



Interfaith Insider

Welcome to the SAIT Interfaith Centre monthly newsletter. Subscribe [here](#) to meet our team and stay up to date on all that's happening!



April Interfaith Interface topics

- April 1**
"Ramadan for Non-Muslims"
- April 8**
"West Meets East(er)"
- April 15**
CLOSED FOR EASTER
- April 22**
"Prayer and Bending God's Will"

Laylatul Qadr – The Night of Power

While the emphasis of Ramadan is on fasting during daylight hours, it is also about strengthening one's relationship with Allah. Ramadan in its entirety is an especially prominent time in Islam, although, there is one evening that is particularly meaningful, and that evening is Laylatul Qadr.

Laylatul Qadr is known as the Night of Power and is considered to be the Islamic calendar's Holiest eve. During this night, Allah revealed the Holy Qur'an's first verses to the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). This night falls within Ramadan's final 10 days, and although the exact date is unidentified, it is commonly thought of as the Holy month's 27th day.

Laylatul Qadr calls for much reflection and prayer. Whilst fulfilling good deeds and asking for forgiveness, Allah is thought to see and answer ones prayers. On this night, a single act of kindness gives the blessings of 1,000 months. Performing a charitable deed on Laylatul Qadr promises many future rewards.

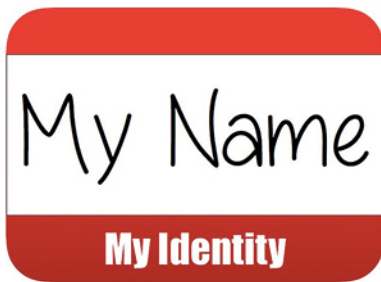
Islam makes certain times and places especially sacred. As we live today in an era of digital distractions and materialistic desires, often acts of worship are squeezed into brief moments in our daily routine.

By far however, there is no day or night that has been emphasized more than the night known as Laylatul Qadr, the most powerful Night of Prayer. In addition to praying for loved ones, Muslims pray for those in less fortunate positions, and do all that they can to help.



Learner
Services

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Chat with a Chaplain

Art Kung,
University Campus Ministries

I remember my first day at school in Canada like it was yesterday. My grade 6 teacher had a rough time pronouncing my name, so she asked if there was any way she could call me by a nickname, or else she would just call me "macaroni" for the rest of the year because "my name was weird." Being the only person of colour in that class, I felt odd as it is, and being called macaroni wouldn't make it any easier when it came to fitting in - so I told her that she can call me "Noor." It was unusual at first to be called a name I've never been called, but I realized that it was a sacrifice I had to make if I wanted to assimilate into the Canadian culture.

Later in the year, we were covering the play Sound of Music, and I vividly remember how no one had trouble saying "supercalifragilisticexpialidocious", yet saying Mahnoor was the equivalent of a tongue twister. Till the first semester of post-secondary, I would introduce myself as Noor, just because it was easier than constantly correcting people. However, I realized that my name is my identity, and if it takes someone years to get my name right, so be it. I will not minimize myself just for the convenience of others, especially when words like "supercalifragilisticexpialidocious" make their way into people's daily vocabulary, yet my name, that is just two syllables sounds like a chore. I am forever thankful for people like Art at the Interfaith Centre that is constantly trying to say my name the right way, because at the end of the day, it's the constant effort that matters the most!

By: Mahnoor Ahsan

Better Than Ice Cream!

Sara McLachlan sings this about someone's love that she's enamoured with. But true love is a difficult thing to fully express. If you've ever witnessed a Christian wedding, you likely have seen 1 Corinthians 13 recited as a witness to, or a call toward, what ideal love would look like in the marriage.

This utilization is sentimentally heart-warming, but the truth is that scripture's command to truly living a life of love ought to be the most important of all practices to all Christians. The passage begins stating that even the most eloquent words spoken, greatest accumulations of knowledge and sacrificial acts of kindness without love equates to nothing. St Paul later goes on to express that all else will eventually fail and cease to exist except for Faith, Hope and Love.

I am a person of deep Faith and I try to live a Hopeful life in trust of God, but the most difficult part of being a follower of Christ, in a contentious world where there is distrust of leaders and anxiousness of an impending WWIII, is to love as Christ loves. "Merciful Lord Jesus, please graciously impart on us Your true love - Let it overflow through us to our desperate world today."



Ramadan is a month long period of sacred, spiritual reflection that involves fasting from food and water as well as actively engaging in social justice and giving to the poor.

Fasting Friend-zy

Stan Grad Centre

April 4 and 5 from 10:00 am to 2pm

In partnership with the Muslim Students Association, we welcome anyone to participate in a day or two of fasting, increased spiritual health and collecting non-perishables for the Calgary Foodbank.

Bring your Foodbank donations to our collection table in the Irene Lewis Atrium, ask questions, and may Ramadan be generous to you!

For more information, contact us at the Interfaith Centre, MB305, Stan Grad Centre

Interfaith Interface every Friday

Interfaith Interface is a safe, inclusive and inspiring activity where students from different spiritual backgrounds and diverse cultures come together to engage in thought-provoking dialogue.

[Click Here](#) to join us for an online dialogue on MS Teams on Fridays at 10:00 am.