easter Monday – Bank Holiday

**16<sup>th</sup> Pesach (Passover) end** – Judaism

**17<sup>th</sup> Holy Friday** – Orthodox Christian

**18<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Guru Tegh Bahadur** – Sikhism  
Birthday of Guru Angad Dev – Sikhism  
Holy Saturday – Orthodox Christian

**19<sup>th</sup> Pascha (Easter)** – Orthodox Christian

**20<sup>th</sup> First Day of Ridvan \*** – Baha'i

**22<sup>nd</sup> Earth Day**

**23<sup>rd</sup> Saint George's Day** – Christian

**24<sup>th</sup> Ramadan begins\*** – Islam

**26<sup>th</sup> Akshaya Tritiya** – Hinduism, Jain

**28<sup>th</sup> Ninth Day of Ridvan \*** – Baha'i

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		1	2 World Autism Awareness Day ॐ	3	4	5 +
6	7 World Health Day 卐	8 ॐ ☆	9 ☾ ☆ +	10 Bank Holiday +	11 +	12 +
13 Bank Holiday ☪	14	15	16 ☆	17	18 ☪	19
20	21	22 Earth Day	23 +	24 ☾	25	26 ॐ
27	28 ☼	29	30			

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 CHRISTIANITY +
 ISLAM ☾
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 BAHÁ'Í ☼

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“Not all wounds are so visible. Walk gently in the lives of others.”

# May

## Mental Health Awareness Month

**1<sup>st</sup> Beltane** – Wicca/Pagan  
**Twelfth Day of Ridvan** \* – Baha'i

**2<sup>nd</sup> Birthday of Guru Arjan Dev** – Sikhism

**7<sup>th</sup> Vesak – Buddha Day** – Buddhism

**8<sup>th</sup> World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day**  
**Bank Holiday** – UK and ROI

**12<sup>th</sup> Lag B'Omer** \* - Judaism

**13<sup>th</sup> Our Lady of Fatima** - Catholic Christian

**15<sup>th</sup> International Day of Families**

**17<sup>th</sup> International Day against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia (IDAHOBIT day)**

**19<sup>th</sup> – Laylat al-Qadr (Night of Power)** – Islam

**21<sup>st</sup> World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development**  
**Ascension Day** – Christian

**22<sup>nd</sup> International Day for Biological Diversity**  
**Quds Day** \* – Islam

**23<sup>rd</sup> Birthday of Guru Amar Das** – Sikhism  
**Declaration of the Bab** \* – Baha'i

**24<sup>th</sup> Eid al Fitr** \* – Islam

**25<sup>th</sup> Spring Bank Holiday** – UK and ROI

**28<sup>th</sup> Ascension of Baha'u'llah** \* - Baha'i  
**Ascension Day** – Orthodox Christian

**29<sup>th</sup> Shavuot (Pentecost)** \* – Judaism

**31<sup>st</sup> Pentecost** – Christian

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				1	2	3
						
4	5	6	7	8 Bank Holiday	9	10
						
11	12 	13 +	14	15 International Day of Families	16	17 IDAHOBIT Day
18	19 	20	21 +	22 	23  	24 
25 Spring Bank Holiday	26	27	28 	29 	30	31 +

BUDDHISM



CHRISTIANITY



ISLAM



JUDAISM



HINDUISM



SIKHISM



BAHÁ'Í



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"Diversity is not about how we differ. Diversity is about embracing one another's uniqueness." - Ola Joseph



# June

## Gypsy, Roma and Traveller History Month

**1<sup>st</sup> Global Day of Parents**  
**Whit Monday** – Christian

**4<sup>th</sup> International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression**

**5<sup>th</sup> World Environment Day**

**7<sup>th</sup> Trinity Sunday** – Christian  
**Pentecost** – Orthodox Christian

**11<sup>th</sup> Corpus Christi** – Catholic Christian

**12<sup>th</sup> World Day Against Child Labour**

**14<sup>th</sup> World Blood Donor Day**  
**Race Unity Day**

**15<sup>th</sup> World Elder Abuse Awareness Day**

**16<sup>th</sup> Martyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev** – Sikhism

**19<sup>th</sup> Feast of the Sacred Heart** – Catholic Christian

**20<sup>th</sup> World Refugee Day**  
**Summer Solstice** – Northern Hemisphere

**21<sup>st</sup> World Humanist Day**  
**Father's Day**

**24<sup>th</sup> Litha – Yule** – Wicca/Pagan  
**Nativity of Saint John the Baptist** – Christian

**29<sup>th</sup> Feast of Saints Peter and Paul** - Christian

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1 Global Day of Parents ✚	2	3	4	5 World Environment Day	6	7 ✚
8	9	10	11 ✚	12 World Day Against Child Labour	13	14 World Blood Donor Day
15 World Elder Abuse Awareness Day	16 ✚	17	18	19 ✚	20 World Refugee Day	21 World Humanist Day
22	23	24 ✚	25	26	27	28
29 ✚	30					

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**"May your choices reflect your hopes, not your fears." - Nelson Mandela**

# July

## National Make a Difference for Children Month

**4<sup>th</sup> US Independence Day**  
**Asalha Puja (Dharma Day)** – Buddhism

**5<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Guru Hargobind** – Sikhism

**9<sup>th</sup> Martyrdom of the Bab\*** - Baha'i  
**Fast of 17 Tammuz** – Judaism

**11<sup>th</sup> Saint Benedict Day** - Christian  
**World Population Day**

**12<sup>th</sup> Battle of the Boyne (Orangemen's Day)**

**13<sup>th</sup> Bank Holiday** – Northern Ireland

**15<sup>th</sup> World Youth Skills Day**

**18<sup>th</sup> Nelson Mandela International Day**

**22<sup>nd</sup> Feast Day of Saint Mary** - Christian

**23<sup>rd</sup> Birthday of Guru Har Krishan** - Sikhism  
**Birthday of Emperor Haile Selassie** – Rastafari

**24<sup>th</sup> Pioneer Day** - Mormon Christian

**25<sup>th</sup> Saint James the Great Day** – Christian

**28<sup>th</sup> World Hepatitis Day**

**30<sup>th</sup> International Friendship Day**  
**World Day against Trafficking Persons**  
**Tish'a B'Av (Fast of 9 Av)** – Judaism  
**Waqf al Arafa\*** – Islam

**31<sup>st</sup> Eid al Adha\*** – Islam

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11 World Population Day	12
13 Bank Holiday (Northern Ireland)	14	15 World Youth Skills Day	16	17	18 Nelson Mandela International Day	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 World Hepatitis Day	29	30	31		

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“Be the change you want to see in the world” - Mohandas Gandhi



# August

National Breastfeeding Month

**1<sup>st</sup> Lammas** - Christian  
**Lughnassadh - Imbolc** - Wicca/Pagan

**3<sup>rd</sup> Summer Bank Holiday** – Scotland & ROI  
**Raksha Bandhan** – Hinduism

**6<sup>th</sup> Transfiguration Sunday** – Christian  
**Transfiguration of the Lord** – Orthodox  
Christian

**9<sup>th</sup> International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples**

**11<sup>th</sup> Krishna Janmashtami** – Hinduism

**12<sup>th</sup> International Youth Day**

**15<sup>th</sup> Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary** –  
Catholic Christian

**Dormition of the Theotokos** –  
Orthodox Christian

**16<sup>th</sup> Paryushana begins** - Jain

**19<sup>th</sup> World Humanitarian Day**

**20<sup>th</sup> Al-Hijra/Muharram -New Year\*** – Islam

**22<sup>nd</sup> Ganesh Chaturthi** – Hinduism

**23<sup>rd</sup> Samvatsari** – Jain

**29<sup>th</sup> Beheading of Saint John the Baptist** -  
Christian  
**Ashura\*** – Islam

**31<sup>st</sup> Summer Bank Holiday** –  
England, Wales and Northern Ireland

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
					1	2
					+	
3 Bank Holiday ॐ	4	5	6	7	8	9
			+			
10	11	12 International Youth Day	13	14	15	16
	ॐ				+	
17	18	19 World Humanitarian Day	20	21	22	23
			☾		ॐ	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
					+	☾
31 Bank Holiday						

BUDDHISM



CHRISTIANITY



ISLAM



JUDAISM



HINDUISM



SIKHISM

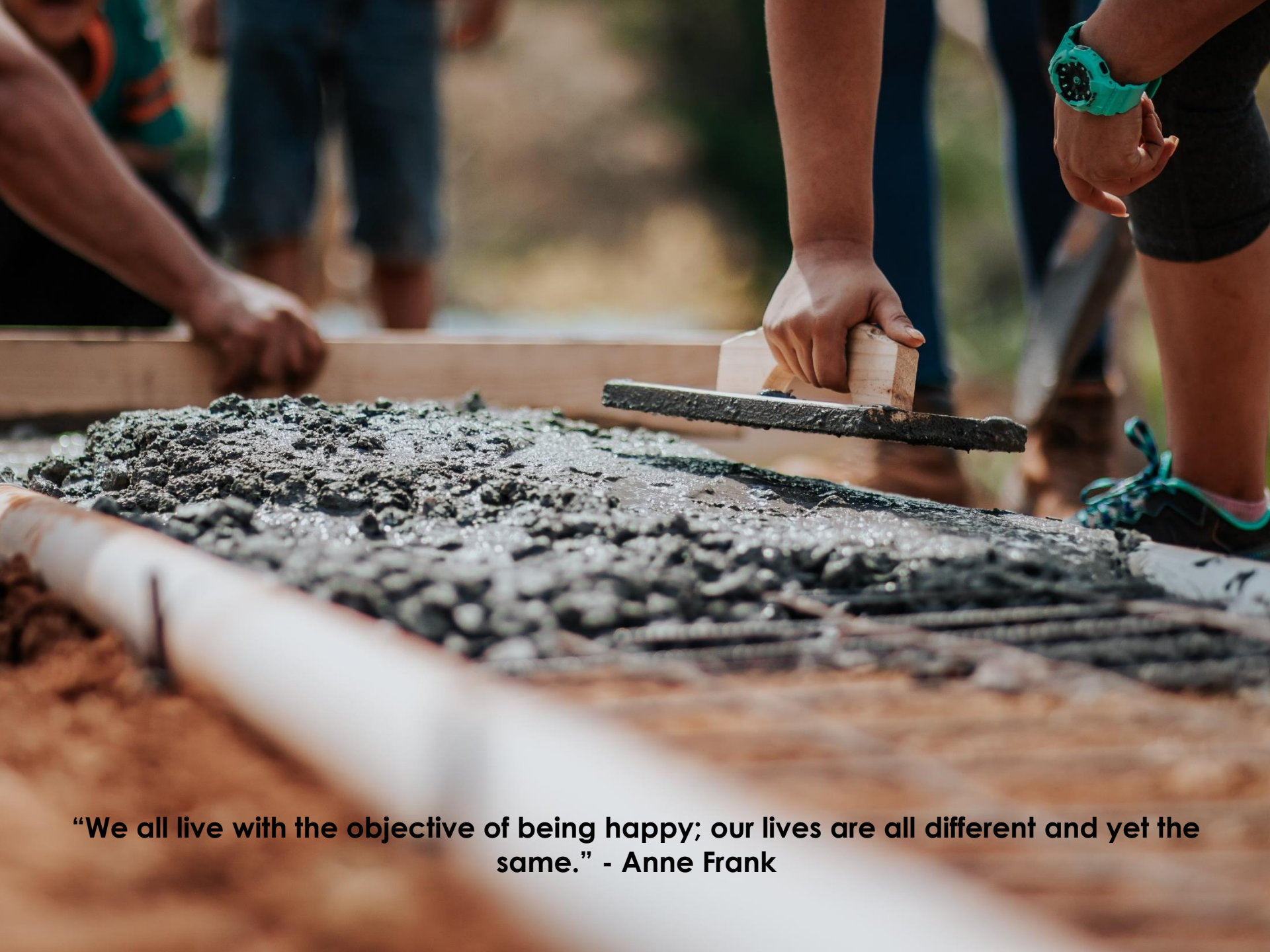


BAHÁ'Í



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**“We all live with the objective of being happy; our lives are all different and yet the same.” - Anne Frank**

# September

Older Persons' Month

1<sup>st</sup> Anant Chaturdashi – Jain  
 5<sup>th</sup> International Day of Charity  
 8<sup>th</sup> Nativity of Virgin Mary – Christian  
 International Literacy Day  
 10<sup>th</sup> World Suicide Prevention Day  
 11<sup>th</sup> Ethiopian New Year's Day - Rastafari  
 14<sup>th</sup> The Triumph of the Cross – Christian  
 15<sup>th</sup> International Day of Democracy  
 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> Rosh Hashanah\* – Judaism  
 21<sup>st</sup> International Day of Peace  
 World Alzheimer's Day  
 Fast of Gedaliah – Judaism  
 22<sup>nd</sup> Autumn Equinox  
 27<sup>th</sup> Elevation of the Holy Cross –  
 Orthodox Christian  
 28<sup>th</sup> Meskel – Ethiopian Orthodox Christian  
 Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement)\* -  
 Judaism  
 29<sup>th</sup> Michaelmas – Christian

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	1	2	3	4	5 International Day of Charity	6
7	8 International Literacy Day ✝	9	10 World Suicide Prevention Day	11	12	13
14 ✝	15 International Day of Democracy	16	17	18	19 ✡	20 ✡
21 International Day of Peace ✡	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 ✡	29 ✝	30				

BUDDHISM ✨ CHRISTIANITY ✝ ISLAM ☾ JUDAISM ✡ HINDUISM ॐ SIKHISM ☞ BAHÁ'Í ✨

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“Diversity is the one true thing we all have in common. Celebrate it every day.”



# October

Black History Month

1<sup>st</sup> International Day of Older Persons

2<sup>nd</sup> Feast of the Guardian Angels – Christian  
International Day of Non-Violence

3<sup>rd</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> Sukkot (Tabernacles) \* - Judaism

4<sup>th</sup> Saint Francis Day - Christian

9<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Guru Ram Das – Sikhism

10<sup>th</sup> World Mental Health Day  
Shmini Atzeret (8<sup>th</sup> Day of Assembly) \*  
- Judaism

11<sup>th</sup> Simchat Torah  
(Celebration of the Torah) - Judaism

16<sup>th</sup> World Food Day

17<sup>th</sup> International Day for the Eradication of  
Poverty

17<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> Navaratri – Hinduism

18<sup>th</sup> Saint Luke, Apostle & Evangelist – Christian  
Birth of the Báb\* – Baha'i

19<sup>th</sup> Birth of Baha'u'llah\* - Baha'i

25<sup>th</sup> Dussehra – Hinduism  
British Summer Time ends

26<sup>th</sup> Bank Holiday – ROI

29<sup>th</sup> Milad un Nabi (Mawlid) – Islam

31<sup>st</sup> All Hallows' Eve (Halloween) – Christian

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
			1 International Day of Older Persons	2 +	3 ☆	4 +
5	6	7	8	9 ☞	10 World Mental Health Day ☆	11 ☆
12	13	14	15	16 World Food Day +	17 ॐ	18 ✠ +
19 ✠	20	21	22	23	24	25 ॐ
26 Bank Holiday (ROI)	27	28	29 ☾	30	31 +	

BUDDHISM



CHRISTIANITY



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BAHÁ'Í



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**"Every individual matters. Every individual has a role to play. Every individual makes a difference." – Jane Goodall**

# November

Men's Health Awareness Month

**1<sup>st</sup> All Saints' Day** – Christian

**2<sup>nd</sup> All Soul's Day** – Christian

**Coronation of Emperor Haile Selassie I** -  
Rastafari

**5<sup>th</sup> Guy Fawkes Night**

**8<sup>th</sup> Remembrance Sunday**

**11<sup>th</sup> Armistice Day**

**13<sup>th</sup> World Kindness Day**

**14<sup>th</sup> World Diabetes Day**

**Diwali/Deepavali** – Hinduism

**Bandi Chhor Divas** – Sikhism

**19<sup>th</sup> International Men's Day**

**20<sup>th</sup> Transgender Day of Remembrance**

**Universal Children's Day**

**21<sup>st</sup> Presentation of the Theotokos**

– Orthodox Christian

**22<sup>nd</sup> Feast of Christ the King** – Christian

**24<sup>th</sup> Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur** - Sikhism

**25<sup>th</sup> International Day for the Elimination of  
Violence against Women**

**Birthday of Guru Nanak Dev** – Sikhism

**Day of the Covenant** \* - Baha'i

**26<sup>th</sup> Thanksgiving Day** – Interfaith USA

**27<sup>th</sup> Ascension of Abdu'l-Baha** \* – Baha'i

**28<sup>th</sup> Nativity Fast begins** - Orthodox Christian

**29<sup>th</sup> Advent Sunday** - Christian

**30<sup>th</sup> Saint Andrew's Day** – Christian

**Bank Holiday** (Scotland)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
						1 +
2 +	3	4	5 Guy Fawkes Night	6	7	8
9	10	11 Armistice Day	12	13 World Kindness Day	14 World Diabetes Day ॐ	15
16	17	18	19 International Men's Day	20 Universal Children's Day	21	22 +
23	24 ॐ	25 ✡ ॐ	26	27 ✡	28	29 +
30 Bank Holiday (Scotland) +						

BUDDHISM ॐ
 CHRISTIANITY +
 ISLAM ☾
 JUDAISM ✡
 HINDUISM ॐ
 SIKHISM ॐ
 BAHÁ'Í ✡

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**“Life is about celebrating uniqueness, diversity, and then bringing it all together like the varied colours of a rainbow. Different yet connected.”**





# December

Universal Human Rights Month

1<sup>st</sup> World AIDS Day

2<sup>nd</sup> International Day of the Abolition of Slavery

3<sup>rd</sup> International Day of Persons with Disabilities

6<sup>th</sup> Saint Nicholas Day – Christian

8<sup>th</sup> Feast of the Immaculate Conception – Christian

9<sup>th</sup> International Anti-Corruption Day

10<sup>th</sup> Human Rights Day

10<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> Chanukah – Judaism

20<sup>th</sup> International Human Solidarity Day

21<sup>st</sup> Winter Solstice

22<sup>nd</sup> Yule – Christian

Yule - Litha \* - Wicca/Pagan  
Northern and Southern Hemispheres

24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve – Christian

25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day – Christian

26<sup>th</sup> Boxing Day

Saint Stephen's Day – Christian

27<sup>th</sup> Feast of the Holy Family –  
Catholic Christian

28<sup>th</sup> Holy Innocents – Christian

Bank Holiday - UK & ROI

31<sup>st</sup> Hogmanay/ New Year's Eve

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	1 World AIDS Day	2	3	4	5	6 +
7	8	9	10 Human Rights Day	11	12	13
	+		✡			
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	+		+	+	+	+
28 Bank Holiday (UK & ROI) +	29	30	31			

BUDDHISM



CHRISTIANITY



ISLAM



JUDAISM



HINDUISM



SIKHISM



BAHÁ'Í

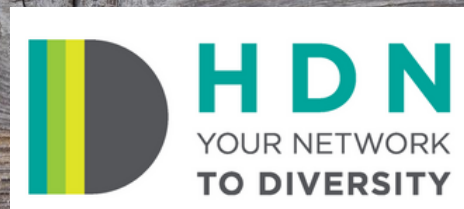


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SEASON'S GREETING FROM HDN







For more information or to make suggestions for the calendar please contact us by emailing [info@housingdiversitynetwork.co.uk](mailto:info@housingdiversitynetwork.co.uk)

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