

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

It's a Holy Time of Year

BY NATHAN

There are a handful of important religious holidays happening this time of year. You could say it's a pretty holy time of year.

Currently, we are halfway through Ramadan, which is a month-long holiday that includes fasting from dawn to dusk, prayer, and reflection. It celebrates that God revealed the first verses of the Quran to Muhammad, peace be upon Him, the final prophet of Islam. One of the most important pillars of Islam, Ramadan is practiced by millions of people around the globe.

This week also marks Passover, which is one of the most widely observed holidays in Judaism. Celebrating the ancient story of the Israelites' escape from slavery in Egypt, Passover includes a Passover Seder which is a symbolic and ritual meal where the Haggadah is read.

In some traditions of Buddhism, this weekend is the celebration of Buddha's birth. For centuries, bathing a statue of the Buddha has been a ritual that symbolizes the cleansing of our own body, speech, and mind. It's a ritual that seeks to eradicate anger, greed, and ignorance to purify one's mind in pursuit of compassion and wisdom.

And, this Friday is Good Friday, which is a Christian holiday commemorating the crucifixion and death of Jesus. It is observed on the Friday of Holy Week before Resurrection Sunday. It is often a service of reflection on Jesus' final days of suffering.

On campus this week, we have students celebrating ALL of these holy rituals. I am truly thankful to be a part of a campus community where such religious diversity is embraced and celebrated. Moreover, I am reminded this week of the beauty and richness that these celebrations add to the lives of those who practice them.

CONT'D ON PAGE 02



This issue:

"It's a Holy Time of Year"
by Chaplain Albert

PAGE 01

Sympathies, Concerns, &
Congrats

PAGE 02

Dates to Remember

PAGE 02

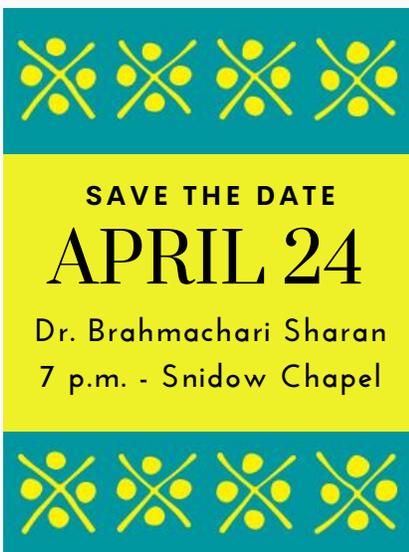
For more information about the Spiritual Life Center, including info on student spiritual life student groups, go to our webpage - link in the email signature. You can also visit our Linkt.ree (Link is in email).

It's a Holy Time of Year (cont'd)

This week, we have a handful of events you are invited to participate in:

- Friday at 4:30 p.m. we are hosting a celebration for Buddha's birth at the Spiritual Life Center. You can join us for tea, a short meditation, and an opportunity to honor Buddha.
- On Friday evening at 8 p.m. in Snidow Chapel, we invite you to join us for a Good Friday tenebrae service. This short service will include music, silence, and the reading of Jesus' final words.
- Finally, on Sunday we offer two opportunities to celebrate Resurrection Sunday. At 11 a.m., in partnership with the Church of the Covenant, we will host an inclusive service, and at 4:30 p.m. we will host Easter Sunday Roman Catholic Mass.

My hope for you this week is that no matter the religious or spiritual path you find yourself on, you will see glimpses of the sacredness and holiness of this time of year.



Dates to Remember

Friday, April 7 - 4:30 p.m.

BUDDHA'S BIRTHDAY

Recognize Buddha's birthday with Tea and Honey at the SLC

Friday, April 7 - 8 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

Snidow Chapel

April 8 - Holy Saturday

EASTER SUNDAY - April 9

- 7:30 a.m. Sunrise Service at Church of the Covenant, 4415 Boonsboro Rd.
- 11 a.m. Easter Worship with Church of the Covenant in Snidow Chapel
- 4:30 p.m. Easter Sunday Roman Catholic Mass in Snidow Chapel

Monday, April 17 - 6 p.m.

YOM HASHOAH SERVICE

Snidow Chapel

April 17 - Holocaust Remembrance Day begins at Sundown

Sympathies, Concerns, and Congrats

Our sympathies are extended to:

- **Mariah Molina** (senior, Lynchburg, VA) on the death of her boyfriend, Malcolm Hughes, on March 25.