Scene from the Illumination Ceremony for the Class of 2026

Welcome from your Catholic Chaplain

Greetings!

A few years ago, my father-in-law gave us four Morning Glory seedlings. I planted them in the back corner of our garden and have watched in astonishment at how they have grown and spread. This summer, the vines crossed over into our neighbor’s garden. Fortunately, she welcomed the punch of color from those purple blooms and they have now climbed the 10-foot steel laundry pole in her driveway.

In my own Catholic tradition, today is the Feast of the Cross. While the cross is most associated with Good Friday and Jesus’ death, today is a day to embrace its multidimensional nature. It is a sign of salvation but when I think of the cross, I also think of intersection. It is the meeting of the horizontal and vertical, a reminder that connection is life-giving, life-saving. We are made richer when we notice the intersections between us. The symbol of the cross reminds us of this, and the Morning Glories joining my fence to the neighbor’s yard ask that we notice it too. We are connected. Can we stay awake to that?

Last Sunday, at our Welcome Dinner for Catholic Students and Friends, incoming students ate with returning graduate students and seniors just returning from abroad. Students from far across the globe chatted with their classmates from Boston. It was a wonderful thing to behold—a moment of intersection, where their attentiveness to one another planted lifegiving seeds for our community. With time, I trust that these seedlings will grow and spread blessings of renewal, beauty and connectedness.
Welcome to our new Music Director!

This semester, Suzie Cartreine (she/her) joined the University Chaplaincy team as our new Music Director. She will provide musical accompaniment at signature events, support worship services, and work with student leaders. We are so glad to have her on the team.

Originally from Boston, Suzanne Cartreine enjoys performing on harpsichord and piano. Suzie currently serves as organist and Director of Music at the Unitarian Universalist Society of Wellesley Hills. She is the founder, director, and pianist of the Turkey Hill Ragtime Orchestra. Suzie loves choral music and has sung with the Tanglewood Festival Chorale, Seraphim Singers, and Tokyo Academy Singers.

Suzie holds degrees in Historical Performance, Piano Performance, and Physics, from Boston University, Temple University, and Macalester College. In her free time she enjoys tap dancing, yoga, hiking, and playing cards. Suzie lives in Arlington with her husband, two sons, two cats, and five fish. You reach Suzie via email.

Warmly,
Lynn Cooper
Associate Director and Catholic Chaplain

Just a reminder

This week, I invite you to dwell with this theme of intersection. What is an intersection—in your life or your community—that you wish to explore? Where do you think you could be enriched by taking the time to connect?

Suzie Cartreine, Ph.D.
Music Director
Musallah Locations Around Campus

A reminder about the locations of Musallah (prayer space) for Muslim students on campus. You can contact Muslim Chaplain Najiba Akbar with any questions and to gain access. You can find more information here.

- **Curtis Hall Musallah**: located left of the multipurpose room
- **Fletcher Multifaith Room**: Cabot 107 (Ask the front desk if you have any issues finding the room)
- **Joyce Cummings Center Prayer Room**: located on the lower level of the building. (Ask the front desk if you have any issues finding the room)
- **Marjorie Hanna Cleveland Meditation Room (Boston Campus)**: 6th floor of the Tufts Medical Center, 755 Washington Street
- **Prayer and Medication Room (Boston Campus)**: Room 704, 145 Harrison Ave, Medical Education Building

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**Upcoming Signature Programs**
Be-Friend
Sign up by Friday, September 23

Be-Friend is back. This semester-long interfaith friendship project is designed for participants to go deep and to talk about the things that matter like our values, our sense of purpose, and our questions about life. You will hone the skills of active listening while experimenting with shared spiritual practices from different religious and philosophical traditions. Our multifaith chaplains have contributed to the program, offering a diverse array of spiritual practices including nature walks, meditation exercises, listening to music, and deep reading—of poetry, art, the world, our lives and one another. Participating students, graduate students, staff, faculty and alumni will be paired and will commit to spending an hour together each week. Students will be paired with other students, and the same for staff/faculty and alumni. The program will begin the first week of October, and all are welcome!

You can learn more about the program here, and you can sign up here by September 23. Contact Catholic Chaplain Lynn Cooper if you have any questions.
True Colors is a student group under the LGBT Center and University Chaplaincy for queer students of all religious, philosophical, or spiritual backgrounds (or lack thereof!). We intend to be a relaxed, casual space where queer students can get to know students of different backgrounds and discuss the intersection of queer and religious identities. We also hope to enjoy crafts, snacks, and music together!

Please note that students who do not identify with any religious, spiritual, or philosophical community are absolutely welcome, as well as students who prefer to keep aspects of their identity private.

For any questions, feel free to email True Colors directly, or Protestant Chaplain Dan Bell.
Freedom Making: A Fellowship for Emerging Interreligious Leaders
Apply by Friday, September 16

Do you identify as a first-generation BIPOC student? Do you want to join a supportive community that values inquiry and social justice? Do opportunities for mentorship and leadership interest you?

Then the Freedom Making Fellowship is for you!

Apply by Sep. 16!

This fellowship comes at an urgent time to reimagine the ways we think about our connection to self, other, and society. We will draw on multiple perspectives and the collective knowledge of our community to advance decolonial and abolitionist futures.

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Young Climate Activists and the Culture of Cultivated Optimism: Ann Ward, Department of Sociology, Brandeis University and Tufts University
Thursday, September 15, 12:00 - 1:00pm, Multi-purpose Room, Curtis Hall (Medford Campus)

Young climate activists have brought new energy to the climate movement. These activists must find ways to manage the complex array of emotions that arise from the climate crisis and their activism. Join us for a conversation with Ann Ward, from the Department of Sociology at Brandeis University, to unpack how these activists collectively process their emotions related to climate change. The lecture will also consider how emotional culture impacts the very possibilities of emotional expression in these movement spaces.

This event is co-sponsored by the Environmental Studies Program, Jonathan M. Tisch College of Civic Life, and Tufts Office of Sustainability. It is also part of Environmental Studies’ weekly environmental Hoch Cunningham Lectures.

You can find out more, and register for this and other lectures in the series here.

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Resources, Scholarships, and Opportunities

stAAR Center Student Advisory Board
Applications are due Sunday, September 18
The StAAR Center is excited to announce that the Student Advisory Board will continue for the 2022-2023 academic year. We seek undergraduate and graduate students to collaborate with members of StAAR Center Staff to share ideas, offer advice, assist in the development of programs and initiatives, and act as a point of contact to the larger student body. The commitment includes 2 - 3 meetings per semester. This volunteer opportunity is not paid.

If you have any questions, please contact one of the Student Advisor Board Coordinators: Hazel Cheng (Accessibility Specialist), Kristina Aikens (Program Director, Writing Support), or Monica Morin (Academic Coach).

You can find the application here.

Registration Open for Career Fairs
In-Person Career Fair: Friday, September 23, 11:30 - 2:30pm, Ganther Center
Virtual Career Fair: Friday, September 30, 1:00 - 4:00pm Handshake

This fall we will be hosting two career fairs - one virtually and one in-person. These events are open to students from all majors and programs who are interested in connecting with employers. Students are welcome and encouraged to attend both fairs. We will have employers looking to hire students for entry-level positions for after graduation, employers looking to speak to students about possible internships and co-ops, and employers looking to connect with students to teach them more about their organization.

You can register and find more information here.

Upcoming Religious Celebrations and Observances

These events are drawn from the multifaith calendar maintained by the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life at Harvard Divinity School. To see more upcoming religious holidays and festivals, please follow the link to the Harvard Divinity School calendar.

Ghambar Paitishem
Mon., Sep. 12 – Fri., Sep. 16, 2022
Tradition: Zoroastrianism
Celebrates the creation of plants, the sowing of the winter crop and the return of herds from pasture.

Mabon
Thu., Sep. 22, 2022
Tradition: Wicca/Paganism
Autumnal equinox and the second harvest festival, celebrating the equivalence of light and dark, the arrival of Autumn, and thanksgiving for the Earth's bounty. (Begins at sundown)

Rosh Hashanah
Sun., Sep. 25 – Tue., Sep. 27, 2022
Tradition: Judaism

The Jewish New Year and the anniversary of the creation of the world, Rosh Hashanah is the first of the Ten Days of Awe (also known as the Ten Days of Repentance) that conclude on Yom Kippur. It marks the beginning of the holiest time of the year for Jews.

Support the University Chaplaincy

Supporting dynamic programs at Tufts University in religious, spiritual, ethical, and cultural life is easy and vital to our work. To donate, please click on the button below. Thank you for your generosity.

Give Today

ABOUT US

The University Chaplaincy is a dynamic hub supporting religious, spiritual, ethical, and cultural life for all members of the Tufts community. We provide pastoral care, support religious and philosophical communities, educate about spiritual and ethical issues in society and the world, and promote multifaith engagement.

Tufts University Chaplaincy | Goddard Chapel, 3 The Green | Medford, MA 02155 US
chaplaincy.tufts.edu | chaplaincy@tufts.edu | 617.627.3427

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