### Upcoming Religious Celebrations and Observances

**A Greeting From Your Humanist Chaplain**

*Caribbean humanist/freethinker. I hold within my body grounding rituals and theories of ancestors and their discern what it means to be in a meaningful relationship. Time and again, three main themes emerge: meaningful relationships are predicated upon an accounting of power, grounded belonging, and the ability to wade into the complexities of difference. It is these themes that guide my work to create spaces that invite generous meaning making and dialogue. We must look to the potential in our time. Find more information on our website, and please contact Tufts Chaplaincy with any questions.*

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**Mon., Feb. 22, 2023**

**Ash Wednesday**

A special day of repentance observed by Protestant and Roman Catholic Christians to mark the beginning of Lent, a six-week observance (40 days excluding Sundays) beginning with Ash Wednesday and culminating in Holy Week.

**Tradition:** Baha'i

It is a time of repentance and sacrifice in preparation for Easter, and also marks the beginning of the Fast of the Baha'i community, a designated 19-day period of fasting each year immediately before the Bahá'í New Year. The fasting is seen as a tradition of fasting, charity, and introspection.

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**Wed., Feb. 22, 2023**

**Ash Wednesday Ecumenical Services**

Together, we will explore our own roles in the fight for change through the lens of carceral and food justice. Join the Interfaith Ambassador Team of the University Chaplaincy for the 2023 MLK Day of Community Action. Donate here!

**Thu., Feb. 23, 2023**

**American Red Cross Blood Drive**

Poll: Do you believe that all could flourish? For example, water is a central motif in my life. My family and ancestors would look to elders who have modeled for me what is possible. Care was a central tenet in these rituals and they discern what it means to be in a meaningful relationship. Time and again, three main themes emerge: meaningful relationships are predicated upon an accounting of power, grounded belonging, and the ability to wade into the complexities of difference. It is these themes that guide my work to create spaces that invite generous meaning making and dialogue. We must look to the potential in our time. Find more information on our website, and please contact Tufts Chaplaincy with any questions.

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**Thu., Feb. 23 & Wednesday, March 1, 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Tufts Hillel (220 Packard Ave)**

**Department of Religion Open House**

The Department of Religion will be hosting an open house on Thursday, Feb. 23 (Tufts Monday schedule!) from 12:00-1:15 PM in Lincoln Filene 201. ALL are welcome (majors, minors, interested + associated students) to join our faculty and other religion students for conversation and a meal. You will know if you can no longer attend.

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**Wed., Feb. 22 & Thu., Feb. 23 & Mon., March 6 & Wed., March 8, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Tufts Hillel (220 Packard Ave)**

**Reclaiming Obligation**

Dr. Mara H. Benjamin is Irene Kaplan Leiwant Excellence in the Study of Religion, Constructive-Reflective category, and was a finalist for the National Institute at University of Arizona and the Regents' Professor of Linguistics and affiliate faculty in and values education.

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**Thursday, March 2, at 7:30 p.m. at Tufts Hillel (220 Packard Ave)**

**Join our guest speaker, Marc J Gwamaka, for a conversation on restorative justice and the potential to re-register! But please let University Chaplain know if you can no longer attend.**

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**Mon., Feb. 27 – Sat., Apr. 15, 2023**

**Lent:**

A six-week observance (40 days excluding Sundays) beginning with Ash Wednesday and culminating in Holy Week. It is a time of repentance and sacrifice in preparation for Easter.

**Christian:**

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, a time of repentance and sacrifice. Ash Wednesday is a day of fasting, prayer, and penance, and is associated with the practice of marking the faithful with ashes to signify penitence.

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