

*The Mass Explained: Discovering the
Mystery of Jesus in the Eucharist*

Cycles of Celebration

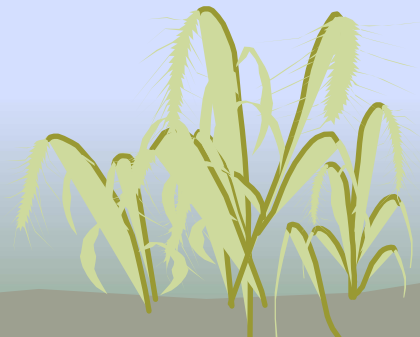
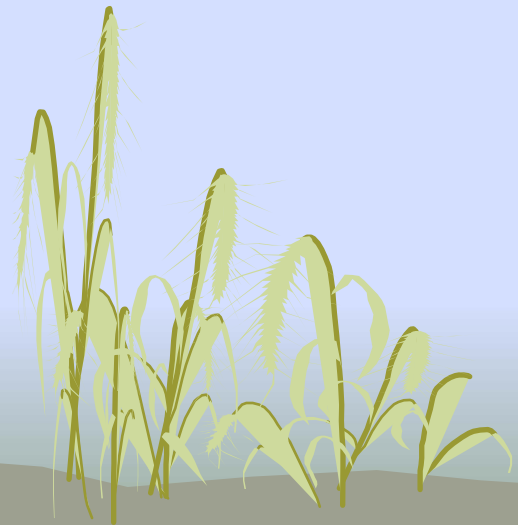




ISIS

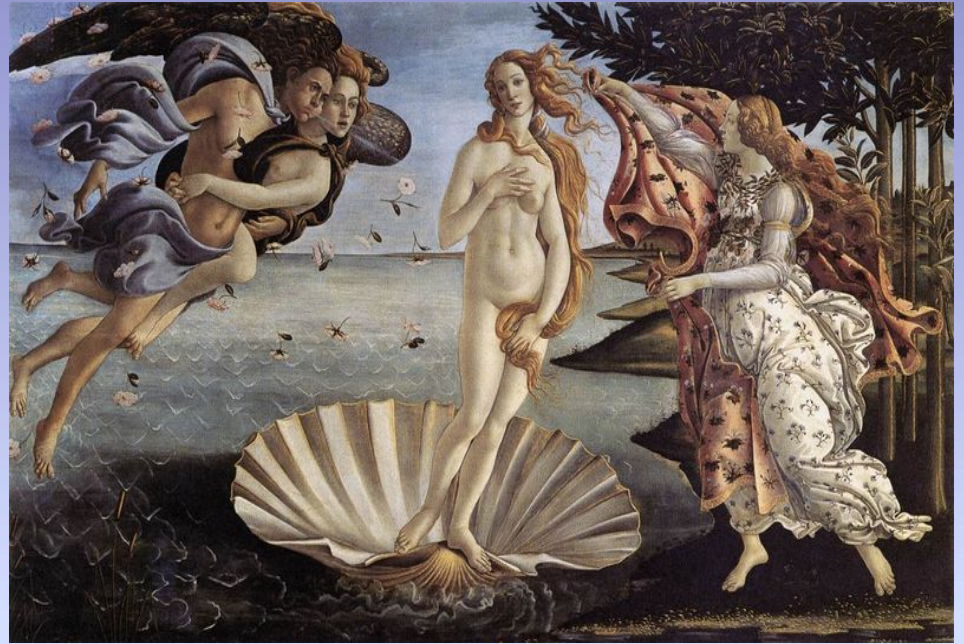


SHAKTI

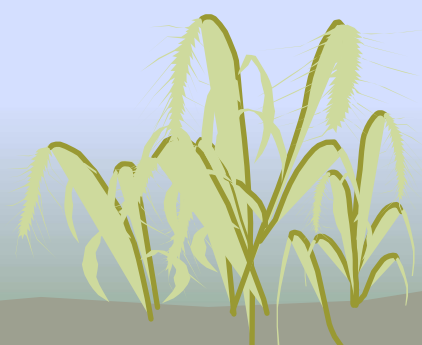




KUAN-YIN

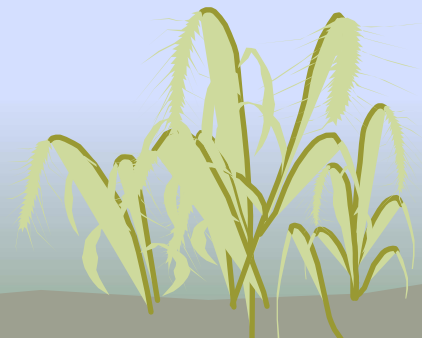
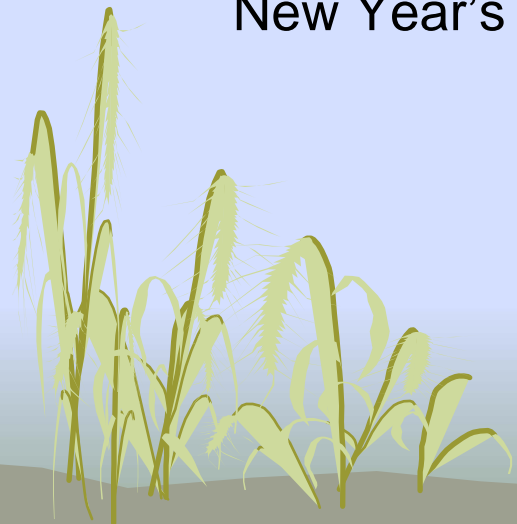


"The Birth of Venus"
(Botticelli)



Days

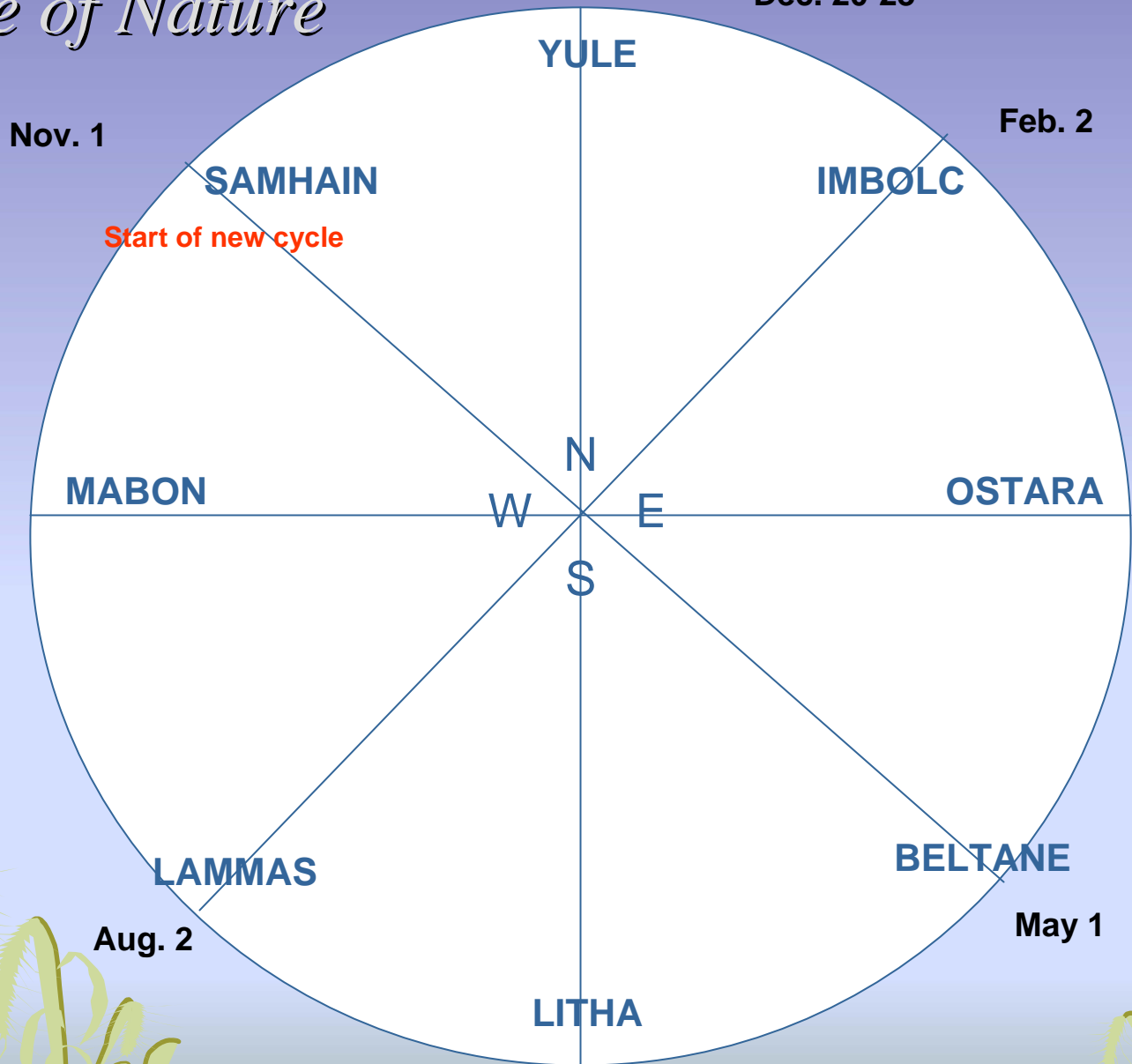
- Traditional term – a days is the 24 hours associated with a calendar date beginning at MIDNIGHT
- Ancient Greece – DAWN until following DAWN
- Egyptian, Jewish, and Roman traditions – SUNSET until following SUNSET
- Most pagan and religious festivals are preceded by an “eve”:
New Year’s Eve, All Hallows’ Eve, Christmas Eve



Cycle of Nature

Winter Solstice

Dec. 20-23



Nov. 1

SAMHAIN

Start of new cycle

Feb. 2

IMBOLC

YULE

N

W

E

S

OSTARA

MABON

Spring Equinox

Mar. 20-23

Autumn Equinox
Sep. 20-23

LAMMAS

Aug. 2

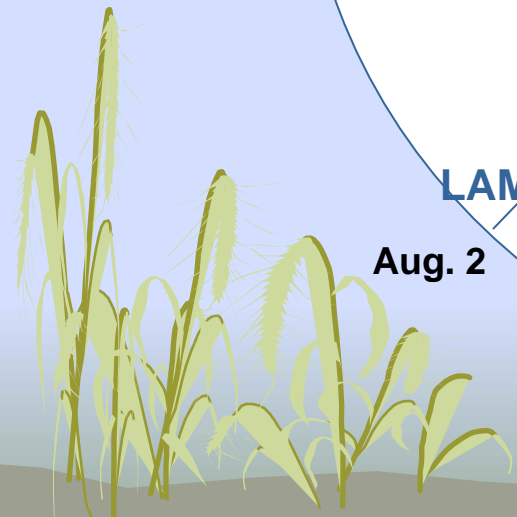
BELTANE

May 1

LITHA

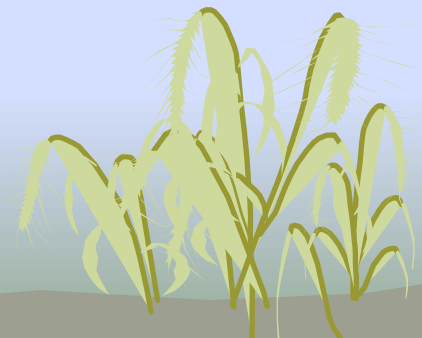
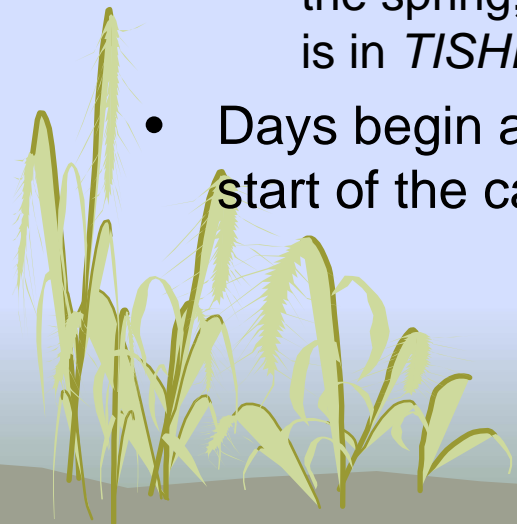
Summer Solstice

Jun. 20-23



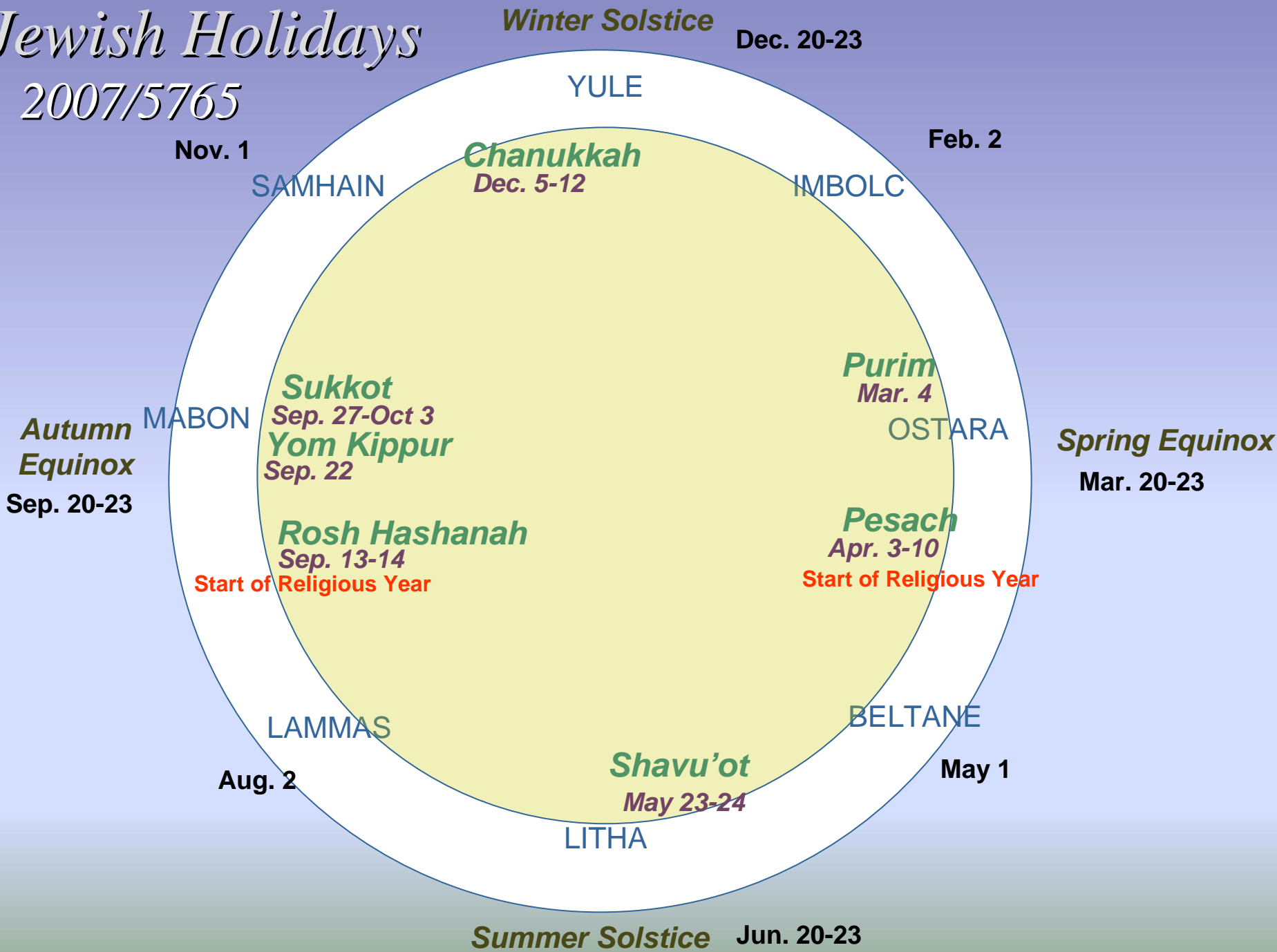
Jewish Calendar

- Jewish holidays actually occur on the same day every year – the same day on the Jewish calendar!
- The Jewish calendar has a different # of days than the Roman calendar because it is tied to the *moon's* cycles instead of the *sun's*.
 - ❖ The Jewish calendar loses about 11 days/year (based on solar calendar)
- The year number on the Jewish calendar represents **the number of years since creation** – we are in the year **5765**.
 - ❖ The "first month" of the Jewish calendar is the month of *NISSAN*, in the spring, when Passover occurs, however, the Jewish New Year is in *TISHRI*, the seventh month.
- Days begin at sunset; holidays begin the evening before the start of the calendar day



Jewish Holidays

2007/5765



Winter Solstice Dec. 20-23

YULE

Feb. 2

IMBOLC

Chanukkah
Dec. 5-12

SAMHAIN

Nov. 1

Purim
Mar. 4

OSTARA

Spring Equinox
Mar. 20-23

Sukkot
Sep. 27-Oct 3
Yom Kippur
Sep. 22

Rosh Hashanah
Sep. 13-14
Start of Religious Year

Pesach
Apr. 3-10
Start of Religious Year

Autumn
Equinox
Sep. 20-23

MABON

Aug. 2

LAMMAS

BELTANE

May 1

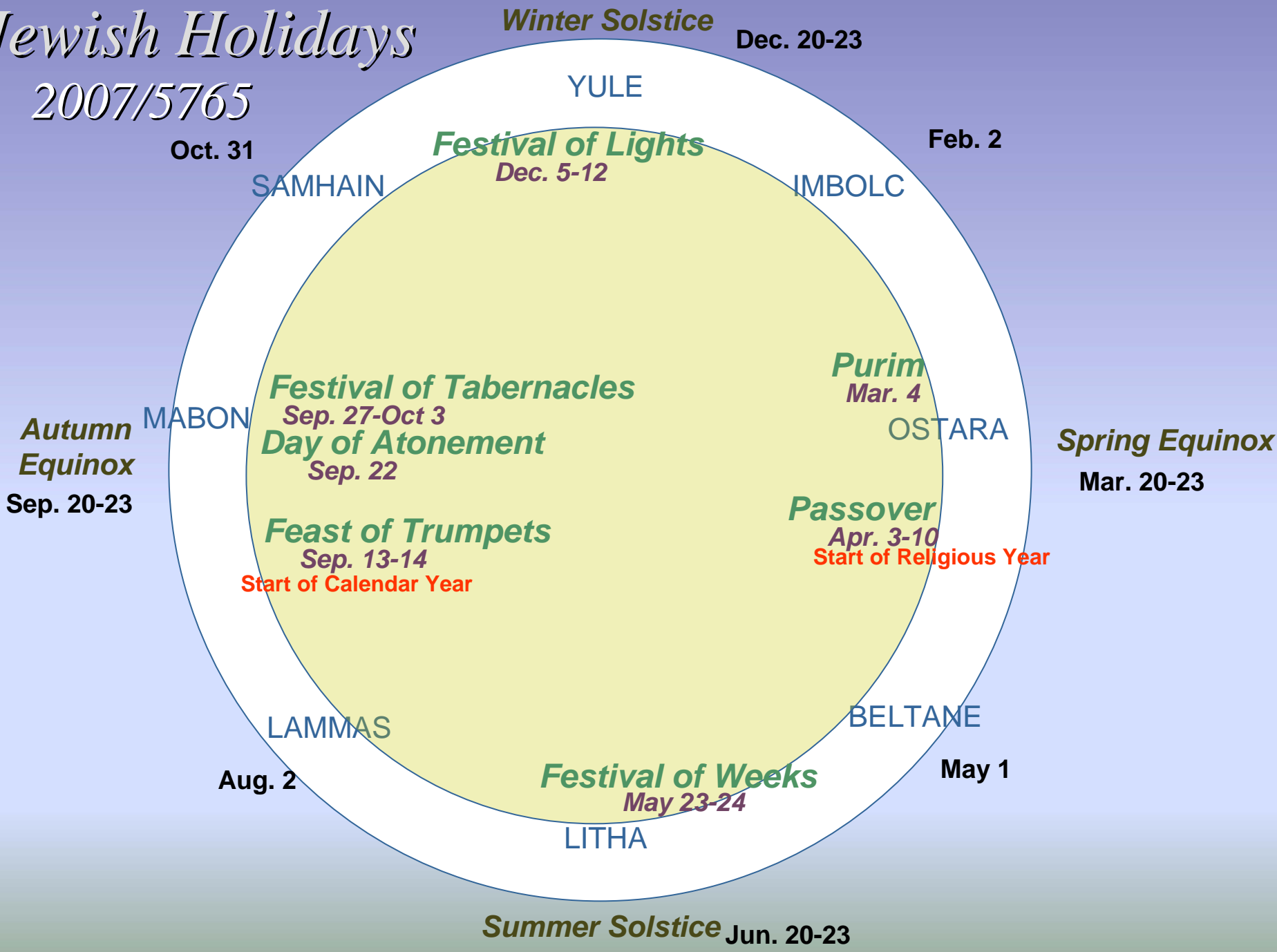
Shavu'ot
May 23-24

LITHA

Summer Solstice Jun. 20-23

Jewish Holidays

2007/5765



Autumn Equinox
Sep. 20-23

Spring Equinox
Mar. 20-23

Oct. 31

Feb. 2

Aug. 2

May 1

Summer Solstice Jun. 20-23

Start of Calendar Year

Start of Religious Year

Reflection/Journal

- Read Deuteronomy 16:1-8

What is the relationship in Israel's historical memory between eating the Passover sacrifice and eating unleavened bread?

- Read Matthew 26:17-30

Why is an understanding of the Jewish Passover so necessary to interpret the meaning of Jesus' Passion?

- Read Leviticus 23:15-22

What fruit of my life do I bring to the altar to express my gratitude to God?

