

**SACRE Collective Worship- January 2016 –** (the table below shows only the 6 religions referred to in the Wirral Agreed Syllabus)

Day	Hinduism 	Judaism 	Buddhism 	Christianity 	Islam 	Sikhism 	Information
1				THE CIRCUMCISION OR NAMING OF JESUS			This day celebrates the circumcision or naming of Jesus at eight days old in accordance with Jewish custom, as recorded in Luke 2:21.
2							
3					THE PROPHET MUHAMMAD'S BIRTHDAY / MILAD UN NABI (The 8 <sup>th</sup> of January for some Muslims)		The day is widely celebrated within the Muslim world and is a public holiday in a number of Muslim countries. In the sub-continent of India and certain Arab countries like Egypt, the celebration starts with reading from the Qur'an, followed by poetry and songs in praise of the Prophet. There are also lectures and story telling.
4							
5						BIRTHDAY OF GURU GOBIND SINGH (1666 CE)	This is celebrated as the Birth Anniversary of the tenth Guru, who instituted the Five Ks and established the Order of the <i>Khalsa</i> .
6				EPIPHANY			This is the twelfth day of Christmas. It celebrates the visit of the <i>magi</i> or wise men

				Baptism of Christ			<p>to the infant Jesus, bearing symbolic gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.</p> <p>Christians commemorate the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist; they recall how at this event the heavens were opened and a voice was heard proclaiming Jesus, while God's spirit descended on him in the form of a dove. During this event God was manifest as three persons in one – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. 'Theophany' means 'Manifestation of God'. The first miracle of Jesus, performed at Cana in Galilee, is also remembered at this time.</p>
7							
8							
9							
10							
11							
12	BIRTHDAY OF SWAMI VIVEKANANDA						<p>Born Narendra Nath Datta in 1902 in Calcutta, he was an Indian Hindu monk who became the chief disciple of the 19th century saint Ramakrishna. Vivekananda, as he became known, was a key figure in the introduction of the Indian philosophies of Vedanta and Yoga to the Western world and helped to develop Hinduism during the latter part of the 19th century to the stage where it held the status of a major world religion.</p>
13	MAKAR SANKRANTI						<p>Sankranti is the start of a new zodiac sign i.e. the date is based on the solar rather than the lunar calendar. For many Hindus it is a day for almsgiving and patching up quarrels</p>

							and disagreements. Fires are lit outside and peanuts and sesame sweets are eaten round them. The traditional Punjabi meal consists of cornmeal chapatis and a mustard leaf dish.
14							
15							
16			SHINRAN MEMORIAL DAY				Shinran Shonin (1173-1262) was the founder of Jodo Shin-shu (or Shin Buddhism), one of the schools of Pure Land Buddhism. It is celebrated by some Mahayana Buddhists.
17							
18							
19				THEOPHANY / BAPTISM OF CHRIST ( <i>Eastern Orthodox</i> )			At Theophany Orthodox Christians commemorate the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist; they recall how at this event the heavens were opened and a voice was heard proclaiming Jesus, while God's spirit descended on him in the form of a dove.
20							
21							
22							
23							
24	SARASWA TI PUJA/ VASANT PANCHAMI						This festival marks the beginning of Spring, and is widely celebrated in north India. In eastern India, and notably in Bengal, Hindus worship especially Saraswati, the goddess of learning and the arts. Yellow is particularly associated with the festival and so <i>murtis</i> of Saraswati are dressed in yellow.
25			HONEN				Honen (1133-1212 CE) is one of the outstanding

			MEMORIAL DAY				figures in the history of Japanese Buddhism, and was the founder of Jodo Shinshu, one of the schools of Pure Land Buddhism.
26							
27							
28							
29							
30							

Please note , at the time of compiling this Calendar – The up-dated Shap Calendar for January 2016 was not available – and so dates are as accurate as possible – from cross- checking a number of sources. However, there may be some variations in different traditions.

M J Landor RE Adviser to Wirral SACRE  
December 2015