

2009 ETHNIC, RELIGIOUS AND FEDERAL HOLIDAYS



JANUARY

Diversity in the Workforce Month

Blood Donor Month

1 st	New Year's Day ° Gantan-sai (Shinto New Year)	Georgian Calendar
1 st	Feast of Saint Basil – commemorates the death of St. Basil	Orthodox Christian
3 rd	Vasant Panchami – Festival celebrating the goddess Saraswati	Sikh
5 th	Guru Gobindh Singh Birthday	Sikh
6 th	Epiphany – celebrates the revelation of God in human form (Jesus Christ)	Christian
6 th	Festival of the Three Kings (Dia de los Reyes) - celebrate the visit of the Magi	Christian
7 th	Nativity of Jesus Christ – account of the birth of Jesus of Nazareth	Christian/Orthodox
7 th	Ashura – holiday mourning for the martyrdom of Husayn ibn Ali	Islam
20 th	Al Hijra (New Year)	Islam
13 th	Maghi - commemorates the martyrdom of the "Forty Immortals	Sikh
18 th	World Religion Day	Bahá'í
19 st	Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday Observed	United States
26 th	Chinese and Vietnamese New Year (Year of the Ox)	Buddhist



FEBRUARY

Black History Month

American Heart Month

8 th	Triodion begins (Lenten period)	Orthodox
9 th	Tu B'shvat –new year for the purpose of calculating the age of trees for tithing	Jewish
14 th	St. Valentine's Day - day on which lovers express their love for each other	Christian
15 th	Parinirvana - celebrates the day Buddha achieved complete awakening at death	Buddhist
16 th	President's Day – honors great American Presidents born in February	United States
23 rd	Maha Shivaratri – festival celebrated at the waning moon of the month of Maagha	Hindu
15 th -21 st	Brotherhood/Sisterhood Week	
24 th	Shrove Tuesday (Fat Tuesday) – day preceding Lent	Christian
25 th	Ash Wednesday (Lent Begins) 40 Day Period of Fasting and Praying before Easter	Christian
26-3/1	Ayyam-I-Ha (Intercalary Day in the Bahá'í calendar)	Bahá'í

MARCH

Women's History Month

Irish-American and Greek-American Heritage Month

American Red Cross Month



2 nd	Lent Begins (Clean Monday)	Orthodox Christian
4 th	Hola Mohalla (Lunar New Year)	Sikh
9 th	Mawlid an Nabi (Muhammed's Birthday)	Islam
10 th	Purim (Deliverance of the Jewish People)	Jewish
11 th	Holi (Festival of Colors)	
11 th	Magha Puja Day (Homage to Lord Buddha)	Buddhist
4 th	Milad un Nabi (Shia) (Birth of the Prophet Muhammad)	Islam
17 th	St. Patrick's Day	Christian
21 st	Vernal (Spring) Equinox	
21 st	Naw Ruz (Bahá'í New Year)	Bahá'í
25 th	Feast of Annunciation of the Virgin Mary	Christian
27 th	New Year's Day	Hindu



APRIL

Civil Rights Month

Celebrate Diversity Month

Cancer Control Month

- 3rd Ramanavami (Celebration of the Birth of Rama)
- 5th Palm Sunday (Triumphal Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem)
- 8th Hana Matsuri - Celebration of Buddha's Birth
- 8th Pesach (Passover) Starts (Exodus of the Jews from Egypt)
- 10th Good Friday (Commemorates the Crucifixion of Jesus)
- 12th Easter Celebrates the Resurrection of Jesus from the Dead)
- 13th Vaisakhi (Commemorates the establishment of the Khalsa)
- 14th Rama Navami (Celebration of the Birthday of Rama)
- 19th Easter/Pascha
- 21st Ridvan Begins (12 Days) (Bahá'u'lláh's prophethood)
- 24th Armenian Martyr's Day

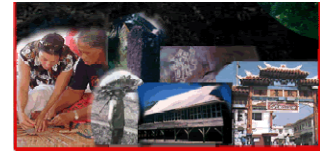
- Hindu
- Christian
- Buddhist
- Jewish
- Christian
- Christian
- Sikh
- Hindu
- Orthodox
- Bahá'í
- Armenia, U.S.

MAY

National Asian Pacific American Month

Jewish American Heritage Month

Mental Health Month



- 1st Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day)
- 5th Cinco de Mayo (Mexican Victory over French Army in 1862)
- 9th Vesākha Puja (Birth, Enlightenment and Death of Buddha)
- 23rd Declaration of the Bab
- 25th Memorial Day Observance
- 28th Ascension Day (Jesus Bodily Ascended to Heaven)
- 29th Ascension of Baha'u'llah
- 29th Shavuot (Feast of Weeks)
- 31st Pentecost Descent of the Holy Spirit)

- Jewish
- Mexican
- Buddhist
- Bahá'í
- United States
- Orthodox Christian
- Bahá'í
- Jewish
- Christian



JUNE

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride Month

Older Americans Month

National Safety Month

- 7th Pentecost
- 7th Trinity (Meditation on God as Three in One))
- 14th All Saints Day
- 16th Martyrdom Day of Guru Arjan
- 19th Juneteenth (Abolishment of Slavery in Texas)
- 21st Summer Solstice
- 24th Nativity of St. John the Baptist

- Orthodox
- Christian
- Orthodox Christian
- Sikh
- United States
- Christian

JULY

Celebrate Freedom Month

Eye Injury Prevention Month

- 1st Canada Day
- 4th Independence Day
- 7th Asalha Puja (Honors Buddah's 1st Sermon)
- 9th Martyrdom of the Bab
- 19th Lailat al Miraj (Recalls Journey of Muhammad)
- 22nd Simhat Torah (End of Public Torah Readings)
- 23rd Guru Har Krishen Birthday
- 24th Pioneer Day (Day of Deliverance)
- 25th St. James the Great Day (Disciple of Jesus)
- 30th Tisha B'Av (Annual Fast Day)

- Canadian National Day
- U.S. National Holiday
- Buddhist
- Bahá'í
- Islam
- Jewish
- Sikh
- Mormon
- Christian
- Jewish

AUGUST

Equal Opportunity Month

Immunization Awareness Month

1 st	Lammas (Festival of the 1 st Wheat Harvest)	Christian
5 th	Raksha Bandhan (Celebrates Brothers & Sisters)	Hindu
6 th	Transfiguration of the Lord	Orthodox
14 th	Krishna Janmashtami (Celebrates Birth of Krishna)	Hindu
15 th	Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Catholic, Christian
21 st	Ramadan Begins (30 days) (Month of Fasting)	Islam



SEPTEMBER

Hispanic Heritage Month

Healthy Aging Month

7 th	Labor Day	United States
17 th	Citizenship Day	United States
19 th	San Gennaro Day (Martyr Saint)	Italian, American
19 th	Rosh Hashana (Jewish New Year)	Jewish
20 th	Eid al-Fitr (Ramadan ends – Festival of Breaking the Fast)	Islam
22 nd	Autumnal Equinox	
28 th	Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement)	Jewish

OCTOBER

Disabled Employees Awareness Month

Breast Cancer Awareness Month



3-9 th	Sukkot (Feast of Tabernacles)	Jewish
8 th	Vijaya Dasami (Last Day of Navarati)	Hindu
9 th	Dassehra (Dasera) 10 day celebration for Durga	Hindu, Jain
10 th	Shemini Atzeret (Eighth Day of Assembly)	Jewish
11 th	Simchat Torah (Rejoicing of the Torah)	Jewish
12 th	Columbus Day Observance	United States
17 th	Diwali (Deepavali) (Festival of Light)	Hindu, Jain
20 th	Birth of the Bab (Birth of Siyyid Ali-Muhammad)	Bahá'í
24 th	United Nations Day	National Holiday
31 st	Reformation Day/All Hallows Eve	Protestant, Lutheran



NOVEMBER

American Indian Heritage Month

Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month

1 st	All Saints Day	Christian
11 th	Veterans Day	National Holiday
12 th	Bahá'u'lláh's Birthday (Founder of the Bahá'í Faith)	Bahá'í
25-28 th	Hajj (Pilgrimage to Mecca)	Islam
26 th	Thanksgiving Day	National Holiday
26 th	Day of Covenant (The Greatest Festival)	Bahá'í
27 th	Eid al-Adha (Festival of Sacrifice)	Islam
29 th	First Sunday of Advent (Celebrates Coming of Jesus)	Christian

DECEMBER

Human Rights Month

Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month



6 th	St. Nicholas Day (Celebrates Christian Saint & Bishop)	Christian
8 th	Bodhi Day (Buddha's Enlightenment)	Buddhist
8 th	Immaculate Conception of Mary	Roman Catholic
12-19 th	Hanukkah (Festival of Lights)	Jewish
12 th	Festival of Our Lady of Guadalupe	Roman Catholic
18 th	Muharram (New Year)	Islam
18 th	(beginning of the Islamic liturgical year)	Islam
21 st	Winter Solstice	
25 th	Christmas (Celebrates the Birth of Jesus)	Christian
26 th	Boxing Day (Giving of Gifts to the Less Fortunate)	Canada, United Kingdom
26 th	Kwanzaa - 7 days (Honors African Heritage)	African/Interfaith

Sources: Various religious and ethnic internet sites.

Note: This listing is not exhaustive and some dates may vary due to differences in the type of calendars referenced. Many Holy Days begin at sundown the day before the date listed. Regional customs, group preference or moon sightings may also cause a variation of the date.