

National Days and Observances

September 2025 – June 2026

Niagara Catholic recognizes that there are many significant days throughout the year that are specific to individuals/groups, religious and cultural occasions, and celebrations and commemorations. It is important to highlight those days, through communications, in the classroom, the schools, and the district.

The list below is intended to be used by principals as a useful guide to special interest days. This is a living document, which will be updated to add/remove dates as seen fit.

There are many dates that are specific to the LGBTQ2S+ community throughout the year. Niagara Catholic recognizes all members of the LGBTQ2S+ community Pride Month.

The dates for this calendar were taken from provincial, national, and international organizations, including:

- The government of Ontario
- The government of Canada
- The Indigenous community
- The United Nations
- The Catholic Church
- Labour Organizations
- Special interest groups (recognized by one of the above broader agencies)

Reflecting the diversity in our schools, this list includes key dates from the following faiths:

- Buddhism
- Hinduism
- Islam
- Judaism
- The Orthodox Catholic/Christian Church
- Sikh

If you discover errors or suggested additions, please email Jennifer.pellegrini@ncdsb.com.

Sharing Days of Significance		
Website Banner	WB	Horizontal image honouring the day. Include day title. Link to page on website (UN etc.) Specialized graphic.
All Social	AS	Title, text and image honouring the day pushed to all social platforms.
Blank		If the sharing column is blank, the day will appear in the list on the website.

SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
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September 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Labour Day	2 Back to School!	3	4	5 St. Teresa of Calcutta	6
7	8 Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary International Literacy Day	9	10	11	12	13
14 Exaltation of the Holy Cross Terry Fox Run Day	15	16	17	18	19 Powley Day (Métis)	20
21 St. Matthew the Apostle	22 Rosh Hashanah begins	23	24 Rosh Hashanah ends Rowan's Law Day	25	26	27 St. Vincent de Paul
28	29	30 National Day for Truth & Reconciliation Orange Shirt Day/National Day for Truth & Reconciliation (Observed)				

Date	Days of Observance	Observed By	Sharing
September 1	Labour Day	Commemorative – Government of Canada	AS
September 2	Back to School!		WB, AS
September 5	St. Teresa of Calcutta	Catholic – Feast Day	AS
September 8	The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Catholic – Feast Day	AS
September 8	International Literacy Day	Commemorative - United Nations	AS
September 14	The Exaltation of the Holy Cross	Catholic – Feast Day	AS
September 14	Terry Fox Run Day	Commemorative – National Community participation	AS
September 19	Powley Day (Métis)	Commemorative - Indigenous Worldwide	AS
September 21	St. Matthew the Apostle	Catholic – Feast Day	AS
September 22 - 24	Rosh Hashanah	Judaism	AS
September 24	Rowan's Law Day	Commemorative – Last Wednesday of Sept. A day to spark conversation amongst students, staff, and parents/guardians to learn how to prevent, identify and manage concussions.	WB, AS
September 27	St. Vincent de Paul	Catholic – Feast Day	A
September 30 (Obs. September 26)	Orange Shirt Day/National Day for Truth and Reconciliation	Commemorative - Government of Canada – Indigenous. Day to commemorate Truth and Reconciliation	PA, WB, AS

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October 2025

Learning Disabilities Awareness Month in Canada

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 St. Thérèse of Lisieux National Walk to School Day Yom Kippur begins	2 National Custodian Day Yom Kippur ends	3	4 National Day of Action for Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls St. Francis of Assisi
5 World Teachers' Day	6	7 Our Lady of the Holy Rosary	8	9 St. John Henry Newman	10 World Mental Health Day	11
12	13 Thanksgiving National School Safety Week begins October 17	14	15 St. Theresa of Avila	16	17 Canadian Library Workers' Day	18
19	20 Diwali National School Bus Safety Week	21 Childcare worker and ECE Appreciation Day	22	23	24	25
26	27 Wear Purple Day – Child Abuse Prevention Awareness	28	29	30	31	

Date	Days of Observance	Observed By	Sharing
October 1	St. Thérèse of Lisieux	Catholic – Feast Day	AS
October 1	National Walk to School Day	Commemorative	AS
October 1 - 2	Yom Kippur	Judaism – Sunset on October 1 to nightfall on October 2.	AS
October 2	National Custodian Day	Commemorative – Staff	WB, AB
October 4	National Day of Action for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls	Commemorative - Indigenous	AS
October 4	St. Francis of Assisi	Catholic – Feast Day	AS
October 5	World Teachers' Day	Commemorative - Staff	WB, AS
October 7	Our Lady of the Holy Rosary	Catholic – Feast Day	AS
October 9	St. John Henry Newman	Catholic – Feast Day	AS
October 10	World Mental Health Day	Commemorative	AS
October 13	Thanksgiving	Commemorative - Canadian Holiday on the second Monday of October.	WB, AS
October 15	St. Teresa of Avila	Catholic – Feast Day	AS
October 17	Canadian Library Workers' Day	Commemorative	AS
October 17 - 23	National School Safety Week	Commemorative – Community (3 rd week Oct)	AS
October 20 - 24	National School Bus Safety Week	Commemorative – (3 rd week Oct)	WB, AS
October 20	Diwali	Commemorative - Hinduism	WB, AS
October 21	Child Care Worker and Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day	Commemorative – Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care	AS
October 27	Wear Purple Day – Child Abuse Prevention Awareness	Commemorative – FACS	AS

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November 2025

Diabetes Awareness Month						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Solemnity of All Saints
2 All Souls' Day	3 Treaty Week Veterans' Week	4	5 Take Our Kids to Work Day	6	7 National Inuit Day	8 Indigenous Veterans' Day
9	10	11 Remembrance Day	12	13	14	15
16	17 Bullying Awareness & Prevention Week	18	19	20 National Child's Day	21 Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	22
23 Christ the King	24	25 International Day for Elimination of Violence Against Women	26	27	28	29
30 First Week of Advent: Hope						

Date	Days of Observance	Observed By	Sharing
November 1	Solemnity of All Saints	Catholic – Holy Day of Obligation	AS
November 2	All Souls' Day	Catholic - Feast Day	AS
November 3 – 7	Veterans' Week	Commemorative - National	AS
November 5	Take Our Kids to Work Day	Commemorative - Community	AS
November 7	National Inuit Day	Commemorative - Indigenous	AS
November 8	Indigenous Veterans' Day	Commemorative – Indigenous. Veteran Affairs Canada	WB, AS
November 11	Remembrance Day	Commemorative – Government of Canada. Flags half-mast.	WB, AS
November 17 - 21	Bullying Awareness & Prevention Week	Commemorative/Dignity of the Person (starts the 3 rd Sunday in Nov)	AS
November 20	National Child's Day	Commemorative – Government of Canada	AS
November 21	The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Catholic – Feast Day	AS
November 23	Christ the King	Catholic – Feast Day	AS
November 25	International Day for Elimination of Violence Against Women	Commemorative – United Nations	AS
November 30	First Sunday of Advent - Hope	Christianity	AS

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December 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6 National Day of Remembrance & Action on Violence Against Women
7 Second Week of Advent: Peace	8 The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	9	10	11	12 National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples	13
14 Third Week of Advent: Joy Hanukkah: Festival of Lights begins	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 Fourth Week of Advent: Love	22	23	24 Christmas Eve	25 The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Day)	26 Boxing Day Kwanzaa begins St. Stephen	27 St. John
28 The Holy Innocents The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph	29	30	31 New Year's Eve			

Date	Days of Observance	Observed By	Sharing
December 6	National Day of Remembrance and action on violence against women	Commemorative - Government of Canada	AS
December 8	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Catholic – Holy Day of Obligation	AS
December 12	National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples	Commemorative - Indigenous	AS
December 14-22	Hanukkah: Festival of Lights	Judaism	AS
December 24	Christmas Eve	Christianity	AS
December 25	The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Day)	Catholic – Holy Day of Obligation	WB, AS
December 26	Boxing Day	Commemorative - Holiday	AS
December 26	St. Stephen	Catholic – Feast Day	AS
December 26 – Jan 1	Kwanzaa (ends January 1)	African Canadian and American	AS
December 27	St. John	Catholic – Feast Day	AS
December 28	The Holy Innocents	Catholic – Feast Day	AS
December 28	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph	Catholic – Feast Day	AS
December 31	New Year's Eve	Commemorative – Last Day of the Year.	WB, AS

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January 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 New Year's Day Kwanzaa ends Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God	2	3 The Most Holy Name of Jesus
4 St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Ribbon Skirt Day	5	6 Epiphany	7 Orthodox Christmas	8	9	10
11 The Baptism of the Lord	12	13	14 Orthodox New Year's Day	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 Lincoln Alexander Day	22	23	24 International Day of Education
25 The Conversion of St. Paul	26	27 Family Literacy Day International Holocaust Remembrance Day	28	29	30	31 St. John Bosco

Date	Days of Observance	Observed By	Sharing
January 1	New Year's Day	Christianity	WB, AS
January 1	Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God	Catholic – Holy Day of Obligation	AS
January 3	The Most Holy Name of Jesus	Catholic – Feast Day	AS
January 4	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	Catholic – Feast Day	AS
January 4	Ribbon Skirt Day	Indigenous.	AS
January 6	Epiphany	Christianity	AS
January 7	Orthodox Christmas	Orthodox Christianity	AS
January 11	The Baptism of the Lord	Catholic - Feast Day	AS
January 14	Orthodox New Year's Day	Orthodox Christianity	AS
January 21	Lincoln Alexander Day	Commemorative – Government of Canada	AS
January 24	International Day of Education	Commemorative - United Nations	AS
January 25	The Conversion of St. Paul	Catholic – Feast Day	AS
January 27	Family Literacy Day	Commemorative	WB, AS
January 27	International Holocaust Remembrance Day	Commemorative - United Nations	AS
January 31	St. John Bosco	Catholic – Feast Day	AS

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February 2026

Black History Month						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 The Presentation of the Lord Canadian School Counselling Week	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 International Day of Women and Girls in Science	12	13	14
15 National Flag of Canada Day	16 Family Day (ON) Louis Riel Day	17 Shrove Tuesday Ramadan Begins	18 Ash Wednesday	19	20 World Day of Social Justice	21
22 First Sunday of Lent National Human Trafficking Awareness Day (Canada)	23	24	25 Pink Shirt Day	26	27	28

Date	Days of Observance	Observed By	Sharing
February 2	The Presentation of the Lord	Catholic – Feast Day	AS
February 3-7	Canadian School Counselling Week	Commemorative - Staff	AS
February 11	International Day of Women and Girls in Science	Commemorative – United Nations	AS
February 15	National Flag of Canada Day	Commemorative - Government of Canada	AS
February 16	Family Day (ON)	Commemorative – Ontario (Third Monday in February)	AS
February 16	Louis Riel Day	Commemorative – Government of Canada (third Monday of Feb.)	AS
February 17	Shrove Tuesday	Catholic/Christianity	AS
February 17	Ramadan Begins	Islam February 17-March 19	AS
February 18	Ash Wednesday	Christianity	WB, AS
February 20	World Day of Social Justice	Commemorative - United Nations	AS
February 22	First Sunday of Lent	Catholic/Christianity (Lent Feb 14-Mar28)	AS
February 22	National Human Trafficking Awareness Day (Canada)	Commemorative – Government of Canada	AS
February 25	Pink Shirt Day	Commemorative - Canada	WB, AS

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March 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Black Mental Health Day	3 Holi – Festival of Colour	4	5	6 World Day of Prayer	7
8 International Women's Day	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 Solemnity of St. Joseph Eid-al-Fitr begins	20 Eid-al-Fitr ends	21 World Down Syndrome Day
22	23 Crossing Guard Appreciation Day	24	25 The Annunciation of the Lord	26 Purple Day for Epilepsy	27	28 Earth Hour
29 Palm Sunday	30	31 National Indigenous Peoples Languages Day				

Date	Days of Observance	Observed By	Sharing
March 2	Black Mental Health Day	Commemorative	AS
March 3	Holi – Festival of Colour	Hinduism	AS
March 6	World Day of Prayer	Commemorative – United Nations	AS
March 8	International Women's Day	Commemorative – Government of Canada	AS
March 19	Solemnity of St. Joseph	Catholic – Feast Day	AS
March 19 - 20	Eid-al-Fitr	Islam (Sundown May 2 – Sundown May 3) It marks the end of Ramadan.	AS
March 21	World Down Syndrome Day	Dignity of the Person	AS
March 23	Crossing Guard Appreciation Day	Commemorative - Staff	AS
March 25	The Annunciation of the Lord	Catholic – Feast Day	AS
March 26	Purple Day for Epilepsy	Dignity of the Person	AS
March 28	Earth Hour	Commemorative	WB, AS
March 29	Palm Sunday	Catholic/Christianity	WB, AS
March 31	National Indigenous Peoples Languages Day	Commemorative - Indigenous	WB, AS

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April 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Pesach (Passover) begins	2 Holy Thursday World Autism Awareness Day	3 Good Friday	4
5 Easter Sunday	6	7 World Health Day	8	9 Pesach (Passover) ends Vimy Ridge Day	10	11
12 Divine Mercy Sunday	13	14	15	16	17 St. Kateri Tekakwitha	18
19 National Volunteer Week	20	21	22 Earth Day Administrative Professionals' Day	23	24	25 St. Mark the Evangelist
26	27	28 National Day of Mourning for Killed & Injured Workers (Day of Mourning)	29 EA/Child and Youth Worker Appreciation Day	30		

Date	Days of Observance	Observed By	Sharing
April 1 – 9	Pesach (Passover)	Judaism (Sunset April 1-Sunset April 9)	AS
April 2	Holy Thursday	Catholic/Christianity	WB, AS
April 2	World Autism Awareness Day	Dignity of the Person - Worldwide	AS
April 3	Good Friday	Catholic/Christianity	WB, AS
April 5	Easter Sunday	Catholic/Christianity	WB, AS
April 7	World Health Day	Commemorative - United Nations	AS
April 9	Vimy Ridge Day	Commemorative – Government of Canada	AS
April 12	Divine Mercy Sunday	Catholic – Feast Day	AS
April 17	St. Kateri Tekakwitha	Catholic – Feast Day	AS
April 19-25	National Volunteer Week	Commemorative – Government of Canada	AS
April 22	Earth Day	Commemorative - United Nations	WB, AS
April 22	Administrative Professionals Day	Commemorative – Staff	WB, AS
April 25	St. Mark the Evangelist	Catholic – Feast Day	AS
April 28	National Day of Mourning	Commemorative - Government of Canada	WB, AS
April 29	EA/Child and Youth Worker Appreciation Day	Board level	WB, AS

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May 2026

Better Speech and Hearing Month						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 National Principals' Day St. Joseph the Worker	2
3	4 Catholic Education Week Mental Health Week	5 Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women/ Red Dress Day	6	7	8	9
10 Mother's Day	11	12	13	14 The Ascension of the Lord World Catholic Education Day	15 International Day of Families	16 World Education Support Personnel Day
17 Laudato Si' Week begins World Communications Day	18 Victoria Day	19	20	21	22	23
24 Pentecost Sunday	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity						

Date	Days of Observance	Observed By	Sharing
May 1	National Principals' Day	Commemorative - Staff	WB, AS
May 1	St. Joseph the Worker	Catholic – Feast Day	AS
May 4 - 8	Catholic Education Week	Begins the first Sunday – Fri. in May	WB, AS
May 4 - 8	Mental Health Week	Dignity of the Person –	WB, AS
May 5	Missing And Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW)/ Red Dress Day	Commemorative - National	WB, AS
May 10	Mother's Day	Commemorative	AS
May 14	Ascension Day	Christianity	AS
May 14	World Catholic Education Day	Commemorative	WB, AS
May 15	International Day of Families	Commemorative	AS
May 16	World Education Support Personnel Day	Commemorative – Staff	WB, AS
May 17	World Communications Day	Catholic – Established by Pope Francis	AS
May 17 - 24	Laudato Si' Week	Catholic – Celebrating Pope Francis' Encyclical on Care for Our Common Home (week including May 24)	AS
May 18	Victoria Day	Commemorative – Government of Canada	AS
May 24	Pentecost Sunday	Catholic/Christianity	AS
May 31	The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Catholic – Feast Day	AS
May 31	Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity	Catholic – Feast Day	AS

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June 2026

Pride Month						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Crossing Guard appreciation week	2	3	4 Solemnity of Corpus Christi	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12 Solemnity of The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus	13 The Immaculate Heart of Mary
14	15	16	17	18	19 Juneteenth	20 World Refugee Day
21 Father's Day National Indigenous Peoples Day	22	23 National Day of Remembrance for Victims of Terrorism	24 Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day/Nativity of St. John the Baptist	25 Last day of school	26	27 Canadian Multiculturalism Day
28	29	30				

Date	Days of Observance	Observed By	Sharing
June 2-6	Crossing Guard appreciation week	Commemorative – school based	
June 4	Solemnity of Corpus Christi	Catholic – Feast Day	AS
June 12	Solemnity of The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus	Catholic – Feast Day	AS
June 13	The Immaculate Heart of Mary (3 rd Sunday after Pentecost)	Catholic – Feast Day	AS
June 19	Juneteenth	Commemorative	AS
June 20	World Refugee Day	Commemorative - Worldwide	AS
June 21	Father's Day	Commemorative	AS
June 21	National Indigenous Peoples Day	Commemorative – Indigenous/National/ Worldwide	WB, AS
June 23	National Day of Remembrance for Victims of Terrorism	Commemorative – Government of Canada	AS
June 24	Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day	Commemorative - Government of Canada	AS
June 25	Last day of school		
June 27	Canadian Multiculturalism Day	Commemorative - Government of Canada	AS

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