



# Tufts

# UNIVERSITY CHAPLAINCY

E-NEWS 02.07.24



## An Invitation from your Buddhist Chaplain

Dear Tufts community,

The Tufts Buddhist Chaplaincy and Tufts Buddhist Mindfulness Sangha are honored to invite you to share in the cultural treasures of Tibet and its diamond-point teachings on peace and wholeness, beginning next week. The Tibetan monks of Gaden Shartse Monastery will visit the Interfaith Center to celebrate Losar (Tibetan New Year), create a sand mandala, share practices, and give teaching. It is an incredibly unique opportunity to share in.

The Gaden Shartse Monastery, founded 600 years ago by the sage Je Tsongkhapa, is one of the most renowned monasteries in Tibetan Buddhist tradition. The monks' education includes dialectic debate, Tibetan medicine,

scriptural study, meditation, and special areas of study including mandala and thankg painting. In India and Tibet, as in America, the times are politically uncertain; these monks have, through meditation, used uncertainty to deepen their compassion.

A mandala represents simultaneously both an inner landscape and a physical realm within which every element of experience is unified, balanced and complete (you can see an example pictured above). In Tibetan tradition it is considered a great blessing to see a mandala, as it conveys a deep impression of wholeness, bringing about healing and peace. Each element of the color particle sand mandala has precise symbolic meaning. The structures portrayed are the structures of human consciousness. The surrounding circle represents dynamic awareness. The square symbolizes the four directions, the physical world. At each side of the square, a gate is constructed: these represent the four immeasurables: loving-kindness, compassion, sympathetic joy, and equanimity. Through these practices one enters the sacred ground. The particular mandala that will be created at Tufts is the mandala symbolizing Green Tara, the archetype of compassion-in-action.

Ultimately, the gift of the mandala is in its power to transform our own minds and the environment around us into a celestial realm, awakening us to the sacred aspect of Earth and our inseparable connection to all people and other forms of life. I do hope you can join in our celebration of Losar and our contemplation of the mandala, for yourself and your communities.

Details can be found here on the [Buddhist Chaplaincy's website](#).

Metta and best wishes,  
Ji Hyang Padma  
Buddhist Chaplain

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## Featured Program



# Circles of Peace

## TIBETAN MANDALA PROJECT

Join us as we welcome the monks of Gaden Shartse Monastic College—to offer a mandala of Avalokitesvara and a series of healing and empowerment ceremonies. Each offering is designed to help illuminate the nature of mind and provide us with the courage and renewal needed to meet the challenges of a modern life.

### Wednesday, February 14

The Interfaith Center

**7:00 p.m.**

Losar Celebration with Tea Ceremony

### Thursday, February 15

The Interfaith Center

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

Green Tara Mandala Opening Ceremony

**12:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.**

Mandala Viewing

### Friday, February 16

Goddard Chapel

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

Dialectic Debate: the Three Stages of the Path

The Interfaith Center

**5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

Mandala Viewing

### Saturday, February 17

The Interfaith Center

**10:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.**

Mandala Viewing

### Monday, February 19

The Interfaith Center

**10:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.**

Mandala Viewing

**8:00 p.m.**

Vajrasattva Empowerment

### Tuesday, February 20

The Interfaith Center

**10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

Mandala Viewing

**4:00 p.m.**

Dissolution Ceremony

For more detailed information about these events, please contact Buddhist Chaplain Ji Hyang Padma at [jihyangpadma@tufts.edu](mailto:jihyangpadma@tufts.edu) and visit <https://chaplaincy.tufts.edu/buddhist/circlesofpeace/>.



Sponsored by the University Chaplaincy, the Buddhist Chaplaincy, the Tufts Buddhist Mindfulness Sangha, the Asian American Center, and the Office for Institutional Inclusive Excellence

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Tufts University Chaplaincy, Tufts Buddhist Chaplaincy, the Office of the Vice Provost for Institutional Inclusive Excellence, the SMFA, Tufts Asian American Center, and the Tufts Buddhist Mindfulness Sangha welcome Tibetan Monks of the Gaden Shartse Monastic College for Circles of Peace: A Tibetan Mandala Project. Tufts University will be welcoming the monks of Gaden Shartse Monastic College to offer a mandala of Green Tara and a series of healing and empowerment ceremonies. Each offering is designed to help illuminate the nature of mind and provide us with the courage and renewal needed to meet the challenges of a modern life. Highlights also include a Vajrasattva Empowerment (associated with the purification of karma and removal of obstacles) and a dialectic debate on the three aspects of the path. All events are open to the Tufts community and the general public. Please email [Buddhist Chaplain Ji Hyang Padma](#) with any questions and find more information on the website linked below.

Circles of Peace: a Tibetan Mandala Project

**IN THE JCC  
BALLROOM**

**MLK**

**FEBRUARY 24TH  
FROM NOON TO  
2:00 PM**

# DAY OF COMMUNITY ACTION

Join the Interfaith Ambassador Team for lunch, a panel with campus and community leaders on MLK's legacy in modern activism, and opportunities to get involved in direct action. Together, we will explore our own roles in the fight for change through engagement of two learning and service tracks related to educational access and voting rights.

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**For more information, visit**  
<https://chaplaincy.tufts.edu/mlkdoca2023/>

### MLK Day of Community Action

Saturday, February 24, 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m., JCC Ballroom, register by February 21

Join the Interfaith Ambassador Team for lunch, a panel with campus and community leaders on MLK's legacy in modern activism, and opportunities to get involved in direct action. Together, we will explore our own roles in the fight for change through engagement of two learning and service tracks related to educational access and voting rights. Find more information through the link below, and register by February 21. You can find more information about the [Day of Community Action](#) (DOCA) on our website.

Register for Day of Community Action

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## Religious and Philosophical Programs

Our gatherings are open to all members of the Tufts community! Please find more information and more regular weekly programming and events [here on our website](#). If you have any questions, or would like to connect about convening a new gathering, please [reach out to the University Chaplaincy](#).



# Bible Study

**WEDNESDAYS, 7-8PM**  
**CAMPUS CENTER 218**

*Please note our new meeting time, 7-8pm*

We are reflecting on stories of God calling people in the Hebrew Bible, and how those stories can help us to better hear God's call to us today. Email Protestant Chaplain Dan Bell to learn more ([daniel.bell@tufts.edu](mailto:daniel.bell@tufts.edu)).

All students are welcome, regardless of background, identity, or prior experience.



University Chaplaincy  
Protestant Chaplaincy



## **Bible Study**

Wednesdays, from 7:00 p.m to 8:00 p.m., at the Campus Center Room 218

Join Protestant Chaplain Dan Bell for Bible Study. We are reflecting on stories of God calling people in the Hebrew Bible, and how those stories can help us to better hear God's call to us today. Email Protestant Chaplain [Dan Bell](mailto:daniel.bell@tufts.edu) to learn more. All students are welcome, regardless of background, identity, or prior experience.

# Field Trip to Museum of African American History

**Saturday, February 10, 11:30 am - 1:00 pm,**  
**Meet at the Tufts/Medford Green line stop at 10 am**

Join us for a tour, followed by an optional walk to the Boston Common to visit The Embrace memorial. Tour is free of charge; transportation scholarships are available.



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## Field Trip to the Museum of African American History

Saturday, February 10, 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Join the Africana Center, the Office of the Vice Provost for Institutional Inclusive Excellence, Tisch College of Civic Life, and the University Chaplaincy for a field trip to the Museum of African American History, with Director of Education & Interpretation and this year's MLK Celebration keynote speaker Christian Walkes. After the tour, there will be an optional walk to the Embrace memorial. Transportation scholarships are available. Please email the University Chaplaincy with questions and accessibility needs. Registration is limited to 50 attendees, so register today!

[Register for the Feb 10 Field Trip](#)



# Misa Católica en Español

Confesión 4pm en Spanish and English

Santa Misa 5pm en Goddard Chapel

Domingo, 11 Febrero, 11 Marzo, 7 Abril



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Catholic Chaplaincy

## Misa Católica en Español/Spanish Mass

11 Febrero, 5:00 p.m., Goddard Chapel

Nuestra primera misa en español del año será esta semana! ¡Todos son bienvenidos! Si te gustaría ayudar a planear o apoyar en cualquier forma, por favor contacta [Sebastian Fernandez](#).

Our first mass in Spanish of the year will be this week! Everyone is welcome! If you would like to help plan or support in any way, please contact [Sebastian Fernandez](#).

# **“Single Garment of Destiny”**

# **Lunch and Learns**

## **FEBRUARY 2024**

Join the Africana Center, the Office of the Vice Provost for Institutional Inclusive Excellence, and the University Chaplaincy for a special “Single Garment of Destiny” Lunch and Learn to celebrate the living legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

**Grafton Campus**  
Monday, February 12

**12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

with lunch available  
beginning at 11:30 a.m.

**Kohnstamm Conference Room**  
106 Jean Mayer Admin Building

**Boston Campus**  
Wednesday, February 14

**11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.**

with lunch available  
beginning at 11:45 a.m.

**Posner Hall**  
200 Harrison Ave.

The 2024 theme for our MLK gatherings this year, “Single Garment of Destiny,” comes from the 1963 “Letter from Birmingham Jail” which includes this quote:

*“Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly affects all indirectly. Never again can we afford to live with the narrow, provincial ‘outside agitator’ idea.”*



These Lunch and Learns are available to all Tufts faculty, staff and students on both campuses. We hope that you can attend, and that you will register for either event no later than Friday, February 9th.

Please contact [chaplaincy@tufts.edu](mailto:chaplaincy@tufts.edu) with any questions.

**Co-sponsored by:**



School of  
Dental Medicine



Gerald J. and Dorothy R.  
Friedman School of  
Nutrition Science and Policy



School of Medicine  
Center for Black  
Maternal Health &  
Reproductive Justice



Cummings School  
of Veterinary Medicine



Register by Friday, February 9

Join the Africana Center, the Office of the Vice Provost for Institutional Inclusive Excellence, and the University Chaplaincy for a special "Single Garment of Destiny" Lunch and Learn to celebrate the living legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Co-sponsored by the School of Dental Medicine, Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy, Center for Black Maternal Health & Reproductive Justice and Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine, these events will be held on the Boston Health Sciences and Grafton campuses, respectively. This event will feature recorded excerpts from the keynote at the January 31st MLK Day of Celebration offered by Christian Walkes, Director of Education and Interpretation Programs at the Museum of African American History, followed by an opportunity to engage in table conversation about his insights from King's "Letter from Birmingham Jail" and the meaning of his message for us today. Please contact the [University Chaplaincy](#) if you have any questions

Register for a Lunch and Learn

# Ash Wednesday Ecumenical Services

Liturgy of the Word with Imposition of Ashes

Wednesday, February 14, 2024

12:10pm and 5:10pm, Goddard Chapel

On Ash Wednesday, many mark the beginning of Lent by honoring the ancient call to be rooted in our truest selves through prayer, reflection, and acts of discipline. It is a call to journey through the wilderness as we move towards the Cross and the Empty Tomb.

All are welcome to join in this time of prayer, singing, and reflection hosted by Catholic Chaplain Lynn Cooper and Protestant Chaplain Dan Bell.

For questions or more information, contact  
[chaplaincy@tufts.edu](mailto:chaplaincy@tufts.edu).



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## **Ash Wednesday**

Wednesday, February 14, 12:10 p.m. and 5:10 p.m., at Goddard Chapel

Join us as we gather with Christians across the globe to mark the beginning of the holy season of Lent. This 45 minute service is a time to pause and reflect. We will sing, pray, meditate on scripture and live into the rhythms of the liturgical



# Rustin

## Film Screening and Discussion



*Bayard Rustin was the architect of 1963's March on Washington. He challenged authority and never apologized for who he was, but was forgotten despite making history. Directed by George C. Wolfe and starring Oscar-nominated actor Colman Domingo, Rustin shines a long overdue spotlight on the extraordinary man who, alongside giants like the Reverend Martin Luther King Jr., Adam Clayton Powell Jr., and Ella Baker, dared to imagine a different world, and inspired a movement in a march toward freedom.*

**WHEN: FEBRUARY 22, AT 6 PM**  
**WHERE: THE CABOT ASEAN AUDITORIUM**  
**160 PACKARD AVE**  
**MEDFORD, MA 02155**

**RSVP HERE:**



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AFRICANA  
CENTER



### Rustin Film Screening

Thursday, February 22, 6:00 p.m., Cabot ASEAN Auditorium

As a part of Black Legacy Month, the Office of the Vice Provost for Institutional Excellence and co-sponsors Africana Center, LGBT Center, Tisch College, and the University Chaplaincy will be screening *Rustin*. Bayard Rustin was the architect of 1963's March on Washington. He challenged authority and never apologized for who he was, but was forgotten, despite making history. Directed by George C. Wolfe and starring Oscar-nominated actor Colman Domingo, Rustin shines a long-overdue spotlight on the extraordinary man who, alongside giants like the Reverend Martin Luther King Jr., Adam Clayton Powell Jr., and Ella Baker, dared to imagine a different world, and inspired a movement in a march toward freedom. Register to attend below.

## Resources, Scholarships and Opportunities

FEBRUARY  
17  
5:00PM

# BLACK HISTORY

*Gospel Explosion*

SPECIAL GUESTS: SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY GOSPEL CHOIR OF BATON ROUGE, LA

HARVARD MEMORIAL CHURCH, 1 HARVARD YARD CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

### Gospel Explosion Night at Harvard MemChurch

Saturday, Feb 17, at 5:00 p.m., at the Harvard Memorial Church (1 Harvard Yard Cambridge, MA 02138)

The Southern University Gospel Choir from Baton Rouge, La. will fill the Memorial Church Sanctuary on Feb. 17 with a chorus of 50 powerful voices singing traditional spiritual music in celebration of Black History Month. The choir, created more than 50 years ago, is well known in gospel music circles in the south and across the nation. The Rev. Dr.



Calvon Jones, Assistant Minister in the Memorial Church, a gospel singer who released his first album in 2021, said he discovered the choir nearly a decade ago and was excited to create this collaboration with Southern University and A&M College, a historically Black college and university. Find more details about the event below.

More information about Gospel Explosion Night

The poster for the Burning Refuge conference features a central dark blue rectangle with white text. The title 'BURNING REFUGE' is at the top in large, bold, sans-serif font. Below it, in a smaller font, is 'the inaugural Buddhism and Social-Spiritual Liberation Conference'. The dates 'March 7-9, 2024' and location 'at Harvard Divinity School' follow. A purple horizontal bar contains the website 'burningrefuge2024.site'. At the bottom, it says 'free registration for all! submit paper proposals now!'. The central rectangle is flanked by vertical strips of abstract, colorful brushstrokes in shades of pink, orange, and yellow. Small inset photographs of four individuals are placed around the central text: a man with glasses in the top left, a man in a grey shirt in the top right, a man in a dark suit in the middle right, and a man in a white shirt with a sash in the bottom right. A woman with long dark hair is in the bottom left inset.

**Burning Refuge: the inaugural Buddhism and Social-Spiritual Liberation Conference**

Thursday, March 7 - Saturday, March 9, Harvard Divinity School

In March 2024, an exciting and radical conference will host its inaugural offering at Harvard Divinity School to convene critical and interdisciplinary Buddhist scholarship, activism, and arts to chart a path forward into true social-spiritual liberation. We assert that the dream of ultimate social-spiritual liberation is possible and is thus our great task – we invite you to set out on this mission with us and make a vow of commitment. Will you join us? This year, we are thrilled to bring together a diverse group of scholars, practitioners, and esteemed teachers to explore the profound intersections of Buddhism and individual and collective liberation. [Register here](#) to present your research.

The Inaugural 2024 Buddhism and Social-Spiritual Liberation Conference

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**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](#).

#### **Laylat al-Isra'wa al-Mi'raj (Mi'raj al-Nabiy)**

Thu., Feb. 8, 2024

Tradition: Islam

Commemorates the ascension (al-Mi'raj) of the Prophet to heaven following his night journey (al Isra') from Mecca to Jerusalem and his ascent to heaven and return the same night. Begins at sundown.

#### **Vasant Panchami (Sri Pancami)**

Tue., Feb. 13, 2024

Tradition: Hinduism

One of many festivals to honor the advent of spring, this day is celebrated particularly in North India, where it is associated with Saraswati, the goddess of learning; however, it also retains connection with the goddess Lakshmi.

#### **Ash Wednesday**

Wed., Feb. 14, 2024

Tradition: Christianity-Protestant, Christianity-Roman Catholic

A special day of repentance observed by Protestant and Roman Catholic Christians to mark the beginning of Lent, the 40-day period (excluding Sundays) of prayer, repentance, and self-denial preceding Easter. The name derives from the practice of marking of the faithful with ashes to signify penitence.

#### **Nirvana Day**

Thu., Feb. 15, 2024

Tradition: Buddhism

In the northern tradition, it commemorates the parinirvana of the Buddha. In cultures of Southeast Asia, the buddha's parinirvana is remembered during Wesak. The dates and names of Buddhist celebrations vary significantly among cultures and communities.

#### **Laylat al-Bara'ah**

Sun., Feb. 25, 2024

Tradition: Islam

Begins at sundown.

(Night of Repentance)

On this night, God approaches the Earth to call humanity and to grant forgiveness of sins. Observed on the 14th day of the lunar month of Sha'ban.

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## **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**  
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