

# Intercultural Calendar 2026

Promoting respect of human rights, equality and intercultural understanding



## Fingal County Council

Fingal County Council is committed to ensuring we meet the needs of our diverse population. We are a leader in the delivery of public sector duty, and an advocate for integration and social cohesion. This is evident in our work, in our strategies, in our plans and forms part of our ethos. Fingal County Council aims to support everyone who lives in Fingal, including our diverse communities. We are defined by the diversity of our residents and our landscape in equal measure. We are home to strong, established communities tracing their roots back hundreds of years, side by side emerging communities looking forward to exciting futures. We strive to ensure that the county of Fingal is a welcoming and safe place for all who live, work or visit.

## Fingal Integration Office

Fingal is amongst the most diverse and dynamically growing populations in Ireland. Fingal County Council Integration Office is committed to social inclusion and works towards enhancing the quality of life for all the County's residents as Fingal continues to grow. Our goals are to support those experiencing barriers that lead to social exclusion, to promote an understanding of inclusion and celebrate diversity across the county. The work of the Fingal Integration Office includes the implementation of the Fingal Migrant Integration and Social Cohesion Strategy Action Plan; the Community Integration Forum, the operations of the Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT) and Ukraine Response.

### Contact the Fingal Integration Office:

Email: [Integration@fingal.ie](mailto:Integration@fingal.ie)

Website: [www.fingal.ie/fingal-integration](http://www.fingal.ie/fingal-integration)



## WELCOME TO 2026!

Fingal County Council Integration Office is delighted to welcome you to the inaugural edition of the Fingal Integration Intercultural Calendar.

This calendar is more than just a collection of dates – it is a celebration of the rich cultural diversity that shapes our communities, workplaces, and everyday lives.

Each month highlights key cultural, religious, and international observances, offering a window into the traditions, values, and stories that connect us all. Whether you're using this calendar to plan inclusive events, learn something new or simply plan your time, we hope it inspires curiosity, respect, and connection.

Integration is not just about bringing people together – it's about creating spaces where everyone feels seen, heard, and valued.

Wishing you a meaningful and inclusive year ahead.

Warm Regards,  
The Fingal Integration Office



### What you will see throughout this calendar...

Key observances have been included in the calendar from the five most popular world religions.

In addition, the calendar highlights some of the key dates commemorated and celebrated internationally under the United Nations. The four seasonal festivals of the Gaelic Calendar (marking the changing of the seasons in Ireland since pagan times) are also included, as are the public holidays.

#### Christianity

Founded on the life and teachings of Jesus Christ 2,000 years ago, Christianity is the world's largest religion with over 2 billion followers. It is comprised of diverse traditions including Roman Catholic, Orthodox and Protestant, but there are many more. The dignity of the human person is at the centre of Christian social teaching, which highlights the importance of the common good. Christmas and Easter are the two most widely celebrated Christian holidays. Christian traditions include saints, sacraments, and liturgical seasons like Advent and Lent. The Bible is the most translated and distributed book in the world.

#### Islam

The word Islam means both peace and submission. It is the second largest religion in the world with over 1 billion followers. Founded in the 7th century CE by the Prophet Muhammad, Islam teaches submission to one God (Allah) and values compassion, justice, and community. There are five basic pillars of Islam, which are: Shahada (the declaration of Faith), Salah (daily Prayers), Zakat (Charity), Sawm (Fasting) and Hajj (Pilgrimage). The Qur'an is considered the literal word of God in Islam.

#### Buddhism

Originating in India around the 6th century BCE, Buddhism is based on the teachings of Siddhartha Gautama (the Buddha). Buddhism teaches that all life is interconnected and emphasises

mindfulness and compassion. Buddhists don't worship a God but seek enlightenment through ethical living, meditation, and wisdom. The two main Buddhist sects are Theravada Buddhism and Mahayana Buddhism, but there are many more. The Dalai Lama is a prominent spiritual leader in Tibetan Buddhism.

#### Hinduism

One of the oldest religions, Hinduism is a diverse tradition over 3,000 years old. Rooted in India, it embraces a wide variety of beliefs and practices like Karma (action), Dharma (duty), and Moksha (liberation). It has over 900 million followers worldwide. It is not a single doctrine, and there is no single founder or teacher. Hindus believe in a universal eternal soul called Brahman, who created and is present in everything but also honor many gods and goddesses with major festivals including Diwali and Holi. The sacred syllable 'Om' represents the essence of the universe. Hindu temples serve as cultural hubs.

#### Judaism

An ancient monotheistic faith, Judaism is based on the covenant between God and the Jewish people. It values justice, learning, and traditions, including the Torah, which guide daily life and spiritual practice. Jewish holidays often involve symbolic foods, like matzah at Passover and apples with honey at Rosh Hashanah. Shabbat (Sabbath) is a weekly day of rest and spiritual renewal. Hebrew is both a liturgical and modern spoken language in Jewish communities.

#### United Nations

Throughout its history, the United Nations (UN) has designated specific dates as international occasions to mark key themes or events, with the aim of promoting Peace, Dignity and Equality. The existence of international days predates the establishment of the United Nations, but the UN has embraced them as a powerful tool for change. The key UN dates that you will see throughout this calendar are selected for their relevance to inclusion and integration.





# JANUARY 2026

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
29	30	31	<u>01</u>	02	03	<u>04</u>
05	<u>06</u>	<u>07</u>	08	09	10	11
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19	20	21	22	23	<u>24</u>	25
26	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u>	29	30	31	01

- OBSERVANCES:**
- 01 New Year's Day Public Holiday
  - 04 World Braille Day (UN)
  - 06 Epiphany (Christian)
  - 07 Christmas (Ortodox Christian)
  - 14 Pongal/ Makar Samkranti (Hindu)
  - 24 International Day of Education (UN)

- 27 International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust (UN)
- 28 International Day of Peaceful Coexistence (UN)



# FINGAL INTEGRATION CONNECTIONS EXPO



**THURSDAY,  
10TH APRIL**



**4PM-7PM**



**COME JOIN US AT THE  
RECREATION AREA**

Meet service providers from your area

Volunteering

Rights & Entitlements

Employment

Libraries

Education & Training

Community Groups

Health

Sport



# FEBRUARY

# 2026

MON

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## OBSERVANCES:

01 St Brigid's Day (Christian)  
Imbolc (Gaelic Festival)

02 Public Holiday

04 International Day of Human  
Fraternity (UN)

06 International Day of Zero Tolerance  
for Female Genital Mutilation (UN)

11 International Day of Women and Girls  
in Science (UN)

12 International Day for the Prevention of Violent  
Extremism as and when Conducive to Terrorism (UN)

14 St Valentine's Day (Christian)

15 Maha Shivratri (Hindu)

17 Ramadan Begins (Islam) / Lunar New Year (UN)  
Chinese New Year

20 World Day of Social Justice (UN)

21 International Mother  
Language Day (UN)







MARCH

2026

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
23	24	25	26	27	28	<u>01</u>
<u>02</u>	<u>03</u>	<u>04</u>	<u>05</u>	<u>06</u>	<u>07</u>	<u>08</u>
<u>09</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>
<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>
<u>23</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>29</u>
<u>30</u>	<u>31</u>	01	02	03	04	05

- OBSERVANCES:**
- 01** Traveller Ethnicity Day (Ireland), Zero Discrimination Day (UN)
  - 04** Pancake Tuesday (Christian), Holi (Hindu)
  - 05** Ash Wednesday, Lent begins (Christian)
  - 08** International Women's Day (UN)
  - 15** Mother's Day (Ireland), International Day to Combat Islamophobia (UN)
  - 17** St. Patrick's Day (Christian) Public Holiday

- 19** Ramadan ends (Islam), Eid al Fitr (Islam)
- 20** International Day of Happiness (UN)
- 21** International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (UN), International Day of Nowruz (UN)
- 24** Feast of the Annunciation (Christian),

- 25** International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade (UN)
- 26** Ram Navami (Hindu), International Chernobyl Disaster Remembrance Day (UN)
- 29** Palm Sunday (Christian)





# APRIL

# 2026

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
30	31	<u>01</u>	<u>02</u>	<u>03</u>	04	<u>05</u>
<u>06</u>	<u>07</u>	<u>08</u>	09	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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27	28	29	30	01	02	03

- OBSERVANCES:**

  - 01 Hanuman Jayanthi (Hindu)
  - 02 World Autism Awareness Day (UN)
  - 03 Good Friday (Christian)
  - 05 Easter Sunday (Christian)
  - 06 Public Holiday (Ireland)
  - 07 World Health Day (UN)
- 08 International Romani Day (UN)
  - 21 World Creativity and Innovation Day (UN)
  - 24 International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace (UN)





MAY

2026

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
27	28	29	30	<u>01</u>	02	03
<u>04</u>	05	06	07	08	09	10
11	12	13	14	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	17
18	<u>19</u>	20	<u>21</u>	22	23	<u>24</u>
25	26	<u>27</u>	28	29	30	31

- OBSERVANCES:
- 01

International Labour Day (UN) - Bealtaine (Gaelic)

04

Public Holiday

15

International Day of Families (UN)

16

International Day of Living Together in Peace (UN)

19

World Fair Play Day (UN)

21

World Day of Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development (UN)

24

Pentecost Sunday (Christian)

27

Eid al Adha (Islam)



## REFUGEE WEEK 2025

Release Your  
Inner Artist

PRIZES  
TO BE  
WON!

# COLOURING & Art COMPETITIONS!

June 16<sup>th</sup> - June 22<sup>nd</sup>

4 DIFFERENT COMPETITIONS

Colouring  
Competition  
4-7 years

Art Competitions  
8-12 years  
13-16 years  
16 years - Adults

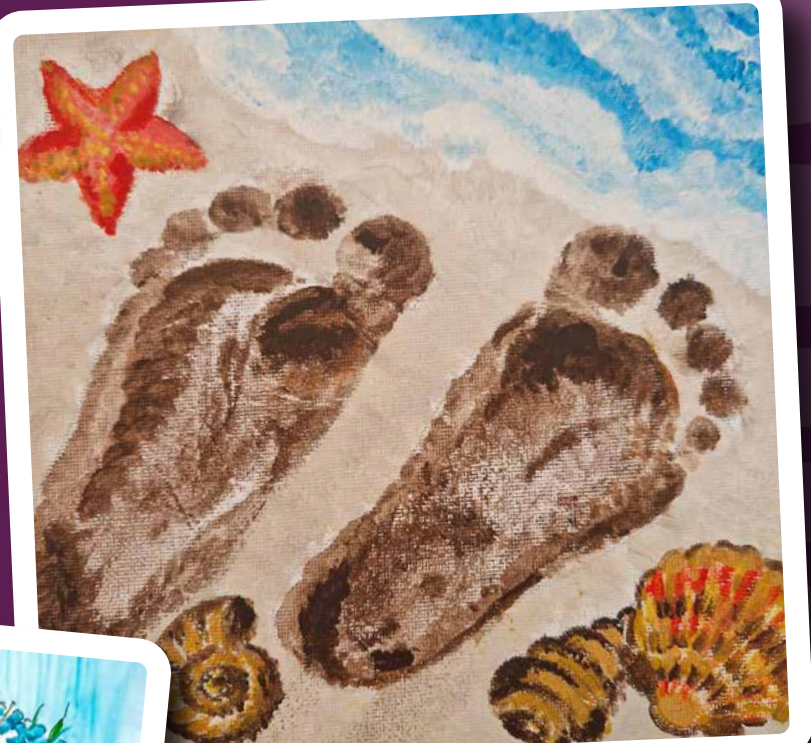
Entry sheets are available at  
the Crosscare offices!

Comhairle Contae  
Fhine Gall  
Fingal County  
Council



FINGAL  
INTEGRATION

crosscare



All people leave their own  
unique mark on the picture of

# JUNE

# 2026

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
<u>01</u>	02	03	04	<u>05</u>	06	07
08	09	10	11	<u>12</u>	13	14
<u>15</u>	16	17	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u>
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	01	02	03	04	05

### OBSERVANCES:

**01** Public Holiday

**05** World Environment Day (UN)

**12** World Day Against Child Labour (UN)

**15** World Elder Abuse Awareness  
Day (UN)

**18** International Day for Countering  
Hate Speech (UN)

**19** International Day for the Elimination  
of Sexual Violence in Conflict (UN)

**20** World Refugee Day (UN)

**21** Father's Day (Ireland)/ Summer Solstice



FINGAL  
INTEGRATION





JULY

2026

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
29	30	01	02	03	04	05
06	07	08	09	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	01	02

- OBSERVANCES:**
- 07 World Kiswahili Language Day (UN)
  - 12 International Day of Hope (UN)
  - 15 World Youth Skills Day (UN)
  - 18 Nelson Mandela International Day (UN)
  - 25 International Day of Women and Girls of African Descent (UN)
  - 30 World Day against Trafficking in Persons (UN)





# AUGUST

# 2026

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
27	28	29	30	31	<u>01</u>	02
<u>03</u>	04	05	06	07	08	09
10	11	<u>12</u>	13	14	<u>15</u>	16
17	18	<u>19</u>	20	21	22	23
<u>24</u>	25	26	27	<u>28</u>	29	30
31	01	02	03	04	05	06

## OBSERVANCES:

- 01 Lughnasadh (Gaelic)
- 03 Public Holiday
- 12 International Youth Day (UN)
- 15 India Day
- 19 World Humanitarian Day (UN)
- 24 Ukraine Day
- 28 Raksha Bandha (Hinduism)
- 30 Krishna Janmashtami (Hinduism)





# SEPTEMBER 2026

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
31	01	02	03	<u>04</u>	05	06
07	<u>08</u>	09	10	11	12	13
<u>14</u>	15	16	17	<u>18</u>	19	20
<u>21</u>	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	<u>30</u>	01	02	03	04

- OBSERVANCES:**
- 04 Krishna Janmashtami (Hindu)
  - 08 International Literacy Day (UN)
  - 14 Ganesh Chaturthi (Hindu)
  - 18 Equal Pay Day (UN)
  - 21 International Day of Peace (UN)
  - 30 International Translation Day (UN)





# OCTOBER

# 2026

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
28	29	30	<u>01</u>	<u>02</u>	03	04
<u>05</u>	06	07	08	09	<u>10</u>	11
12	13	14	15	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	18
19	20	<u>21</u>	22	23	<u>24</u>	25
<u>26</u>	27	28	29	30	<u>31</u>	01

## OBSERVANCES:

**01** International Day of Older Persons (UN)  
**02** International Day of Non-Violence (UN)  
Mahatma Ghandi's birthday  
**05** World Teachers' Day (UN)  
**10** World Mental Health Day (UN)  
**16** World Food Day (UN)  
**17** International Day for the Eradication of Poverty (UN)

**21** Vijaya Dashami (Hinduism)  
**24** United Nations Day (UN)  
**26** Public Holiday (Ireland)  
**31** Hallowe'en (Christian),  
Samhain (Gaelic)



# FINGAL Talks

Conference Room, beside Crosscare offices

10:15am - 11am

WomenUp

11:15am - 12pm

WorkEqual

12:15pm - 1pm

Irish Refugee Council

Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall Fingal County Council

LAIT Forasann Udarás Áitiúil um Inneascadh Local Authority Integration Team

An Roinn Dlí agus Cirt, Georhúil Rialú agus Imirce Department of Justice, Home Affairs and Migration

NOVEMBER

2026

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
26	27	28	29	30	01	02
03	04	05	06	07	08	09
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	01	02	03	04	05	06

- OBSERVANCES:
- 01 All Saints' Day (Christian)

02 All Souls' Day (Christian)

08 Diwali (Hinduism)

16 International Day of Tolerance (UN)

20 World Children's Day (UN)

25 Elimination of Violence against Women (UN)

29 International Day of Solidarity with Palestine People (UN)





# DECEMBER

# 2026

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
30	<u>01</u>	02	<u>03</u>	04	05	06
07	<u>08</u>	<u>09</u>	<u>10</u>	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	<u>18</u>	19	<u>20</u>
21	22	23	<u>24</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>26</u>	27
28	29	30	<u>31</u>	01	02	03

## OBSERVANCES:

- 01 World AIDS Day (UN)
- 03 International Day of Persons with Disabilities UN
- 08 Bodhi Day (Buddhism)
- 09 International Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of the Crime of Genocide and of the Prevention of this Crime (UN)

- 10 Human Rights Day (UN)
- 18 International Migrants Day (UN)
- 20 Gita Jayanti (Hinduism)
- 24 Christmas Eve (Christian)
- 25 Christmas Day (Christian)
- Public Holiday (Ireland)
- 26 St Stephen's Day (Christian)
- Public Holiday (Ireland)
- 31 New Years Eve