A Greeting From Your Protestant Chaplain

Dear Tufts Community,

As we approach the end of the academic year, all sorts of feelings might arise. Some of you are feeling ready to be done with classes and finals; you just want it to be summer already! Others of you are feeling stressed about all the things that need to happen this time of year, and those who are graduating may be feeling a mixture of anxiety and excitement as you prepare to say “goodbye” to Tufts and “hello” to the next chapter in your life.

For some of you, the reality of imminent change can feel very hard and even sad. Catholic author Joyce Rupp writes that “As much as we might want our lives to remain as they are, they never do. Life involves change. Each change can serve as a means for us to become more fully the loving person that we are.” Change can be thrilling and wonder-filled; it can be painfully difficult as well.

Amid the changes you are facing, whether it is ending the semester, graduating, beginning a job, or moving to a new address, I encourage you to be present to the feelings that arise for you. Welcome them, as you would welcome friends into your home. Let change and the feeling it provokes become your guide to living more fully and lovingly as a human being.

As you do, I think you will yourself be better able to be present to others’ feelings as they too face life’s changes, and to support one another in the midst of those transitions, whether they are joyful, painful, or a little bit of both. In every changing moment, stay grounded in who you are and let love lead the way ahead, wherever the path takes you.
Staff Spotlight

Staff Spotlight: Unfolding: University Chaplaincy in Practice
Issue 1 available now

The Association for Chaplaincy and Spiritual Life in Higher Education (ACSLHE) has published its first issue of Unfolding: University Chaplaincy in Practice. The issue features pieces written by Humanist Chaplain Anthony Cruz Pantojas and Hindu Chaplain Preeta Banerjee. Program Manager Nora Bond serves on the editorial team. Follow this link to read the full issue.
Apply to be an Interfaith Ambassador

Apply by Friday, April 28

Interfaith Ambassador with the University Chaplaincy
Apply by Friday, April 28

In Fall 2021, the Tufts University Chaplaincy piloted a new Interfaith Ambassador Program for undergraduate students. This team of Interfaith Ambassadors works in collaboration with University Chaplaincy staff, campus student leaders and organizations, and community groups to create more inclusive multifaith spaces on campus. Ambassadors offer opportunities to bring people of diverse backgrounds and beliefs together for reflection, community-building, advocacy, and service. To learn more about the role click here.
Senior and Young Alumni Awards Night
Wednesday, April 26, 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m at the Interfaith Center (58 Winthrop St)

This year, the University Chaplaincy hosts its second annual celebration to honor and uplift the wonderful contributions of our seniors and young alumni across all of our religious and philosophical communities. Our Senior & Young Alumni Awards will provide an opportunity for our community to nominate and celebrate our graduating seniors. Delicious food and mocktails will be served. All nominees will be honored at our gathering, and guests are welcome. You can RSVP here for Awards Night.

RSVP for Awards Night

Upcoming Co-Sponsored Events
Unpacking White Christian Nationalism Series with Dr. Anthea Butler

Keynote address: Thursday, April 27 in Alumnae Hall, 5:30 pm - 7:30pm
Brunch and conversation: Friday, April 28 in Alumnae Hall, 9:30am - 11:00am

How does white Christian nationalism impact a multifaith and multiracial democracy? The Interfaith Ambassador team, University Chaplaincy, and the Tufts Department of Religion invite you to an event series featuring bestselling author and renowned public scholar, Dr. Anthea Butler. Dr. Butler will deliver a lecture on her book *White Evangelical Racism: The Politics of Morality in America* and join us for dinner and a discussion on Thursday, April 27. The book asks individuals to consider their role in this larger history, and in Friday's session, we will explore together the contours of American and global nationalisms in the major justice issues of our day.

Register at go.tufts.edu/unpacking or scan the QR code

Anthea Butler is Geraldine R. Segal Professor in American Social Thought, and chair of the department of Religious Studies at the University of Pennsylvania. A historian of African American and American religion, Professor Butler’s research and writing spans African American religion and history, race, politics, Evangelicalism, gender and sexuality, media, and popular culture. You can find more of her writing and public engagement at Antheabutter.com.

This series is made possible thanks to grant funding from The Arthur Vining Davis Foundations

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The first 25 students to visit the Chaplaincy Office at Goddard Chapel after registering will receive a copy of *White Evangelical Racism: The Politics of Morality in America* prior to the event. This event is funded by the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations and is a part of Tufts University's Religious Diversity and Civic Life Initiative.

Register for Series

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**Religious and Philosophical Programs**

**FOOD & FAITH**

**Monday, May 1**

Celebrate the last day of class with tasty food and good conversation as we reflect on the role of food in our religious and cultural lives.

6-7:30 PM
The Interfaith Center

RSVP by Fri April 28

Dinner will be provided.
Sponsored by Interfaith Student Council, COFFEE Interfaith Student Coalition, and The Palmier

**Food and Faith with the Interfaith Student Council**
Monday, May 1, 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Interfaith Center (58 Winthrop St.)

The Interfaith Student Council, COFFEE, and the Palmier invites you to celebrate the last day of classes with an evening of tasty food, good conversation, and an opportunity to reflect on the role that food
plays in our religious, spiritual, and cultural lives. Undergrad, graduate student, faculty and staff - all are welcome! RSVP to Food and Faith here. Please reach out to Associate Director Lynn Cooper with any questions.

Resources, Scholarships, and Opportunities

Graduating Students: Order Your Cap and Gown
Available until April 27

Caps and gowns are available for purchase in the University bookstore from April 5 - 27. Students who cannot go to the bookstore may reserve their regalia via email, to be picked up and paid for when they get to campus. All students are encouraged to place their order as soon as possible. Please reach out to bookstore with any further questions regarding cap and gown ordering.

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.

Ridvan
Thu., Apr. 20 – Tue., May 2, 2023
Tradition: Baha'i
Commemorates the 12 days that Baha'u'llah spent in the Garden of Ridvan in the last days of his exile in Baghdad, during which time he proclaimed himself as the one announced by Bab. Work is suspended for the first, ninth, and twelfth days.
Beltane
Sun., Apr. 30, 2023
Tradition: Wicca/Paganism
The final fertility festival, celebrating the Earth's fecundity and anticipating the power of the sun and the Earth in summer.

Ghambar Maidyozarem
Sun., Apr. 30 – Thu., May 4, 2023
Tradition: Zoroastrianism
Celebrates the creation of the sky and harvesting of the winter crop.

Ascension of Jesus
Thu., May 18, 2023
Tradition: Christianity-Protestant, Christianity-Roman Catholic
The celebration of Jesus' ascension into heaven and enthronement as universal sovereign. It comes 40 days after Easter. The date observed by Protestants and Roman Catholics is often different from the date observed by Orthodox Christians.

Declaration of the Bab
Tue., May 23, 2023
Tradition: Baha'i
Commemorates the day in 1844 on which he announced his identity as the "Bab" ("Gate"), the herald of the new age. Begins at sundown.

Ascension of Jesus
Thu., May 25, 2023
Tradition: Christianity-Orthodox
The celebration of Jesus' ascension into heaven and enthronement as universal sovereign. It comes 40 days after Easter. The date observed by Protestants and Roman Catholics is often different from the date observed by Orthodox Christians.

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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.

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