



Tufts

UNIVERSITY CHAPLAINCY

E-NEWS 4.10.24



A Reflection from your Buddhist Chaplain

Dear Tufts community,

This week I had the privilege to accompany Tufts Buddhist Mindfulness Sangha on a weekend retreat. In Buddhism, the tradition of meditation retreats dates back to the historical Buddha. In the early days of Buddhism in India, monks would gather inside for the rainy season. During the monsoons, it was better not to go out, since the roads were mudded and so that the tiny plants and creatures, springing up during the rains, might not be injured. The monks used this fruitful time to go within.

Within Japanese Zen, the term used to describe this traditional rainy season retreat is *Ango*, meaning peaceful dwelling. Dwelling has the connotation of taking root, fully inhabiting this corner of the world where we are, by bringing our full intention and attention to every moment. We turned off our cellphones—and that actually brought us to the better connection we seek—that quality of presence that comes through being fully present and embodied.

Peaceful is the other aspect of *Ango*. How do we achieve peace as a sangha (spiritual community)? Like Tufts' Universalist founders, the Buddhist Chaplaincy and Tufts Sangha are nonsectarian and pluralistic, welcoming the deep diversity that exists in the Buddhist path. We do not all agree in belief or practice. Yet we continue to find the unity within our diversity, living the "both/and" paradox of being both individuals that have different understandings and having a shared understanding of our sangha as well. We do so by finding ways to pause, relax and stay open even amidst conversations of difference. As one student said, "By connecting to all of you, I found a deeper connection to myself. And by truly being present to myself, I was able to connect to you." That is the practice of peace and the path of spiritual retreat.

During these final weeks of the semester, I hope that will take time to experience peaceful dwelling in communities that are most renewing and meaningful for you.

Metta,
Ji Hyang Padma
Buddhist Chaplain

Special Opportunities

TUFTS UNIVERSITY CHAPLAINCY SENIOR AND YOUNG ALUMNI AWARDS

Nominate a graduating
student by April 22!



University
Chaplaincy



Celebrate the leadership of
graduating students and recent
alums on
May 1 at 5:00p.m.
in the Interfaith Center.

Nominate a graduating senior or young alum for University Chaplaincy Awards Night

Nominations due by 11:59 p.m, on Monday, April 22

This year, the University Chaplaincy hosts its third 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 provide an opportunity for our community to nominate and celebrate our graduating seniors and recent alumni, and the awards are themed according to our core mission commitments: pastoral/spiritual care; supporting religious, spiritual, and philosophical communities; education on spiritual and ethical issues; and multifaith engagement. The Young Alumni award is for a recent graduate (2019-2023) who has provided leadership for current students and the University Chaplaincy through offering support, encouragement, guidance and engagement. A committee composed of chaplains and students will select the winners.

We encourage you to nominate a graduating student or young alum through the form below. You are welcome to submit more than one nomination, as well as nominate yourself. You can nominate anonymously or share your name and email. Sharing your information ensures that you will be notified of the final awards decisions and Senior Award Celebration. All nominees will be honored at our celebration, featuring delicious food and mocktails, at the Interfaith Center on Wednesday, May 1, from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Please reach out to University Chaplain [Elyse Nelson Winger](#) with any questions.

Nominate a senior or young alum



Join the Interfaith Ambassador team!

Apply by April 10

Hiring Interfaith Ambassador for Fall 2024

Apply by Wednesday, April 10

The Interfaith Ambassador Program is a student leadership program for undergraduate students. This team 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. The Ambassador team is supervised by the University Chaplain and receives guidance and support from the whole Chaplaincy team. They also actively partner with student organizations and university offices across campus. Ambassadors work 6 – 8 hours per week. Hours include weekly team meetings and scheduled hours for study, program development, and program leadership. Please email University Chaplain [Elyse Nelson Winger](#) with questions and find the position on Handshake below.

[Apply to be an Interfaith Ambassador](#)

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.

Passover at Tufts

YES!

You can eat kosher for Passover Seders, lunches and dinners throughout the entire holiday!

At Tufts Hillel:

In partnership with Tufts Dining and local kosher caterers, you can have all of your on-campus Kosher for Passover meal options at Tufts Hillel. Text any of the keywords in the schedule above to 617-420-7411 to sign up for passover.

Dewick Pre-orders:

You can pre-order a Kosher for Passover meal at Dewick. To order pre-order please email tuftsdining@tufts.edu and please indicate Passover in subject line. Additionally, select kosher for Passover (non-supervised) items will be available throughout Passover at Dewick. The cost of your meals will be covered if you do not have a meal plan.

**MORE
INFO**



SIGN UP VIA SMS

Text the meal keywords below to 617-420-7411

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	To pick up a Seder plate Text "Plate"	Lunch Tuesday, April 23 Text "Lunch23"	Lunch Wednesday, April 24 Text "Lunch24"	Lunch Thursday, April 25 Text "Lunch25"	Lunch Friday, April 26 Text "Lunch26"	Shabbat Lunch Saturday, April 27 Text "Lunch27"
	First Night Seder with Rabbi Brawer Monday, April 22 Text "Seder1"	Second Night Seder with Katie Tuesday, April 23 Text "Seder2"	Dinner Wednesday, April 24 Text "Dinner24"	Dinner Thursday, April 25 Text "Dinner25"	Shabbat Dinner Friday, April 26 Text "Dinner26"	Dinner* Saturday, April 27 Text "Dinner27"
Lunch Sunday, April 28 Text "Lunch28"	Lunch Monday, April 29 Text "Lunch29"	Lunch Tuesday, April 30 Text "Lunch30"				
Dinner* Sunday, April 28 Text "Dinner28"	Dinner* Monday, April 29 Text "Dinner29"	Dinner Tuesday, April 30 Text "Dinner30"				

For more information visit tuftshillel.org

Both Seders start at 8:00pm	Shabbat Dinner starts at 7:00pm	Shabbat Lunch 12:00pm - 1:00pm	Lunch 11:45am - 1:00pm	Dinner 5:45pm - 7:00pm	Dinner* 7:00pm - 8:00pm	To-Go containers available
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Passover at Tufts with Tufts Hillel and Tufts Dining

You can eat kosher for Passover Seders, lunches and dinners throughout the entire holiday at Tufts Hillel and in Dewick Dining Hall. You can pre-order a Kosher for Passover meal at Dewick by emailing tuftsdining@tufts.edu and indicating "Passover" in the subject line. The cost of your meals will be covered if you do not have a meal plan. You can join Tufts Hillel for meals and seders by texting any of the keywords in the schedule above to 617-420-7411.

TECH AGNOSTIC

with Greg Epstein,
Humanist Chaplain at Harvard and MIT

New York Times Bestselling Author of
Good Without God



THURSDAY, APRIL 11

12:00-1:30P

LUNCH PROVIDED

**INTERFAITH
CENTER
58 WINTHROP ST**

Today's technology has overtaken religion as the chief influence on twenty-first century life and community. In his new book, *Tech Agnostic: How Technology Became the World's Most Powerful Religion, and Why It Desperately Needs a Reformation*, Harvard and MIT's influential humanist chaplain Greg Epstein explores what it means to be a critical thinker with respect to this new faith.

Encouraging readers to reassert their common humanity beyond the seductive sheen of "tech," this book argues for tech agnosticism—not worship—as a way of life. Without suggesting we return to a mythical pre-tech past, Epstein shows why we must maintain a freethinking critical perspective toward innovation until it proves itself worthy of our faith or not.

This is an exclusive book pre-release event for the Tufts community. Tufts ID required.

TO RSVP,
SCAN THIS CODE



**REGISTRATION
CLOSES APRIL 10TH
AT 12PM**

QUESTIONS?

TUFTS.HCAT@GMAIL.COM

Tech Agnostic with Greg Epstein, hosted by the Humanist Community at Tufts

Thursday, April 11, 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m., Interfaith Center

The Humanist Community at Tufts (HCAT) invites you to a special event featuring Greg Epstein, the Humanist Chaplain for Harvard and MIT. Join us to hear about his upcoming book: *"Tech Agnostic: How Technology Became the World's Most Powerful Religion, and Why It Desperately Needs a Reformation."* Encouraging readers to reassert their common humanity beyond the seductive sheen of "tech," the book argues for tech agnosticism - not worship - as a way of life. Without suggesting we return to a mythical pre-tech past, Epstein shows why we must maintain a freethinking critical perspective toward innovation until it proves itself worthy of our faith or not. For questions, [contact HCAT](mailto:tufts.hcat@gmail.com).

RSVP For Tech Agnostic hosted by HCAT



Holi with Hindu Students Association

Sunday, April 14, 12:00 p.m., Residential Quad

Join the Hindu Students Association for Holi on Sunday, April 14 on the Residential Quad! Early arrivals get free tshirts to get colorful! You can email Hindu Chaplain [Preeta Banerjee](#) with any questions.

Spanish-English Bilingual Mass

Sunday, April 14, 5 PM

Goddard Chapel

Confesión 4pm en Spanish and English



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Catholic Chaplaincy

Spanish-English Bilingual Catholic Mass

Sunday, April 14, 5:00 p.m.

Our Easter Celebration continues this Third Sunday of Easter! Join the Catholic community for Spanish-English Bilingual Mass, where we embrace the beauty of our global church. Formerly known as "Spanish Mass," this service (the second Sunday of the month) has been shifting and changing to reflect the needs and desires of students. We are delighted to be reframing our gatherings as intentionally bilingual to further express a spirit of hospitality. All are welcome. Please email Catholic Chaplain [Lynn Cooper](#) with any questions.

UNLEARNING RETREAT 2024

The Humanist and Hindu Chaplaincies present
THERE'S NO TIME; LET US MAKE SANCTUARY
with Dr. Báýò Akómoláfé



Wednesday, April 17

4:30-7:30pm

Interfaith Center

58 Winthrop Street

Dinner will be provided



*Scan to
register*

In the wake of fluid migrancies, blurred boundaries between flesh and technology, the rise of AI, daily pandemics, declining trust in democratic institutions, and climate chaos upending the familiar, a new ethic is required. A posthumanist-phenomenological aesthetic of emancipation.

Join Tufts undergraduate and graduate students for a transformative journey where Dr. Báýò Akómoláfé's concept of sanctuary beckons. Discover sanctuary not as mere protection, but as a courageous embrace of loss and a celebration of the possibilities within us all.



University Chaplaincy
Humanist Chaplaincy



University Chaplaincy
Hindu Chaplaincy

Contact Anthony Cruz Pantojas, Humanist Chaplain for more information:
anthony.cruz_pantojas@tufts.edu

There's No Time: Let Us Make Sanctuary

Wednesday, April 17, 4:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. ET, Interfaith Center, 58 Winthrop St.

The Unlearning Retreat is a space to let go of what no longer serves us. BIPOC undergraduate and graduate students are invited to engage with the work of Báýò Akómoláfé over dinner. Join for a transformative journey where Dr. Báýò Akómoláfé's concept of sanctuary beckons. Discover sanctuary not as mere protection, but as a courageous embrace of loss and a celebration of the possibilities within us all. You can contact Humanist Chaplain [Anthony Cruz Pantojas](#) or Hindu Chaplain [Preeti Banerjee](#) for more information; please RSVP by April 16.

RSVP for the Unlearning Retreat

BUILDING SANCTUARY IN HIGHER EDUCATION

226 AUSTIN AND ZOOM
THURS, APRIL 18 1:30-3:30 ET

Who are all the stakeholders in creating Interfaith Sanctuary in Higher Education spaces? What is Sanctuary and how do we recognize it when we enter?

Please join students, scholars, and practitioners as we delve into these questions and more. Featuring Bayo Akomolafe. Cohosted with Journal of Interreligious Studies.

Based on special issue #39 "Beyond Resistance: Building, Making, and Creating Sanctuary" guest-edited by Dr. Preeta M. Banerjee, Dr. Sheron Fraser-Burgess, and Rev. Anya Phillips Thomas.

CONTACT
CHAPLAINCY@T
UFTS.EDU WITH
QUESTIONS
RSVP BY
WEDNESDAY
APRIL 17



Anthony Cruz Pantojas



Preeta Banerjee



Bayo Akomolafe



University
Chaplaincy

INTERRELIGIOUS
STUDIES
Journal of Interreligious Studies

Building Sanctuary in Higher Education

Thursday, April 18, 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. ET, 226 Austin Room and via Zoom

Who are all the stakeholders in creating Interfaith Sanctuary in Higher Education spaces? What is Sanctuary and how do we recognize it when we enter? All Tufts students, staff, and faculty are invited as we delve into these questions and more. Featuring Báyo Akómoláfé. Cohosted with Journal of Interreligious Studies. You can contact the [University Chaplaincy](mailto:chaplains@tufts.edu) with any questions; please RSVP by April 17.

[Find more about Interfaith Sanctuary Event and Register](#)

AN EVENING OF DISCUSSION ON

Vocation: life affirming work*

April
18

6:00 to
7:15 PM

Balch
Theater

***work: your relationships, studies, paid jobs, labors of love, community roles, service, organizing, hopes, purpose, growth, and more**

Through stories and sharing, we will hear wisdom and questions from students, staff, faculty, and alumni about their work*
RSVP by April 16.



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Vocation: Life Affirming Work

RSVP by Thursday April 18

Thanks to a grant from the Network for Vocation in Undergraduate Education for this academic year, the University Chaplaincy team has joined with members of the Career Center, Academic Advising, the Division of Student Diversity and Inclusion, and Global Education for monthly conversations related to engaging diverse voices and perspectives on the meaning of vocation. We are now excited to welcome the Tufts community to a showcase featuring students, faculty and staff who will join us in engaging our new working definition of vocation as life-affirming work.* Join us for an interactive and creative conversation, and add your wisdom and insight to this process!

RSVP for Vocation Event

Meet the Organ

at Goddard Chapel

**with University Chaplaincy
Music Director Suzie Cartreine**

Sunday, April 21, 2024

2:00 – 2:30 p.m. and 3:00 – 3:30 p.m.



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Meet the Organ at Goddard

Sunday, April 21, 2:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. AND 3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m., at Goddard Chapel

Ever wonder about the Goddard Chapel organ? Want to know what a pipe and a stop are? Want to hear a demonstration? Come join University Chaplaincy Music Director Suzie Cartreine and meet the organ! Suzie will introduce fun facts, play for the audience and let you get up close to this 141 year old instrument! All are welcome.



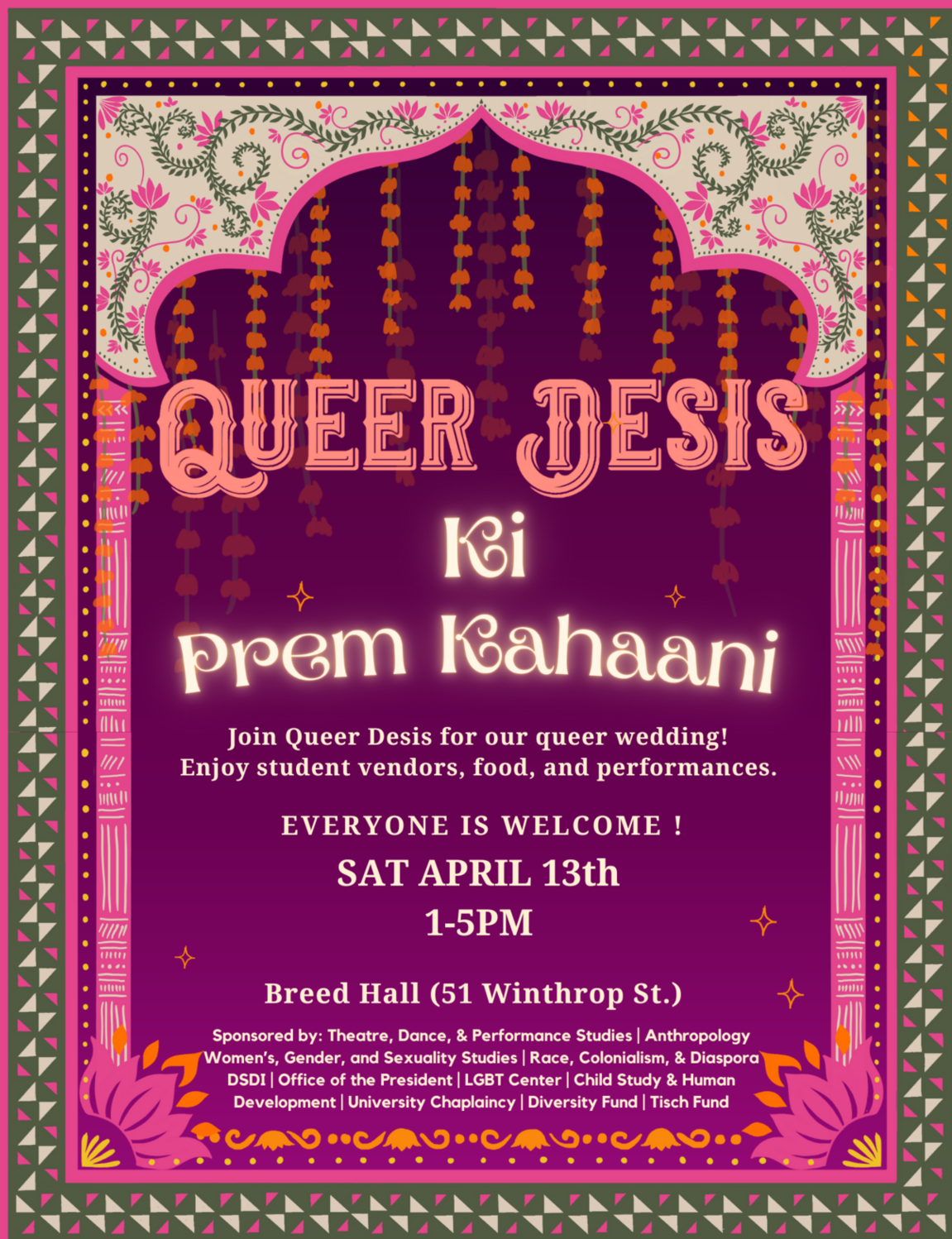
Open Mic Night and Class Album Release Party

Thursday, April 25, 6:00 p.m., at Goddard Chapel

This semester, Dee-1--Artist and Scholar in Residence at Tisch College for Civic Life--has been teaching a course entitled "Hip Hop and Social Action." At this Open Mic Night, co-hosted by Dee-1 and the Interfaith Ambassador Team, come and hear the fruits of students' labors as they perform their original music created in this class, and add your own talents to the night! All are welcome to attend as avid listeners and supporters as well as performers! A sign up sheet will be available next week for those interested in performing. Refreshments will be served. Please contact University Chaplaincy [Elyse Nelson Winger](#) with any questions.

RSVP for April 25 Open Mic

Partner Programs



Queer Desis: Queer Wedding

Saturday, April 13, 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. at Breed Hall (51 Winthrop St)

Join Queer Desis for an afternoon of festivities as we come together to celebrate queer South Asian joy and a marriage for the ages. There will be student vendors, food, performances, dancing, and drama that not even your grandma's serials can predict. The (fake) wedding will be held on Saturday, April 13, from 1-5 PM in Breed Memorial Hall (51 Winthrop). All students are welcome to attend and are encouraged to wear their best and brightest cultural attire. Stay tuned for more updates and reveals as we get closer to the date. Get hyped and we hope to see you all there! Please check [@tuftsqueerdesis](#) on Instagram this week for more details!

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](#).

Great Lent

Mon., Mar. 18 – Sat., May 4, 2024

Tradition: Christianity-Orthodox

In Orthodox churches, the first day of Lent marks the beginning of the Great Fast, the final six weeks of a 10-week period leading up to Holy Week and Easter (Pascha). In the churches that follow the Gregorian calendar, Lent is 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.

Eid al-Fitr ('Id al-Fitr)

Tue., Apr. 9 – Fri., Apr. 12, 2024

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.

Vaisakhi

Sat., Apr. 13, 2024

Tradition: Sikhism

Occurs on the first day of the solar year. It is primarily an agricultural festival, celebrating the harvest, and is especially important in North India. It is named after the month Vaisakh. For Sikhs, it is also the anniversary of the creation of the Khalsa (the "Brotherhood of the Pure") in 1699 by Guru Gobind Singh.

Vaisakhi (Baisakhi)

Sat., Apr. 13, 2024

Tradition: Hinduism

Occurs on the first day of the solar year. It is primarily an agricultural festival, celebrating the harvest, and is especially important in North India. It is named after the month Vaisakh. For Sikhs, it is also the anniversary of the creation of the Khalsa (the "Brotherhood of the Pure") in 1699 by Guru Gobind Singh.

Ramanavami

Tue., Apr. 16, 2024

Tradition: Hinduism

Celebrates the birthday of Rama, the seventh incarnation of the God Vishnu. The Ramayana, one of the Hindu epics that tells the story of Rama, is read during the previous eight days.

Ridvan

Fri., Apr. 19 – Tue., Apr. 30, 2024

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.

Mahavir Jayanti

Sun., Apr. 21, 2024

Tradition: Jainism

Celebrates the birthday of Lord Mahavira. Born with the name Vardhamana in ca. 599 BCE, he was later given the titles of honor, Mahavira ("Great Hero") and Jina ("Conqueror" or "Victor"), a title applied also to the other Tirthankaras.

Passover (Pesach)

Mon., Apr. 22 – Tue., Apr. 30, 2024

Tradition: Judaism

Passover commemorates the deliverance of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. It is celebrated for eight days with special prayers and symbolic foods at home, starting with the Seder, a ritual meal that re-enacts that ancient deliverance and emphasizes the freedom of the Jews under the guidance of God. The first two and the last two days are holidays.

Palm Sunday

Sun., Apr. 28, 2024

Tradition: Christianity-Orthodox

Celebrates the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, marking the beginning of Holy Week that culminates in Easter or Pascha. In some churches, Palm Sunday is combined with the anticipation of Christ's death and so is also known as "Passon Sunday." Orthodox Christians often observe this Sunday on a date different from the date on which Protestant and Roman Catholics observe it.

Beltane

Tue., Apr. 30, 2024

Tradition: Wicca/Paganism

The final fertility festival, celebrating the Earth's fecundity and anticipating the power of the sun and the Earth in summer.

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



emma

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