

Accommodating Religious Observance Academic Years 19-20 and 20-21

As a secular unaffiliated institution, Butler University is proud to welcome people of all faith and philosophical orientations to our campus communities. We hope there can be flexibility and understanding for religious practice in curricular, co-curricular planning, and wider Butler community planning.

Holy Days

We encourage faculty and staff to avoid scheduling exams, programs, events or other activities that occur on a major holy day that is observed by a portion of our campus community.

There are many other important holy dates and observances than provided below. The list below reflects the most significant holidays for the faith communities present on Butler's campus. For a much more comprehensive list of religious holidays, the CFV website has linked to an interfaith calendar [here](#).

*Indicates the holiday begins at sundown

† Indicates the holiday date may vary by a day or two; dates are finalized leading up to the holiday.

AY 2019-2020

Dates	Holy Day Description	Dietary Observances
May 6-June 7, 2019*†	Ramadan, Holy month of fasting within Islam, most Muslims will continue daily activity, but will be fasting during the day. June 5-7 is Eid al Fitr, the end of the holy month, involving particular celebrations.	Muslims fast daily from food or drink from sunrise until sunset
June 5-7, 2019*†	Eid al-Fitr, celebration at the end of Ramadan within Islam)	
August 12-15, 2019*†	Eid al-Adha, the second of the two major holidays celebrated around the world in Islam, a great feast that marks the end of the Hajj	
September 30-October 1, 2019*	Rosh Hashanah, the New Year in the Jewish calendar	
October 8-9, 2019*	Yom Kippur, the day of Atonement for Jewish Communities	Jews observing Yom Kippur traditionally will be fasting
October 27, 2019	Diwali, a festival of lights celebrated within South Asia and world-wide, connected to Hinduism, Sikhism, and Jainism	
December 25, 2019	Christmas, celebration of the birth of Jesus for Christians	
February 26, 2020	Ash Wednesday, Christian first day of Lent	Christians may fast from meat on Fridays or engage in other forms of fasting between Feb. 26 and April 12

March 10, 2020	Holi, a Hindu, Sikh, and Jain festival of colors at the start of spring	
April 8-16, 2020* (Avoid exams and other programs on the evenings of 4/10 and 4/11.)	Passover, Jewish week-long observance of Exodus from Egypt, begins at sundown	Jews observing Passover will eat no leavened bread and may observe other dietary restrictions from April 8-16
April 10, 2020	Good Friday, Christian observance of Jesus' death and burial	
April 12, 2020	Easter, Christian celebration of Jesus Christ's resurrection	
April 17, 2020	Holy Friday, Eastern Orthodox Christians observance of Jesus' death and burial	
April 19, 2020	Easter for Eastern Orthodox Christians, celebration of Jesus Christ's resurrection	
April 13 or 14, 2020	Vaisakhi, Founding of the Sikh religion and the harvest festival of the Punjabi region of India	
April 23 - May 23, 2020*† (dates may vary)	Ramadan, Holy month of fasting within Islam, most Muslims will continue daily activity, but will be fasting during the day	Muslims fast daily from food or drink from sunrise until sunset
May 23-24, 2020*†	Eid al-Fitr, celebration at the end of Ramadan within Islam)	

AY 2020-2021

Dates	Holy Day Description	Dietary Observances
May 23-24, 2020*†	Eid al-Fitr, celebration at the end of Ramadan within Islam)	Ramadan lasts from April 23-May 23 and Muslims will fast daily from food or drink from sunrise to sunset
July 30-31, 2020*†	Eid al-Adha, the second of the two major holidays celebrated around the world in Islam, a great feast that marks the end of the Hajj	
September 18-20, 2020*	Rosh Hashanah, the New Year in the Jewish calendar	
September 27-28, 2020*	Yom Kippur, the day of Atonement for Jewish Communities	Jews observing Yom Kippur traditionally will be fasting
November 14, 2020	Diwali, a festival of lights celebrated within South Asia and world-wide, connected to Hinduism, Sikhism, and Jainism	
December 25, 2020	Christmas, celebration of the birth of Jesus for Christians	
February 17, 2021	Ash Wednesday, Christian first day of Lent	Christians may fast from meat on Fridays or engage in other

		forms of fasting between Feb. 26 and April 12.
March 27-April 3, 2021* (Avoid exams and other programs on the evenings of 3/26, 3/27.)	Passover, Jewish week-long observance of Exodus from Egypt, begins at sundown	Jews observing Passover will eat no leavened bread and may observe other dietary restrictions from April 8-16
March 29, 2021†	Holi, a Hindu, Sikh, and Jain festival of colors at the start of spring	
April 2, 2021	Good Friday, Christian observance of Jesus' death and burial	
April 4, 2021	Easter, Christian celebration of Jesus Christ's resurrection	
April 12 - May 11, 2021*† (dates may vary)	Ramadan, Holy month of fasting within Islam, most Muslims will continue daily activity, but will be fasting during the day	Muslims fast daily from food or drink before sunrise until after sunset
April 13 or 14, 2021	Vaisakhi, Founding of the Sikh religion and the harvest festival of the Punjabi region of India	
April 30, 2021	Holy Friday for Eastern Orthodox Christians observance of Jesus' death and burial	
May 2, 2021	Easter, Eastern Orthodox Christians celebration of Jesus Christ's resurrection	
May 12-13, 2021*†	Eid al-Fitr, celebration at the end of Ramadan within Islam	

Questions or Suggestions

Please contact the Center for Faith and Vocation for additional information or with suggestions about how we can continue to celebrate and welcome the religious diversity on our campus. Daniel Meyers, CFV Director, can be reached at dgmeyers@butler.edu.