

# National Days and Observances

## September 2024 – June 2025

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](mailto:Jennifer.pellegrini@ncdsb.com).

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

<a href="#">SEP</a>	<a href="#">OCT</a>	<a href="#">NOV</a>	<a href="#">DEC</a>	<a href="#">JAN</a>	<a href="#">FEB</a>	<a href="#">MAR</a>	<a href="#">APR</a>	<a href="#">MAY</a>	<a href="#">JUN</a>
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# September 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Labour Day	3 Back to School!	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
15 Terry Fox Run Day	16	17	18	19 Powley Day (Metis)	20	21 St. Matthew the Apostle
22	23	24	25 Rowan's Law Day	26	27 St. Vincent de Paul Terry Fox School Run	28
29	30 National Day for Truth & Reconciliation Orange Shirt Day/National Day for Truth & Reconciliation (Observed)					

Date	Days of Observance	Observed By	Sharing
Monday Sept. 2	Labour Day	Commemorative – Government of Canada	AS
Tuesday Sept. 3	Back to School!		WB, AS, TV
Thursday Sept. 5	St. Teresa of Calcutta	Catholic – Feast Day	AS, TV
Sunday Sept. 8	The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Catholic – Feast Day	AS, TV
Sunday Sept. 8	International Literacy Day	Commemorative - United Nations	AS, TV
Saturday Sept. 14	The Exaltation of the Holy Cross	Catholic – Feast Day	AS, TV
Sunday Sept. 15	Terry Fox Run Day	Commemorative – National Community participation	AS
Thursday Sept. 19	Powley Day (Metis)	Commemorative - Indigenous Worldwide	AS, TV
Thursday Sept. 21	St. Matthew the Apostle	Catholic – Feast Day	AS, TV
Wednesday Sept. 25	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, TV
Friday Sept. 27	St. Vincent de Paul Terry Fox School Run Day	Catholic – Feast Day Schools may choose their own day if not convenient	AS, TV
Monday Sept. 30 (Observed Fri. Sep. 27)	Orange Shirt Day/National Day for Truth and Reconciliation	Commemorative - Government of Canada – Indigenous. Day to commemorate Truth and Reconciliation	WB, AS, TV

[BACK TO TOP](#)

# October 2024

## Learning Disabilities Awareness Month in Canada

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

Date	Days of Observance	Observed By	Sharing
Tuesday Oct. 1	St. Theresa of Lisieux	Catholic – Feast Day	AS, TV
Wednesday Oct. 2	National Custodian Day National Walk to School Day	Commemorative – Staff Commemorative – Students	WB, AS, TV WB, AS, TV
Wednesday Oct. 2 - 4	Rosh Hashanah	Judaism	AS
Friday Oct. 4	National Day of Action for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls	Commemorative - Indigenous	AS, TV
Friday Oct. 4	St. Francis of Assisi	Catholic – Feast Day	AS, TV
Saturday Oct. 5	World Teachers' Day	Commemorative - Staff	WB, AS, TV
Monday Oct. 7	Our Lady of the Rosary	Catholic – Feast Day	AS, TV
Thursday Oct. 10	World Mental Health Day	Commemorative – United Nations	WB, AS, TV
Friday Oct. 11 - 12	Yom Kippur	Judaism – Sunset on Oct 11 to nightfall on Oct 12.	AS
Monday Oct. 14	Thanksgiving	Commemorative - Canadian Holiday on the second Monday of October.	WB, AS
Monday Oct. 14 - 18	National School Safety Week	Commemorative – Community (3 <sup>rd</sup> week Oct)	WB, AS, TV
Monday Oct. 14 - 18	National School Bus Safety Week	Commemorative – (3 <sup>rd</sup> week Oct)	WB, AS, TV
Tuesday Oct. 15	St. Teresa of Avila	Catholic – Feast Day	AS, TV
Wednesday Oct. 16	Bus Driver Appreciation Day	Commemorative – (Wed of 3 <sup>rd</sup> week Oct)	WB, AS
Thursday Oct. 17	Child Care Worker and Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day	Commemorative – Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care	WB, AS, TV
Friday Oct. 18	Canadian Library Workers Day	Commemorative	AS
Sunday Oct. 27	Wear Purple Day – Child Abuse Prevention Awareness	Commemorative – FACS	AS

[BACK TO TOP](#)

# November 2024

Diabetes Awareness Month						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Solemnity of All Saints Diwali	2 All Souls' Day
3	4 Veterans' Week → Treaty Week →	5	6 Take Our Kids to Work Day	7 National Inuit Day	8 Indigenous Veterans' Day	9
10	11 Remembrance Day	12	13	14	15	16
17	18 Bullying Awareness & Prevention Week →	19	20 National Child's Day Red Wednesday for the Persecution of Christians	21 Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	22	23
24 Christ the King	25	26	27	28	29 Project Plaid Day (wear plaid to support mental health in Niagara)	30

Date	Days of Observance	Observed By	Sharing
Friday Nov. 1	Solemnity of All Saints	Catholic – Holy Day of Obligation	WB, AS, TV
Friday Nov. 1	Diwali	Hinduism	AS
Saturday Nov. 2	All Souls' Day	Catholic - Feast Day	WB, AS, TV
Monday Nov. 4 – 8	Veterans' Week	Commemorative - National	WB, AS, TV
Monday Nov. 4 – 8	Treaty Week	Commemorative - Indigenous	WB, AS, TV
Wednesday Nov. 6	Take Our Kids to Work Day	Commemorative - Community	AS, TV
Thursday Nov. 7	National Inuit Day	Commemorative - Indigenous	WB, AS, TV
Friday Nov. 8	Indigenous Veterans' Day	Commemorative – Indigenous Veteran Affairs Canada	WB, AS, TV
Monday Nov. 11	Remembrance Day	Commemorative – Government of Canada. Flags half-mast.	WB, AS, TV
Monday Nov. 18 - 22	Bullying Awareness & Prevention Week	Commemorative/Dignity of the Person (starts the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Nov)	WB, AS, TV
Wednesday Nov. 20	National Child's Day	Commemorative – Government of Canada	AS, TV
Wednesday Nov. 20	Red Wednesday for the Persecution of Christians	Commemorative - Christian	AS, TV
Thursday Nov. 21	The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Catholic – Feast Day	AS, TV
Sunday Nov. 24	Christ the King	Catholic – Feast Day	AS, TV
Friday Nov. 29	Project Plaid	Community – Pathstone Mental Health	AS, TV

[BACK TO TOP](#)

# December 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 First Week of Advent: Hope	2	3	4	5	6 National Day of Remembrance & action on violence against women	7
8 Second Week of Advent: Peace The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	9	10	11	12 National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples	13	14
15 Third Week of Advent: Joy	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 Fourth Week of Advent: Love	23	24 Christmas Eve Jubilee Year of Hope begins (through December 23, 2025)	25 The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Day) Hanukkah: Festival of Lights begins	26 Boxing Day Kwanzaa begins St. Stephen	27 St. John	28 The Holy Innocents
29	30 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph	31 New Year's Eve				

Date	Days of Observance	Observed By	Sharing
Sunday Dec. 1	First Week of Advent	Christianity	WB, AS, TV
Friday Dec. 6	National Day of Remembrance and action on violence against women	Commemorative - Government of Canada	WB, AS, TV
Sunday Dec. 8	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Second Week in Advent	Catholic – Holy Day of Obligation	AS WB, AS, TV
Thursday Dec. 12	National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples	Commemorative - Indigenous	AW, AS, TV
Sunday, Dec. 15	Third Week in Advent	Christianity	WB, AS, TV
Sunday, Dec. 22	Fourth Week in Advent	Christianity	WB, AS, TV
Tuesday Dec. 24	Christmas Eve	Christianity	AS
Tuesday, Dec. 24	Jubilee Year of Hope begins	Catholic	AS, TV
Wednesday Dec. 25	The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Day)	Catholic – Holy Day of Obligation	WB, AS
Wednesday Dec. 25 – Jan.2	Hanukkah: Festival of Lights	Judaism	AS
Thursday Dec. 26	Boxing Day	Commemorative - Holiday	AS
Thursday Dec. 26	St. Stephen	Catholic – Feast Day	AS
Thursday Dec. 26 – Jan 1	Kwanzaa	African Canadian and American	AS
Friday Dec. 27	St. John	Catholic – Feast Day	AS
Saturday Dec. 28	The Holy Innocents	Catholic – Feast Day	AS

Monday Dec. 30	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph	Catholic – Feast Day	AS
Tuesday Dec. 31	New Year's Eve	Commemorative – Last Day of the Year.	WB, AS

[BACK TO TOP](#)

# January 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Kwanzaa ends New Year's Day Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God	2 Hanukkah: Festival of Lights ends	3 The Most Holy Name of Jesus	4 St. Elizabeth Ann Seton  Ribbon Skirt Day
5 St. John Neumann	6 Epiphany	7 Orthodox Christmas	8	9	10	11
12 The Baptism of the Lord	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
Thursday Dec. 26 – Jan 1	Kwanzaa	African Canadian and American	AS
Wednesday Jan. 1	New Year's Day	Christianity	WB, AS
Wednesday Jan. 1	Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God	Catholic – Holy Day of Obligation	AS
Friday Jan. 3	The Most Holy Name of Jesus	Catholic – Feast Day	AS
Saturday Jan. 4	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	Catholic – Feast Day	AS
Saturday Jan. 4	Ribbon Skirt Day	Indigenous.	AS
Sunday Jan. 5	St. John Neumann	Catholic – Feast Day	AS
Monday Jan. 6	Epiphany	Christianity	AS
Tuesday Jan. 7	Orthodox Christmas	Orthodox Christianity	AS
Sunday Jan. 12	The Baptism of the Lord	Catholic - Feast Day	AS, TV
Tuesday Jan. 14	Orthodox New Year's Day	Orthodox Christianity	AS
Tuesday Jan. 21	Lincoln Alexander Day	Commemorative – Government of Canada	AS
Friday Jan. 24	International Day of Education	Commemorative - United Nations	WB, AS, TV
Saturday Jan. 25	The Conversion of St. Paul	Catholic – Feast Day	AS, TV
Monday Jan. 27	Family Literacy Day	Commemorative	WB, AS, TV
Monday Jan. 27	International Holocaust Remembrance Day	Commemorative - United Nations	WB, AS, TV
Friday Jan. 31	St. John Bosco	Catholic – Feast Day	AS, TV

[BACK TO TOP](#)

# February 2025

Black History Month						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 The Presentation of the Lord	3	4 Canadian School Counselling Week →	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	17 Family Day (ON) Louis Riel Day	18	19	20 World Day of Social Justice	21	22 National Human Trafficking Awareness Day (Canada)
23	24	25	26 Pink Shirt Day	27	28 Ramadan Begins	

Date	Days of Observance	Observed By	Sharing
Saturday, Feb. 1	Black History Month	National	WB, AS, TV
Sunday Feb. 2	The Presentation of the Lord	Catholic – Feast Day	AS, TV
Tuesday Feb. 4 - 8	Canadian School Counselling Week	Commemorative - Staff	WB, AS, TV
Tuesday Feb. 11	International Day of Women and Girls in Science	Commemorative – United Nations	AS, TV
Saturday Feb. 15	National Flag of Canada Day	Commemorative - Government of Canada	WB, AS, TV
Monday Feb. 17	Family Day (ON)	Commemorative – Ontario (Third Monday in February)	AS
Monday Feb. 17	Louis Riel Day	Commemorative – Government of Canada (third Monday of Feb.)	AS
Thursday Feb. 20	World Day of Social Justice	Commemorative - United Nations	AS
Saturday Feb. 22	National Human Trafficking Awareness Day (Canada)	Commemorative – Government of Canada	AS
Wednesday Feb. 26	Pink Shirt Day	Commemorative - Canada	WB, AS, TV
Friday Feb. 28	Ramadan Begins	Islam (April 2 sundown to May 1 sundown)	AS

[BACK TO TOP](#)



# March 2025

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

Date	Days of Observance	Observed By	Sharing
Tuesday Mar. 4	Shrove Tuesday	Catholic/Christianity	AS, TV
Wednesday Mar. 5	Ash Wednesday	Catholic/Christianity	WB, AS, TV
Friday Mar. 7	World Day of Prayer	Commemorative – United Nations	WB, AS, TV
Saturday Mar. 8	International Women's Day	Commemorative – Government of Canada	AS
Friday Mar. 14	Holi – Festival of Colour	Hinduism	AS
Wednesday Mar. 19	Solemnity of St. Joseph	Catholic – Feast Day	AS, TV
Friday Mar. 21	World Down Syndrome Day	Dignity of the Person	AS, TV
Tuesday Mar. 25	The Annunciation of the Lord	Catholic – Feast Day	AS, TV
Wednesday Mar. 26	Purple Day for Epilepsy	Dignity of the Person	AS, TV
Saturday Mar. 29	Earth Hour	Commemorative	AS, TV
Sunday Mar. 30 - 31	Eid-al-Fitr	Islam (Sundown Mar. 29 – Sundown Mar. 30) It marks the end of Ramadan.	AS
Monday Mar. 31	National Indigenous Peoples Languages Day	Commemorative - Indigenous	AS

[BACK TO TOP](#)

# April 2025

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

Date	Days of Observance	Observed By	Sharing
Wednesday Apr. 2	World Autism Awareness Day	Dignity of the Person - Worldwide	WB, AS, TV
Wednesday Apr. 9	Vimy Ridge Day	Commemorative – Government of Canada	AS, TV
Saturday Apr. 12 - 20	Pesach (Passover)	Judaism	AS
Sunday Apr. 13	Palm Sunday	Catholic/Christianity	WB, AS, TV
Thursday Apr. 17	St. Kateri Tekakwitha	Catholic – Feast Day	AS, TV
Thursday Apr. 17	Holy Thursday	Catholic/Christianity	WB, AS, TV
Friday Apr. 18	Good Friday	Catholic/Christianity	WB, AS
Sunday Apr. 20	Easter Sunday	Catholic/Christianity	WB, AS
<b>Sunday, Apr. 20-26</b>	Volunteer Week	Commemorative – National	WB, AS, TV
Tuesday Apr. 22	Earth Day	Commemorative - United Nations	WB, AS
Wednesday Apr. 23	Administrative Professionals Day	Commemorative – Staff	WB, AS, TV
Friday Apr. 25	St. Mark the Evangelist	Catholic – Feast Day	AS, TV
Sunday Apr. 27	Divine Mercy Sunday	Catholic – Feast Day	AS, TV
Monday Apr. 27 – May 4	National Volunteer Week	Commemorative - Staff	WB, AS, TV
Monday Apr. 28	National Day of Remembrance for Killed & Injured Workers (Day of Mourning)	Commemorative - National	WB, AS, TV
Tuesday Apr. 29	EA/Child and Youth Worker Appreciation Day	Board level	WB, AS, TV

[BACK TO TOP](#)

# May 2025

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

Date	Days of Observance	Observed By	Sharing
Thursday May 1	National Principals' Day	Commemorative - Staff	WB, AS, TV
Thursday May 1	St. Joseph the Worker	Catholic – Feast Day	AS, TV
Monday May 5	Missing And Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW)/ Red Dress Day	National - Commemorative	AS
Monday May 5 - 9	Catholic Education Week	Commemorative	WB, AS, TV
Monday May 5 - 9	Mental Health Week	Dignity of the Person	WB, AS, TV
Thursday May 8	World Catholic Education Day	Held 40 days after Easter - TBC	AS, TV
Sunday May 11	Mother's Day	Commemorative	AS
Thursday May 15	International Day of Families	Commemorative	AS, TV
Friday May 16	World Education Support Personnel Day	Commemorative – Staff	AS, TV
Sunday May 18	Pentecost Sunday	Catholic/Christianity	AS
Monday May 19	Victoria Day	Commemorative – Government of Canada	AS
Thursday May 29	The Ascension of the Lord	Catholic – Holy Day of Obligation	AS, TV
Saturday May 31	The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Catholic – Feast Day	AS, TV

[BACK TO TOP](#)

# June 2025

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

Date	Days of Observance	Observed By	Sharing
Sunday June 1	World Communications Day	Catholic – Established by Pope Francis	AS, TV
Monday June 2 - 6	Crossing Guard appreciation week	Commemorative – Ontario	WB, AS, TV
Sunday June 8	Pentecost Sunday	Christianity	AS
Sunday June 15	Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity	Catholic – Feast Day	AS, TV
Sunday June 15	Father's Day	Commemorative	AS
Thursday June 19	Juneteenth	Commemorative - National	AS, TV
Friday June 20	World Refugee Day	Commemorative – United Nations	AS, TV
Saturday June 21	National Indigenous Peoples Day	Commemorative – Indigenous/National/ United Nations	WB, AS, TV
Sunday June 22	Solemnity of Corpus Christi	Catholic – Feast Day	AS, TV
Monday June 23	National Day of Remembrance for Victims of Terrorism	Commemorative – Flags at half-mast.	WB, AS, TV
Tuesday June 24	The Nativity of St. John the Baptist	Catholic – Feast Day	AS, TV
Friday June 27	Solemnity of The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus	Catholic – Feast Day	AS, TV
Friday Jun. 27	Canadian Multiculturalism Day	Commemorative - Government of Canada	AS, TV

[BACK TO TOP](#)