

Upcoming Holidays & Events

DECEMBER 1 • WORLD AIDS DAY

World AIDS Day brings together people from around the world to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS and demonstrate international solidarity in the face of the pandemic.

DECEMBER 3 • INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

The International Day of Persons with Disabilities aims to promote an understanding of disability issues and mobilize support for the dignity, rights and well-being of persons with disabilities.

DECEMBER 10 • INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

International Human Rights Day commemorates the day in 1948 when the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

DECEMBER 16–24 • LAS POSADAS

Las Posadas (Spanish for “The Inns”) is a religious festival celebrated in Mexico and some parts of the United States which commemorates the journey that Joseph and Mary made from Nazareth to Bethlehem in search of a safe refuge where Mary could give birth to the baby Jesus.

DECEMBER 18-26 • HANUKKAH

Hanukkah or Chanukah (Hebrew for “Dedication”) is the Jewish eight-day, wintertime “festival of lights,” celebrated with a nightly menorah lighting, special prayers and fried foods.

DECEMBER 21 • WINTER SOLSTICE/YULE

Yule, also known as the Winter Solstice, is a holiday celebrated by Wicca and other pagan faiths when nighttime has reached its maximum length, and there is a promise of brighter days to come.

DECEMBER 25 • CHRISTMAS

Originally a Christian holiday honoring the birth of Jesus, Christmas has evolved into a worldwide religious and secular celebration, incorporating many pre-Christian and pagan traditions into the festivities.

DECEMBER 26–JANUARY 1 • KWANZAA

Kwanzaa is an African-American and Pan-African holiday which celebrates family, community, and culture.

JANUARY 22 • LUNAR NEW YEAR

The Lunar New Year marks the beginning of a new year on traditional lunisolar calendars and is the most important social and economic holiday for billions of people around the world.