

# FESTIVAL GREETINGS



In the UK today a range of festivals are celebrated by different faith communities, and greetings are sent for many of them.

The Inter Faith Network office often receives enquiries about the most appropriate festivals on which to send greetings and the form of greeting to use. The attached table of festivals and greetings has been produced with the IFN's Faith Communities Forum which brings together National Faith Community Representative Bodies in IFN membership.

Each faith community has many different festivals but has chosen two festivals on which greetings from those of other faiths and none would be particularly appreciated. These are included in the table with greetings that the faith communities' bodies suggest.\*

If you are sending a greeting to someone on a festival, it is suitable to use either a card or electronic greeting specially designed for the festival in question, or a neutral one with an appropriate greeting inside.

Some festivals take place on the same date each year and others move. It is important to check the dates each year. The dates for the current year are shown. Some festivals begin the evening before.

A number of faith festival calendars are produced each year. One of the most widely used is the Shap Calendar of Religious Festivals (<http://www.shapcalendar.org.uk/>). This comes with a booklet explaining each festival. Their calendar of dates is used, with their permission, on IFN's website at <https://www.interfaith.org.uk/resources/religious-festivals>.

For detailed information on faith community festivals, visit the websites of the relevant faith community bodies. A list of the websites for National Faith Community Bodies in IFN membership can be found at <https://www.interfaith.org.uk/members/list>.

*\* Because of the different religious calendars and calculations used it is impossible to give exact dates of festivals.*

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## 2022 Festival dates and greetings

|                  | Day   | Festival   | Faith  | Greeting  |
|------------------|-------|--|--|---|
| <b>February</b>  | 1     | Imbolc   | Pagan/Druid  | Happy Imbolc  |
| <b>March</b>     | 21    | Jamsheedi NoRuz  | Zoroastrian  | Jamsheedi NoRuz Mubarak   |
|                  | 31    | Hydesville Day   | Spiritualist   | Happy Hydesville Day  |
| <b>April</b>     | 13    | Vaisakhi/Baisakhi<br>(Khalsa Sajna Diwas –<br>Creation of the<br>Khalsa)     | Sikh   | Happy Vaisakhi/Baisakhi   |
|                  | 14    | Mahavir Jayanti<br>(Birth of Mahavira)                                       | Jain   | Congratulations or Greetings on<br>Mahavir Jayanti                |
|                  | 16    | Pesach (Passover)  | Jewish   | Happy Pesach  |
|                  | 17    | Easter   | Christian;<br>Church of Jesus<br>Christ of Latter-<br>day Saints<br>(CJCLDS) | Happy Easter  |
|                  | 21    | Festival of Ridvan   | Baha'i   | Greetings on the Festival of Ridvan                               |
| <b>May</b>       | 2     | Eid al-Fitr  | Muslim   | Eid Mubarak   |
|                  | 16    | Wesak, Vesak or<br>Sakya Dawa<br>(Celebration of<br>Buddha's<br>Birth/Death) | Buddhist   | Happy Wesak/Vesak   |
| <b>June</b>      | 21    | Summer Solstice  | Pagan/Druid  | Happy Solstice  |
| <b>July</b>      | 3     | Spiritualists' World<br>Peace Day  | Spiritualists  | Greetings on Spiritualists World<br>Peace Day                     |
|                  | 10    | Eid al-Adha  | Muslim   | Eid Mubarak   |
| <b>August</b>    | 11    | Raksha Bandan  | Hindu  | Raksha Bandan Greetings   |
|                  | 16    | Shahenshai Navroze<br>(Parsi Zoroastrian<br>New Year)                        | Zoroastrian  | Shahenshai Navroze Mubarak  |
| <b>September</b> | 2     | Samvatsari (The<br>most sacred day of<br>Paryushan)                          | Jain   | Samvatsari Greetings  |
|                  | 26    | Rosh Hashanah (New<br>Year)  | Jewish   | Happy New Year (or Shana Tovah)                                   |
| <b>October</b>   | 24    | Diwali   | Hindu;<br>Jain   | Diwali Greetings (or Shubh Diwali)                                |
|                  | 26/27 | The Birth of the Bab<br>and the Birth of<br>Baha'u'llah                      | Baha'i   | Greetings on the Birth of the Bab<br>and the Birth of Baha'u'llah |
| <b>November</b>  | 8     | Parkash Diwas Guru<br>Nanak Dev Ji (Birth of<br>Guru Nanak Dev Ji)           | Sikh   | Greetings on Parkash Diwas Guru<br>Nanak Dev Ji                   |
| <b>December</b>  | 8     | Bodhi Day<br>(Celebration of<br>Buddha's<br>enlightenment)                   | Buddhist   | Happy Bodhi Day   |
|                  | 25    | Christmas  | Christian;<br>CJCLDS   | Happy Christmas   |