



Diversity Calendar

May 2021

Date	Religion/Culture	Event
May 1 st	Celtic	Beltane/May Day A Pagan holiday to signify the coming of summer. Often celebrated with a maypole, which has ribbon attached to it. Women and girls will hold the ribbon to dance around the maypole.
May 2 nd	Orthodox Christian	Pascha This is the later Easter celebrated by Orthodox Christians. The orthodox celebrate Easter later, as they follow the Julian calendar, rather than the Gregorian. The Julian calendar is 13 days behind the Gregorian calendar.
May 5 th	Mexican	Cinco De Mayo Commemoration of the Mexican Army's victory during Battle of Pueblo. The popularity of this celebration has grown over the years to mark a day of proud heritage. It is celebrated with military parades and music festivals.
May 9 th	Islam	Laylat al-Qadr This is the holiest night in the Islamic calendar. Laylat al-Qadr is the 27 th day of Ramadan when the Qur'an was first revealed. The night of Qadr is spent in prayer and reciting the Qur'an
May 13 th	Islam	Eid al-Fitr This is one of the biggest celebrations in the Islamic calendar, which marks the end of Ramadan. Eid is spent with family and friends who begin the day by attending communal prayers. It is a day to offer charity in the form of food to those in need. One of the many traditions of Eid is to wear new clothes and visit friends and family join in the special feasts they have prepared.
May 16 th – 18 th	Judaism	Shavuot This is a celebration of the first time the Torah was given to the Children of Israel from Mount Sinai. Shavuot is a day of rest for the Jewish community. The day is commemorated through the reading of the Torah throughout the night. It is also customary to eat dairy products on the day and light candles.
May 22 nd -23 rd	Baha'u'llah	Declaration of the Bab This was the day in 1844 when Baha'u'llah announced that he was the messenger of God.
May 23 rd	Christianity	Pentecost This is the seventh Sunday after Easter, remembering the Holy Spirit that descended on Jesus Christ and his apostles.

		Many Christians will attend Church. Traditionally the priests wear red and decorate the altar in red too.
May 26th	Buddhism	Buddha Day /Visakha Puja This is predominantly Buddhist holiday but also celebrated by some Hindu followers in parts of South Asia. This is one of the most important days in the Buddhist faith, commemorating birth and enlightenment. It is also a celebration of the death of Gautama Buddha. The is spent in deep meditation and paying homage to the Buddha, Dhamma and Sangha.
May 30th	Christianity	Trinity Sunday A celebration of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, known as Holy Trinity. It is celebrated through prayer on the first Sunday after Pentecost.
May 30th	Christianity	All Saints' Day A day to remember all the Saints in the Christian faith and pay gratitude for the teachings they sent to the faith. Though there is no requirement to pray on this day, many Christians often learn about the Saints to deepen their faith.

Above are multicultural celebrations for the month of May, 2021. There may be some celebrations, which have not been included in this calendar and customs may vary. If you would like me to add your special holiday or vary the customs, please write me at afsana@gcmediation.com.