



Religious festivals: 2025

Jan 6 th	Epiphany
Jan 13 th	Lohri (Sikh) Celebration of the days becoming longer
Jan 17 th	Parkash Sri (Sikh) Birth of 10 th Guru, Gobind Singh who conferred the name 'Singh' on Sikh males & 'Kaur' on Sikh females
Jan 19 th	World Religion Day (Ba'hai)
Jan 18 – 25 th	Week of prayer for Christian unity (Christian)
Jan 27 th	Holocaust Memorial Day
Jan 29 th	Chinese new year (some Buddhists)
Feb 12 th – 13 th	Tu Bishvat (Jewish) The coming of spring
Feb 26 th – 27 th	Maha Shivaratri (Hindu)
Feb 28 th	Ramadan begins (Muslim) Holy month for Muslims; fasting is from sunrise to Sunset - Evening of Feb 28 th - Mar 30 th 2025
Feb 29 th -19 th Mar	19 day fast (Baha'i) Fasting is from sunrise to sunset.
March 4 th	Shrove Tuesday (Christian) Tradition of a carnival day, eating before the coming fast, hence the origin of eating pancakes
Mar 5 th	Ash Wednesday (Christian). Beginning of Lent, a traditional time of fasting & preparation for baptism on Easter day of new Christians. Today many Christians will still be 'ashed', having the sign of the cross marked on their foreheads
March 13 th -14 th	Purim (Jewish) Celebration of how Queen Esther thwarted the attempted genocide of her people
March 14 th	Holi (Hindu) Festival of spring / Hola Mohalla (Sikh)
March 20 th	Equinox / Ostara (Pagan) Welcoming of spring
March 19 th - 20 th	Naw-Ruz (Baha'i) New year; symbolizing spiritual growth & renewal
March 20 th	Vernal Equinox (Pagan)
March 20 th (tbc)	Eid al Fitr (Muslim) Thanksgiving for the month of Ramadan (evening – evening)
April 12 th – 20 th	Pesach (Jewish) Also known as 'passover', celebrating the exodus from Egypt.
April 13 th	Palm Sunday (Eastern Orthodox/Christian)
April 14 th	Vaisakhi (Sikh) The inception of the Khalsa, the ceremony of baptism
April 17 th	Holy Thursday (Christian)
April 18 th – 19 th	Good Friday/Easter Sunday (Christian) Marking the crucifixion & resurrection of Jesus



April 20 th – May 2 nd	Ridvan (Baha'i) Holiest Baha'I festival, marking Baha'u'llah's public declaration that he was a manifestation of God.
May 12 th	Buddha day (Buddhist) Marking birth, enlightenment & death of Buddha
May 27 th – 28 th	Ascension of Baha'u'llah (Baha'i) Baha'i recollection of the death of Baha'u'llah, the founder of the religion. Observed by prayers & readings. Work is suspended.
May 30 th	Martyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev Ji (Sikh)
June 1 st – 3 rd	Shavuot (Jewish) Festival of weeks, marking the giving of the Torah to Moses
June 4 th – 9 th	Haj (Muslim) Holy pilgrimage to Mecca, in Saudi Arabia
June 6 th – 10 th	Eid al Adha (Muslim) A three-day festival recalling Abraham's willingness to sacrifice his son in obedience to Allah.
June 8 th	Pentecost (Christian) Also known as Whit (white) Sunday.
June 19 th	Corpus Christi (Christian – catholic)
June 21 st	Summer Solstice (Pagan)
June 25 th (TBC)	1 st Muharram (Muslim) start of the Islamic New Year
July 5 th – 6 th	Youm e- Ashura (Muslim) a day of fasting & reflection
Aug 2 nd	Tisha B'Av (Jewish)
Aug 15 th	Feast of the Assumption of Mary (Christian/Catholic)
Sept 22 nd	Autumnal Equinox / Mabon (Pagan)
Sep 22 nd – Oct 1 st	Navaratri (Hindu) a nine-day festival of music & dance when Hindus worship the female face of the divine
Oct 1 st	Yom Kippur (Jewish) Highest holy day, the day of atonement, marking the time when Moses descended from Mt Sinai after the Israelites had turned away & made a golden calf. Taken as holiday. All go to the synagogue & observe a fast
Oct 2 nd	Rosh Hashanah, Jewish New Year. A time of introspection, abstinence, prayer & penitence
Oct 16 th – 23 rd	Sukkot – shelters (Jewish) commemoration of the Israelites' 40 years of exile
Oct 20 th	Diwali / B&i Chorr Divas (Hindu / Sikh) Festival of Lights; victory of good over evil; for Sikhs, commemoration too of the release the sixth Guru, Hargobind
Oct 23 rd	Birth of Baha'u'llah (Baha'i) The prophet of the Baha'i faith Hindu new year (as celebrated in Lancashire)
Oct 31 st	Samhain (Pagan) Remembering the dead; endings & beginnings.
Nov 1 st	All saints Day (Christian) This was a major festival in earlier times.



Nov 2nd

All Souls Day (Catholic)

NOV 12th – 19th

INTER FAITH WEEK TBC

Nov 15th

Parkash Sri (Sikh) Birth of Guru Nanak, the birth of the founder of the Sikh religion

Nov 26th – 27th

Ascension of 'Abdu'l-Bahá (Bahá'í)

Dec 1st

First Sunday of advent (Christian)

Dec 8th

Bodhi Day (Buddhist)

Dec 8th

Feast of the Immaculate Conception (Christian/Catholic)

Dec 21st

Winter Solstice (Pagan)

Dec 25th – Jan 2nd

Hannukah (Jewish) Festival of light, commemorating the re-dedication of the second temple in Jerusalem at the time of the Maccabean revolt

Dec 25th

Christmas (Christian) Marks the birth of Jesus who Christians recognize as the 'messiah', or chosen one of God.

Lancashire Forum of Faiths