



Diversity Calendar

December 2020

| Date | Religion/Culture | Event |
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| Dec 1 st | | World AIDS Day Est. 1988, this is a day to unite in our continued fight against HIV and show our support to those who suffer from the disease and to those who have lost a loved one. |
| Dec 3 rd | | International Day of Persons with Disabilities Est. in 1992 by UN, the purpose of this day is to promote our understanding of disabilities and support the dignity, rights and well-being of people suffering from a disability. |
| Dec 6 th | Christianity Eastern Europe incl. Belgium, Austria and Netherlands | St. Nicholas Day This is a celebration of St. Nicholas, who showed his generosity by giving gifts to children, or putting a coin in their boots. There are many ways of celebrating, depending on the various adaptations by each culture. However, a common tradition is to leave a pair of boots/shoes by the front door or a fireplace, the night before. In the North American and British culture, St. Nicholas is famously known as Santa Claus/ Father Christmas. |
| Dec 6 th | Canada | National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women Canada Est. in 1991, this day is to mark the anniversary of the 14 women killed in Montreal's École Polytechnique. Gender based violence is still prolific in Canada affecting many lives across the country. Today, lets raise our own awareness and speak up on violence against women. |
| Dec 8 th | Catholic | Feast of the Immaculate Conception A celebration of the Virgin Mary who conceived without sin. It is celebrated by attending Mass and festivities such as parades and special food preparation. |
| Dec 10 th | Global | Human Rights Day On the 10 th December, 1948, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted by the UN, following WWII. Women and men from all cultures, and religions drafted the Declaration, with one universal mission: to protect the fundamental rights of ALL humans. |
| Dec 10 th – 18 th | Jewish | Chanukah/Hanukkah This is the Jewish Festival of light. The holiday is celebrated with the lighting of the menorah, prayers, special foods and gifts. |
| Dec 16 th – 24 | Mexican Culture | Las Posadas This is a Mexican tradition, to remember the difficult journey of Mary and Joseph and their search for an inn, for the safe |

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| | | birth of Jesus. This is a fun filled celebration with friends and family, songs & parades. |
| Dec 18 th | | International Migrants Day A day to raise awareness of the rights and freedoms of migrants, all over the world. |
| Dec 21 st | Pagan | Yule - Winter Solstice Winter Solstice marks the longest night of the year. It is a time of reflection, before the return of the sun (longer days). Celebrations include, decorating houses – with lots of greenery, including mistletoe, holding procession and gifts giving. Many of the traditions are still observed in the secular celebration of Christmas in many parts of the world. |
| Dec 24 th | | Christmas Eve The day or evening, before Christmas. In some parts of the world, special dinners and exchange of gifts take place on this night. |
| Dec 25 th | Christianity | Christmas Day A celebration of the birth of Jesus. Traditions include gifts for children from Santa Claus, decorating trees, special dinners and gift exchanges with family and friends. |
| Dec 26 th | Secular Holiday | Boxing Day This is the day after Christmas, which traditionally celebrated the less fortunate, by distributing gifts. |
| Dec 31 st | Scottish | Hogmanay Celebrated with extensive fireworks and torch light processions, Hogmanay marks the last day of the year and the Winter Solstice. |
| Dec 26 th – Jan 1 st | African American | Kwanza Kwanza is a time for many African Americans around the world to celebrate their cultural values and heritage. The holiday was founded by Dr. Maulana Karenga in 1966, as a way to bring African Americans together following riots based of race and discrimination. The celebration built on seven principles: unity, self-determination, collective work and responsibility, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity and faith. Each day of Kwanza is dedicated one of these principles. |

Above are the main multicultural celebrations for the month of December, 2020. There may be some celebrations, which have not been included in this calendar and customs that may vary. If you would like me to add your special holiday or vary/add customs, please write me at afsana@gcmediation.com.