chaplaincy.tufts.edu

The University Chaplaincy is a dynamic hub supporting religious, spiritual, ethical, and cultural life for all members of the University community. Our mission is to foster an environment that embraces diversity and promotes understanding and respect for all faiths and spiritual traditions. We aim to create spaces for reflection, dialogue, and growth, encouraging individuals to engage in meaningful conversations about their beliefs and values.

Celebrates the creation of plants, the sowing of the winter crop and the return of herds from pasture

Tradition: Zoroastrianism

Ghambar Paitishem

Tradition: Christianity-Orthodox

Thu., Sep. 8, 2022

For this beginning, I offer a portion of the Invocation I gave at Matriculation. I hope that an ongoing spirit of “new beginnings” suffuses our work. One day in the biblical narrative is described as the Sabbath of Sabaoth, a day when the Lord would be gloriously enthroned. For us, it is a day to set aside for reverence, intentionality, and purpose. It is a day that allows us to slow down, tune in, and begin to envision our role in the life of the University and the work we do together.

This is our day of new beginnings:

- a place to find yourself, to embrace the soul-searching and often not-knowing that you are enough, you belong here, you will never go it alone.
- a place to encounter others, to be reminded of the ways that our hearts are torn asunder by violence and injustice.
- a place to learn, to seek and to grow, to be stretched and to yearning for the courage to live well, to live justly.
- a place to make decisions, to reflect on our values, to together consider what it means to build communities that are more than the sum of its parts.

To this end, I offer to you the following words of encouragement, to be used as you see fit:

The next 10 days are a time of intense spiritual practice.

They are considered holy by many who observe them.

Paryusana

A 10-day festival that is considered to be a holy convocation. During these days, Jains impose some restraints on their daily activities by fasting, meditation and prayer. The last day of Paryusana is the most solemn occasion of the festival. It is dedicated to the forgiveness of all past and present offenses, and is observed with great solemnity.

Harvard Divinity School. To see more upcoming religious holidays and festivals, please follow the link to the multifaith calendar maintained by the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life at Harvard.

Upcoming Religious Celebrations and Observances

- **People's Climate March**
  - Time: 2:00 PM
  - Location: Boston Common
  - Details: This event is organized by the Sunrise Movement and is aimed at raising awareness about climate change and advocating for policy changes to address the issue.

- **Tufts CIVIC Event with Anthony Cruz Pantojas**
  - Time: 7:00 PM
  - Location: Tisch Center
  - Details: This event features Anthony Cruz Pantojas, Associate Director for Tutor Engagement, as he discusses his experience with EVkids, an organization that empowers underserved Boston youth. The event aims to raise awareness about the importance of community engagement and support for youth development.

- **Tufts Catholic Chaplaincy Event**
  - Time: To be announced
  - Location: Chapel
  - Details: The Tufts Catholic Chaplaincy is hosting an event for students interested in becoming peer teachers with the ExCollege. Peer teachers design and lead student-run programs that support academic success.

- **EVkids: Become a Tutor**
  - Time: To be announced
  - Location: EVkids Office
  - Details: EVkids is a organization that empowers underserved Boston youth with the skills and confidence needed to realize their potential. The event focuses on how to become a tutor and the benefits of volunteering with EVkids.

- **Tufts CIVIC Event with David Hogg**
  - Time: 7:00 PM
  - Location: Tisch Center
  - Details: This event features David Hogg, a prominent activist who has been involved in many movements, including March For Our Lives. The event aims to raise awareness about youth activism and gun reform.