Happy End of the Semester from the University Chaplaincy!

Dear Friends,

This month contains many transitions across our campuses. Whether it was your first year of college, your last week of classes as a senior, or an important semester in your graduate degree, we congratulate you.

While our programs finish this week for the academic year, chaplains are available to you throughout the summer. You can directly connect with them through the emails found here, or complete this brief form to be contacted by a chaplain. Please never hesitate to reach out - we are here for you, and glad to be available.

Soon, we turn towards celebrating those who are departing Tufts. Please see below for more information about our Baccalaureate Ceremony and Commencement Weekend events with our chaplaincies.

Thank you for a tremendous year of growing, learning, and adapting together. We wish you warmth and restoration as we turn towards summer.

Warmly,

The University Chaplaincy Team
The Baccalaureate Ceremony for the Class of 2022
Saturday, May 21, 3:00 p.m., Gantcher Family Sports and Convocation Center

The University Chaplaincy is thrilled to welcome the Class of 2022 and their families to the in-person Baccalaureate Ceremony at Gantcher Family Sports and Convocation Center on Saturday, May 21, 2022 at 3pm. The multifaith ceremony will include: Words of Welcome and Greetings of Peace from University Chaplain Reverend Elyse Nelson Winger; senior interviews by video; the Wendell Phillips Address by René LaPointe Jameson, E2; an instrumental music performances by both a string quartet and jazz ensemble; President Anthony P. Monaco’s address to the Class of 2022; and multifaith words of blessing and sending from Tufts University chaplains. Congratulations to our graduating Jumbos! You can find more information about the event here.

Commencement Weekend Activites

Friday May 20

Meditation and Tea with the Buddhist Chaplaincy, Interfaith Center, 58 Winthrop Street, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. An informal tea ceremony, to fully savor this present moment and celebrate our Seniors. Refreshments will be served. Please RSVP to support our planning by emailing Buddhist Chaplain Ji Hyang Padma. Please meet at the Interfaith Center.

Muslim Friday Prayer Service (Jummah) and Lunch, hosted by the Muslim Chaplaincy, Interfaith Center, 58 Winthrop St., 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. Join us for the Jummah prayer service followed by a halal buffet lunch and tea/coffee. Bring your families and friends! To RSVP, contact the Muslim Chaplain Najiba Akbar and include the number of people attending.

Hillel Open House Reception, Granoff Family Hillel Center,  220 Packard Avenue, 4:00 p.m.

Hillel Student-led Services, Granoff Family Hillel Center,  220 Packard Avenue, 6:00 p.m. For more information, call 617-627-3242.

Shabbat Dinner, Granoff Family Hillel Center,  220 Packard Avenue, 7:15 p.m. Advance registration required; for more information, call 617-627-3242.

Saturday May 21

Shabbat Buffet Lunch, Granoff Family Hillel Center,  220 Packard Avenue, 12:15 p.m. Advance registration required; for more information, call 617-627-3242.
Interfaith Luncheon for Graduates and Families, Interfaith Center, 58 Winthrop St., 12:15 – 1:30 p.m. To celebrate our graduating seniors who have been involved with spiritual and religious life on campus, regardless of tradition. Hosted by Humanist Chaplain Anthony Cruz Pantojas and Protestant Chaplain Daniel Bell. Informal reception. Please RSVP to Dan Bell or Anthony Cruz Pantojas by May 16.

Baccalaureate Ceremony Gantcher Family Sports and Convocation Center, 3:00 p.m. The Baccalaureate Ceremony for the senior class at Tufts is a tradition that began in 1864. See above for more information. Seniors should align in cap and gown for the processional for the Baccalaureate Ceremony at 2:30 p.m. at the Gantcher Family Sports and Convocation Center.

Hindu Chaplaincy Open House, hosted by the Tufts Hindu Chaplaincy, Interfaith Center, 58 Winthrop St., 4:00 – 6:00 p.m., Please bring your family and friends and join the Tufts Hindu Chaplaincy in the Interfaith Center for chai and snacks during an open house after the Baccalaureate services.

Catholic Mass for Graduates, Alumni, Families, Goddard Chapel, 5:00 p.m. It is with joy that we plan to gather in-person around word and table this Commencement and Reunion Weekend. Let us celebrate and give thanks. All are welcome and, as always, come as you are. Refreshments to follow.

Religious and Philosophical Programs

Decompression Study Break
Wednesday, May 4, 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m., Goddard Chapel

Take a break during reading period! Drop by the chapel for snacks, good conversation, coloring, and to walk the labyrinth. All are welcome and as always, come as you are.
Senior Shabbat
Friday, May 6, Services at 6:00 p.m. and Dinner at 7:00 p.m., Granoff Family Hillel Center

Come hear from both graduating and returning student leaders as we honor seniors. Seniors, don't miss out on this great opportunity to reminisce on the past four years with your classmates. Please register for dinner here by 12:01pm on Wednesday, 5/4. No sign up needed for services.

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 Maidyozarem
Tradition: Zoroastrianism
Celebrates the creation of the sky and harvesting of the winter crop.

Eid al-Fitr ('Id al-Fitr)
Ongoing through Wed., May 4, 2022
Tradition: Islam
Also known as the Festival of the Breaking of the Fast. One of the two main Islamic festivals (the other is Eid al-Adha), this day celebrates the end of Ramadan, the month of fasting. It comes on the first day of the next lunar month, Shawal.

Wesak (Buddha Day)
Mon., May 16, 2022
Tradition: Buddhism
The commemoration of Buddha's birth, enlightenment, and parinirvana, celebrated on the day of the full moon of the sixth lunar month in Southeast Asian cultures; in Tibetan culture, Wesak commemorates only the the enlightenment and parinirvana. The dates of this celebration vary significantly among Buddhist cultures and communities.

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.

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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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