

## CHANUKAH

- Starts on the 25<sup>th</sup> day in the Jewish calendar and lasts for 8 days and nights. Usually right before Christmas.

## EID AL-FITR

- Ramadan ends with the Eid al-Fitr festival. It is the festival of breaking fast.

## PASSOVER & EASTER

- Passover starts usually in March or April. Passover begins at sundown the preceding day.
- For the eight days of Passover, Jews observing the holiday **abstain** from eating any foods containing leavening components, such as bread, cake, and donuts. As a substitute, Jews eat unleavened bread called matzo.
- Easter (Western Churches) can be anywhere from March 22 to April 25<sup>th</sup>

## RAMADAN

- Muslims believe that this month is when their god, Allah, first revealed the first verses of the Qur'an. So Muslims fast during the entire month. They are **not allowed to eat or drink anything while the sun shines.**

## CHINESE NEW YEAR

- The longest and most important celebration on the Chinese calendar.
- On the 15<sup>th</sup> day, they celebrate with a lantern festival.
- Many Chinese Americans partake in this holiday.

## ROSH HASHANAH

- Jewish New Year celebrated in September.
- It is a time for personal introspect and prayer, rather than a big party.

## LENT

- Is the 40 day period (6 weeks) between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday in observance of the 40 days Jesus spent fasting.
- Generally is observed by abstinence from certain foods, intensified public prayer, self-examination and self-improvement.

## YOM KIPPUR

- Occurring in October, Yom Kippur is also known as the Day of Atonement.
- Yom Kippur is considered the holiest day of the Jewish year, in which people atone for the sins of the past year.
- It is solemnly observed with ceremonial repentance, **strict fasting and refraining from work for a twenty-four hour period that begins at sundown.**

## KWANZA

- December 26th – January 1<sup>st</sup>
- On December 31st African Americans celebrate “karamu” which is the great feast.