



Dear Amy,

Greetings from the Interfaith Center! We hope that you've had a chance to find some relaxation in the midst of this commotion. We understand that this is a potentially confusing and hectic time for many, and we hope that you and your loved ones are safe and well.

In addition, in accordance with Suffolk University policy in response to the spread of COVID-19, the Interfaith Center will be open and available for the weeks to come. If you find yourself in need of support during this trying time, please feel free to reach out to The Reverend Amy L. Fisher at [interfaith@suffolk.edu](mailto:interfaith@suffolk.edu). She will be available for appointments either in person or virtually.

Until further notice, our events will continue to run, and you are welcome to participate in person or virtually. For more information on how to participate virtually, please contact [interfaith@suffolk.edu](mailto:interfaith@suffolk.edu). We are still working out the details of what the rest of the semester will look like, and will continue to send out our newsletter with updates and religious information.

Last week was full of religious holydays, including Holi and Purim, both of which fell on March 9-10 this year. Holi is a Hindu festival that celebrates the beginning of spring. The night before Holi, bonfires are lit in a ceremony known as Holika Dahan. Many gather near the fires and pray that their internal evil will be killed just as Holika, a demon, was killed in the fire. The next morning, people pour into the streets and temples to drench each other in colors. Purim is a Jewish holyday that commemorates the time when Jewish people living in Persia were saved from extermination. Often people will attend carnival-like celebrations and dramatic readings of the book of Esther, where it is customary to boo, hiss, stamp feet, or rattle noisemakers whenever Haman, the genocidal character, is mentioned.

For more information other upcoming religious holydays, see the Suffolk religious holydays calendar [here](#).

Sincerely,  
The Interfaith Center

**Wednesday**

**Witches, Feminists, and Pagans!****Wednesdays, 2:00 PM, Interfaith Center, Sawyer 823**

*Please join us this week of the Spring Equinox for our Ostara celebration, with the ancient Pagan tradition of coloring eggs in celebration of spring and fertility.*

**Thursday****Atheists, Humanists, Agnostics, and Anti-theists (AHAA!)****Thursdays, 11:00AM, Interfaith Center, Sawyer 823**

*How do we face mortality as atheists? Join us for this week's discussion, "Facing Death without Religion."*

**Zazen Buddhist Meditation****Thursdays, 1:00PM, Interfaith Center, Sawyer 823**

*"With going, the boundless sky goes; with coming, the entire earth comes. This is everyday mind." Join us and practice the art of everyday mind.*

**Contemplative Mysticism****Thursdays, 3:00PM, Interfaith Center, Sawyer 823**

*Come share your favorite journaling practices! We'll be exploring journaling as a meditative practice and exploring the diaries of various writers and mystics.*

**BOOK OF THE WEEK:***Bhagavad Gita*

Translated by Stephen Mitchell

Our book of the week this week is Stephen Mitchell's translation of the Bhagavad Gita. The Bhagavad Gita, or "Song of the Blessed One" is one of the world's great literary and spiritual masterpieces. It has become a core text in the Hindu tradition, and it has held immense power for figures like Mahatma Gandhi, Swami Vivekananda, Albert Einstein, Henry David Thoreau, [and more](#). Gandhi once stated:

*When doubts haunt me, when disappointments stare me in the face, and I see not one ray of hope on the horizon, I turn to Bhagavad-Gita and find a verse to comfort me, and I immediately begin to smile in the midst of overwhelming sorrow. Those who meditate on the Gita will derive fresh joy and new meanings from it every day.*

*Come check out this book and more from the Interfaith Center Lending Library!*

**Interfaith Center, Suffolk University**

For more Information, please contact:  
Reverend Amy Fisher, University Chaplain  
(617) 573-8325, [interfaith@suffolk.edu](mailto:interfaith@suffolk.edu)

<http://www.suffolk.edu/interfaith>



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