

# **How to Mark Your Calendar 2019**

**A short guide to planning your year and  
staying aware of what's going on around us.**

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# 2019

## What's on Your Calendar

I am kind of a calendar nut.

I can think of many calendars that I would like to be following. The Mayan Calendar. A Lunar Based Calendar. The Zodiac. The Chinese Calendar. Anything but the Gregorian Calendar.

But changing universal calendars is kind of like trying to plug a hole in Hoover Dam with your finger. For the most part, the World follows the Gregorian Calendar – in all its unnaturalness.

So, each year, around year's end, we go out and buy a new one (or hope to get one during the “Holidays” as a gift).

This Christmas season, did you acquire at least one calendar as a gift (whether it be from a friend, someone in your family, an insurance agent, the neighborhood realtor)? We begin 2019 with some fireworks and a toast and a new calendar. We prepare for another trip around the sun. And we hang up the calendar – taking the place of the 2018 version.

With this short ebook, I plan to answer some questions about the calendars we use to count the passing of time on this Big Blue Marble we call home.

Some of this will be practical knowledge – with advice to help you remember things about your life (birthdays and the like).

Also, there will be valuable and interesting information. It will be the kind of stuff you might find in the Reader's Digest of old or in the Farmer's Almanac (or some odd blog you found on a search engine online).

I will remind you of holidays that are celebrated around the world – many you may not be aware of because of the language you speak or the interest of the news media in other cultures' celebrations.

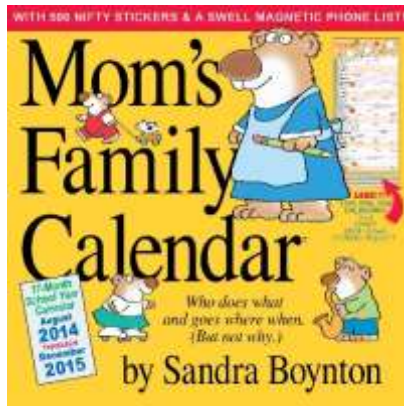
And expect to find much information about more esoteric subjects – astrology, alignments the zodiac and the like.

So, I suggest you keep your new 2019 calendar handy. Prepare yourself for next year and all that it may have to offer.



## Consider for a moment what calendar do you follow now?

Whether you use a Day Timer daily organizer, an At-A-Glance big block with lines calendar, a wall calendar with boxes a pretty picture at the top, or a mousepad with 12 months with numbers so small you need a magnifying glass to see them, we use calendars to tell us many different pieces of information about the passing days.



For my family, I found this “Mom’s Family Calendar” a few years back (hell maybe it was 10 years ago. Time Flies!). Besides being cute, it is wildly useful when you have 10 people in your family with crazy schedules, doctor appointments, school and church meetings, sports and music practices and all the rest of the things that make up your daily

lives. It took a good year to get used to the vertical layout – which is much different than most other standard calendars we were used to. Now that we have used it, I do not think we could live without it.

But I digress. This is our main calendar. We also use 2 page-a-day calendars – with Sudoku and Mensa Mind Puzzles which my wife and I play every day and keep score throughout the year. I rock at the Sudoku while she beats me handily at the crosswords.

I know my Mom used to keep 2 calendars. 1 was posted on the wall by the phone. It was this heinous looking religious calendar she got from Church every year and featured numbers in colorful calligraphy. The other was a pretty picture calendar – usually mountain scenes because I would pick them out. This was the markup calendar with birthdays and appointments.

In the end, they all mark the passage of time. And they follow a similar months and days as are followed by pretty much everyone on earth. I say that with a little bit of authority. When I started this calendar project, I reached out to friends of mine around the globe – especially in countries where I have no experience.

My friend Bridget, who is an American expat living in Kazakhstan, gave me insight on her neck of the world. While she lives in a former Soviet territory, they still operate the same way as the Russians or Soviets have for at least the last 100 years. They follow



the Gregorian Calendar. But, also will pay closer attention to the Eastern Orthodox Holidays. Remember it was Pope Gregory who switched from the Julian (think Julius Caesar) Calendar. The new Calendar corrected an inaccuracy (that worked out to about 11 minutes per year). It also conveniently supported all the Catholic holidays – and left out many of the Orthodox followings.

Bridget pointed me in the direction of two other calendars – One from Israel and another from South Korea. In Israel, they have spent eons following the Hebrew Calendar. However, this is generally transposed over a Gregorian Calendar giving the proper dates for all their observed holidays and sabbaths. Korea, who were a country that took the longest to convert, also use a transposed Gregorian calendar. I also communicated with someone in China and India who indicated the same.

My point at looking into the different countries is that we have so many cultural differences. But we are all still accounting for time pretty much the same way. Remember that each December 31<sup>st</sup>, through the magic of Television you can see the New Year celebrated each hour from Auckland, New Zealand to Honolulu, Hawaii 23 hours later.

Probably the biggest controversy I ran into was with Daylight savings time. It is not really a calendar issue at all. But everyone I talked to in Asia was annoyed about it none the less.

## WHAT ARE THE FEATURES OF THE GREGORIAN CALENDAR?

### 24-7-365

The Gregorian calendar ignores much of the world around us (seasons and the like). But it does provide a specific structure to life that people around the world follow.

**365 days.** This is the generally accepted number of days that it takes our good earth to revolve around the sun. Though it is not exact. This number is:

365.2422 days

Which is the reason it also incorporates a Leap Year – adding one extra day to the calendar every 4 years – creating February 29<sup>th</sup>.



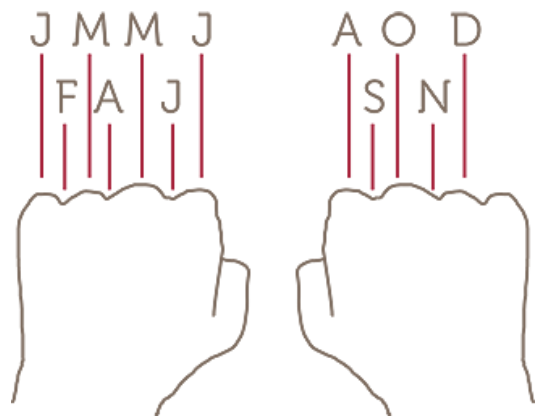
### 12 Months per year

This is where things get wonky, as 12 does not divide into 365 evenly. So, the months do not have the same number of days. Many other calendars also struggle with this issue. Lunar calendars follow the Moon phases – which means they change every 28 or so days. And they do not comfortably fit into a uniform first day of the year.

Remembering the number of days for each month. Often kids are taught the cute memorization poem:

Thirty days hath September, April, June, and November, all the rest have thirty-one. February has twenty-eight, but leap year coming one in four.

I never remembered that. I followed the counting on your knuckles technique. Start with your pinky finger knuckle on your left hand and move from knuckle to valley on your hand. Each knuckle is a 31 month. Each valley 30 (or 28 in the case of February – 29 for a leap year). When you get to the index finger knuckle, jump to your right hand for August on the right index finger with 31.



## **7 Days a Week**

The 7-day week is generally credited to the Babylonians. Natural functions (like Days and Years) could be counted, organizing beyond that become cultural. It can be debated about how they came up with 7. But I like to say it was because it is a lucky number. And after researching it over and over, you can come up with your own conclusion.

The Hebrew Bible designates each of the days of creation – with the 7<sup>th</sup> day being a day of rest. And with that, we have the weekend and Budweiser (wait, that came a few years later). Most of the other religions have similar designations for it – or developed them. And magic, lucky number seven seemed to follow it (except those pesky Mayans who follow their 13-day cycle) but I digress again.

A little basic math makes you realize very quickly that this 7-day concept does not work well with the multiple day month thing or the 365 days a year. A 28-day lunar cycle comes closer – but that falls apart as well because a lunar cycle is closer to 29 and  $\frac{1}{2}$  days, which also does not divide well with 7. So, we accept the imbalance and look forward to the weekends.

## **24 Hour Day**

This is not actually a feature of the calendar. The calendar counts days. It just so happens that the day equals about 24 hours (23 hours, 56 minutes and 4 seconds to be closer to exact). We just average it to the 24 hours to be done with it – and then make it up every 4 years with a leap year. 60 minutes per hour and 60 seconds per minutes completes the basic time cycle. But unless you are using a Day Timer and tracking every hour and every minute of your day, this is not tracked. I would expect that famous people like Steve Jobs (who wore the same Black Turtleneck and Blue Jeans every day to preclude him from taking the extra time to think about what he would be wearing) may go that far, however.

# **Marking Your Calendar Days We Want to Remember**

The main idea of this book was to discuss and help you to mark up your calendar and prepare you for 2019. So now would be a good time to get yours out.

## HOLIDAYS

Most modern calendars in the US list the government accepted holidays. Depending on your calendar, and what list you look at, most of them are here. I added a few that I think are interesting. In general, I would expect your average Lighthouses of the Carolina's calendar will have them.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Holiday</b>	<b>Day of the Week</b>
Jan 1	New Year's Day	Tuesday
Jan 21	Martin Luther King Day	Monday
Feb 14	Valentine's Day	Thursday
Feb 18	Presidents Day Birthday	Monday
Mar 10	Daylight Saving	Sunday
Mar 17	St. Patrick's Day	Sunday
Apr 19	Good Friday	Friday
Apr 21	Easter	Sunday
May 12	Mother's Day	Sunday
May 27	Memorial Day	Monday
Jun 16	Father's Day	Sunday
Jul 4	Independence Day	Thursday
Sep 2	Labor Day	Monday
Oct 31	Halloween	Thursday
Nov 3	Daylight Saving	Sunday
Nov 28	Thanksgiving	Thursday
Dec 25	Christmas Day	Wednesday
Dec 31	New Year's Eve	Tuesday

Now these are a good listing of basic holidays in the USA. Yes, it omits Flag Day and Veterans Day and Columbus Day. But it's a good example of what we follow here in the US.

Unfortunately, our US, egocentric, view of the world leaves out a lot. Consider Boxing Day in Canada and all the other countries where the aristocracy has servants that need time off. And countless Bank Holidays in the realm.

Most countries have their own patriotic Holidays. Chinese New Years is celebrated by over a Billion Chinese people and various other Asian cultures who also follow a lunar calendar.

I remember a few years back when I was embarrassed after contacting a contractor in India on their Cell phone. I had been unable to reach them on day. He had answered



that he was not at work since it was a National Holiday and he was at a celebration. To think that the better part of a billion Indians were celebrating a holiday and there was not a single word about it in our media.

Also, let's not forget religious holidays for Islam, like Ramadan. Or the Jewish High Holidays of Rosh Hoshana and Yom Kippur.

For your calendar's sake, put in the holidays that you want to remember – if they are not already noted. My own interest in the celebrations of the world will be showing on my blog. There is too much out there to celebrate that we are unaware of. For now, start with what you know.

## **BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES AND SPECIAL DATES**

I always mark my own birthday – reason to celebrate myself. It is also significant astrologically, as I like to know when is going on that day and what it might say for the next year. Since you are at it, you might want to add other significant birthdays you will want to remember – family members, friends, clients etc.

I have a big family, so remembering every birthday is important. Kids do not like it when you forget their birthdays. Remember the movie 16 Candles? Our anniversary is similarly important for many reasons. But consider other people who you may want to remember throughout the year. Since you have your calendar out, it may be a good time to jot them all down.

## THE ZODIAC – ASTROLOGICAL SIGNS

The zodiac forms the basis of tracking the Astrological year. For Astrology, the first month is Aries – which begins in March – basically at the Spring Equinox. Each of the signs are where we can find the sun in relation to the background stars at a specific time of the year. Note also that the basis of the different energies associated with each sign originates from the fact that the Earth is in different part of the solar system. And facing or experiencing a different level of energy – gravitationally, magnetically, etc.

So, as I write this on December 18, the Sun is in Sagittarius from the Earth's perspective. Conversely, the Earth is in Gemini. By December 31, The Sun will be in Capricorn and the Earth in Cancer. (All of you Flat Earther's can decide what all this does for your world view).

Sign	Sun Enters	End	Element
Aries	Mar 21	Apr 20	Fire
Taurus	Apr 21	May 20	Earth
Gemini	May 21	Jun 21	Air
Cancer	Jun 21	Jul 23	Water
Leo	Jul 23	Aug 23	Fire
Virgo	Aug 24	Sep 22	Earth
Libra	Sep 23	Oct 23	Air
Scorpio	Oct 24	Nov 22	Water
Sagittarius	Nov 23	Dec 22	Fire
Capricorn	Dec 22	Jan 20	Earth
Aquarius	Jan 21	Feb 18	Air
Pisces	Feb 19	Mar 20	Water



Many calendars show the signs and dates of the Zodiac. For those calendars that do not, here is your chance to update it.

As you see in the chart above, the zodiac does not start on January first. It begins at the Spring Equinox – on or about April 21. This is the time that the Sun enters the sign of Aries from the perspective of Earth.

Looking at the chart, it shows that we begin the Gregorian year when the Sun is in Capricorn – and Earth in Cancer. So, for your Calendar, it would be good to somehow note this. My preference is to have 4 Colored Sharpie markers – 1 for Each Element:

Fire-Red

Earth-Green

Air-Black

Water-Blue

JANUARY 2019						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	1	2 Capricorn (Sun 1 - Jan 20)	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
20 Aquarius (Sun 21 - Feb 18)	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Then, beginning at each date, Draw a line across the top of each day within that sign. For January, beginning at the 1<sup>st</sup>, Draw a green line through the 19<sup>th</sup>. Then continue in Black through the end of the month. Add a label if it helps you to remember.

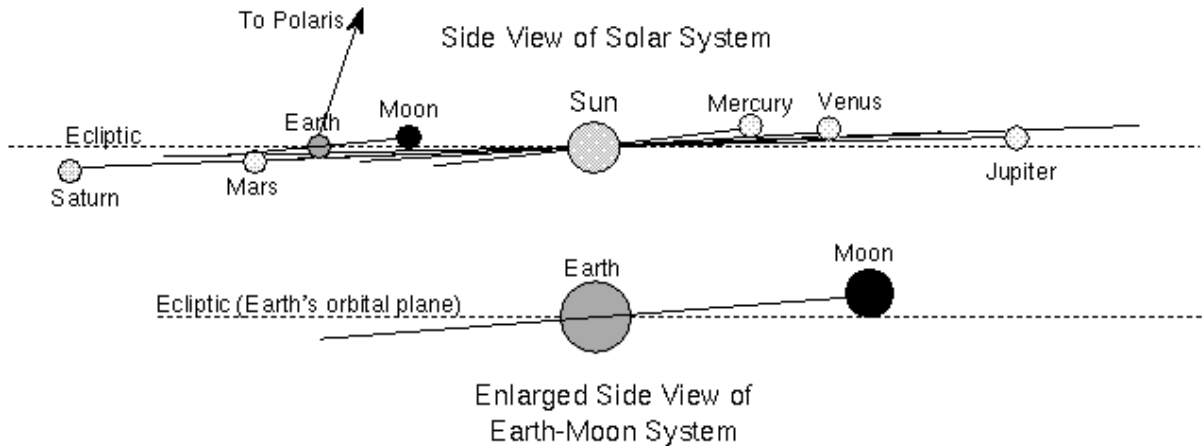
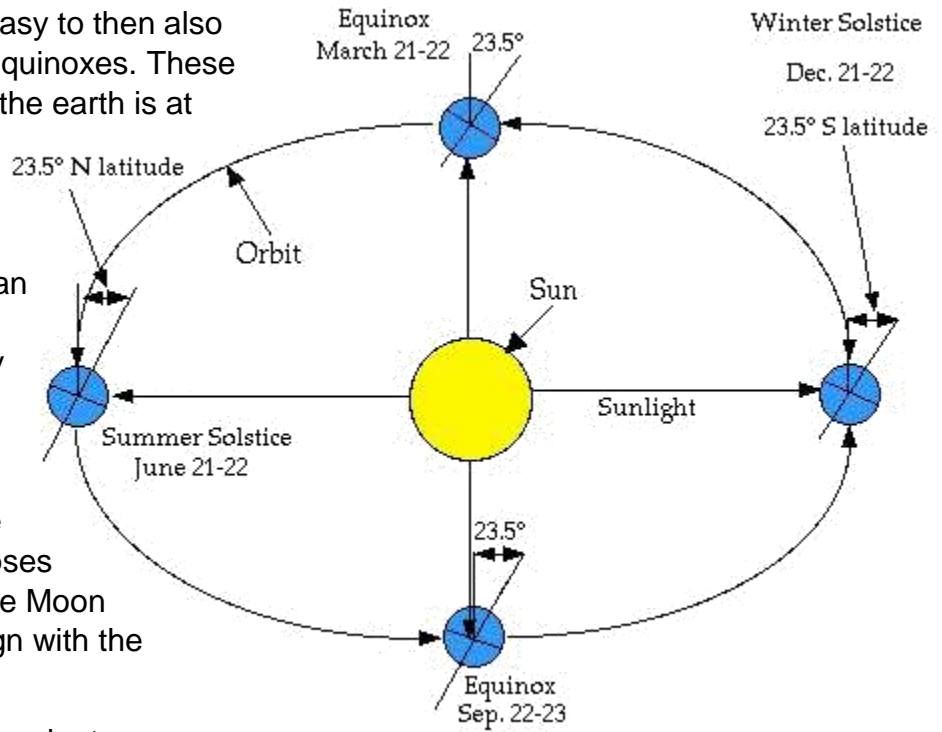
Most people are aware of what sign they are born under. It is the basic level of Astrology that the mainstream follows. It allows you to look at your horoscope in the newspaper and possibly tell you about what is happening that day.

## THE SEASONS, SOLSTICES AND EQUINOXES

Having marked the Zodiac, it is easy to then also make note of the Solstices and Equinoxes. These are the 4 times of the year when the earth is at cardinal points in its trip around the sun.

The orbit of the earth is not completely circular. It is more of an ellipse – and slightly off center. Also, the earth orbits on a slightly different plane than the sun. The earth crosses the solar plane 2 times per year at the Spring and Fall Equinox's. At these times we have the potential of seeing Eclipses of the Sun or the Moon - when the Moon is at New or Full phase – and align with the sun.

More about the Lunar phases in a minute.



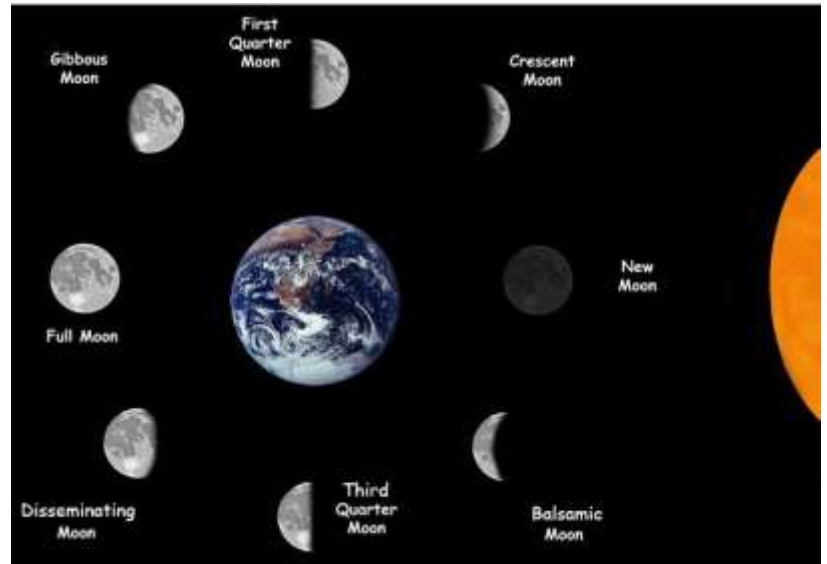
## THE LUNAR PHASES

I have found many calendars that show basic Lunar phases (usually Full Moon and New Moon). But little else.

A couple years ago I began paying attention to each of the lunar phases and paying attention to how I felt. I had been following this through Oracle Report for years. Until I began tracking them personally, it was pretty hit and miss. I would notice at the New Moon and try to keep track. But often lost focus and interest.

When I started watching the dates and the changes, all became different. Paying attention to the energy helped it to make sense.

Each phase carries with it a specific energy, noted here.



## MOON PHASE KEYWORDS

NEW	begin, initiate, wish, project, set an intention
CRESCENT	challenge, growth, struggle, expansion, gathering
FIRST QUARTER	step out, take action, breaking away, expression
GIBBOUS	trust, analyze, prepare, digest, alchemy
FULL	illumination, realization, fulfillment, shadow, relationships, experience
DISSEMINATING	share, demonstrate, teach, learn, feed-back, distribution
THIRD QUARTER	realign, revise, reorient, surrender, complete
BALSAMIC	release, transform, healing, forgiveness, prepare for the new

For your calendar purposes, start by noting the 4 quarter phases: New Moon, First Quarter, Full Moon and Third Quarter. How you mark these is up to you. I prefer to circle the day and add a large label

New Moon		First Quarter		Full Moon		Third Quarter	
1/5	8:28 PM	1/14	1:45 AM	1/21	12:16 AM	1/27	4:10 PM
2/4	4:03 PM	2/12	5:26 PM	2/19	10:53 AM	2/26	6:27 AM
3/6	11:03 AM	3/14	6:27 AM	3/20	9:42 PM	3/28	12:09 AM
4/5	4:50 AM	4/12	3:05 PM	4/19	7:12 AM	4/26	6:18 PM
5/4	6:45 PM	5/11	9:12 PM	5/18	5:11 PM	5/26	12:33 PM
6/3	6:01 AM	6/10	1:59 AM	6/17	4:30 AM	6/25	5:46 AM
7/2	3:16 PM	7/9	6:54 AM	7/16	5:38 PM	7/24	9:18 PM
7/31	11:11 PM	8/7	1:30 PM	8/15	8:29 AM	8/23	10:56 AM
8/30	6:37 AM	9/5	11:10 PM	9/14	12:32 AM	9/21	10:40 PM
9/28	2:26 PM	10/5	12:47 PM	10/13	5:07 PM	10/21	8:39 AM
10/27	11:38 PM	11/4	5:23 AM	11/12	8:34 AM	11/19	4:10 PM
11/26	10:05 AM	12/4	1:58 AM	12/12	12:12 AM	12/18	11:57 PM
12/26	12:13 AM						

Note that the times given for each of these dates are for US Eastern Standard time. As for the 1/8 phases (Crescent, Gibbous, Disseminating and Balsamic) you can figure them in between the dates given and mark them as you wish.

## **RETROGRADES**

It will be a rare calendar indeed that notes the retrogrades. I have yet to find one. So, I will note a few of them here so that you will be prepared for them. All planets will retrograde at different times. By this it means that they will appear to move backwards in the sky from where they appeared. It is caused when two planets come into alignment with each other – over the course of days or weeks. Visually in the night sky, instead of progressing forward day after day, the planet reverses and moves backwards in the sky.

Astrologically at these times, the energy of these aspects is intensified. I like to think of it in terms of archery. Think about when you nock an

arrow and pull it back. The bow and the bow string are intensified or stretched. They are awaiting the time when the arrow is released.

### **MERCURY** – Misunderstandings, communications and transportation

I have found Mercury Retrograde to affect me intensely. Part of this is my own chart and the strong aspects that I have. But since they happen usually about 3 times per year, its effects are felt more often than other planets. This is due to Mercury being the closest planet to the sun with the fastest orbit.

We just completed a Mercury Retrograde in November, so we have a couple months before it hits again. And it will end just prior to the ushering in of the new Astrological New Year on April 5<sup>th</sup> – with the New Moon in Aries.

March 5 – 28, 2019 Pisces

July 7 – 31, 2019 Cancer and Leo

October 31 – November 20, 2019 in Scorpio

**VENUS** - 2019, we are in luck. Venus will be direct the entire year. It will not retrograde again until May 2020. If you follow the Oracle Report, much was said about the last Venus retrograde, which took place for about 40 days in October and November. Venus Retrograde affects love, relationships and our core values. During this time, things can happen to revise and realign these.

**MARS** – will also not retrograde within 2019

**JUPITER** – Vision, ideals and belief systems

April 10 – August 11



**SATURN** – Long term goals, responsibility and how we relate to authority

April 30 – September 18

**URANUS** – Inner Freedom or freedom in general

January 1 – January 6

August 12 – January 1

**NEPTUNE** – Spirituality, Inner Tranquility and vision

June 21 – November 27

**PLUTO** – Change and transformation

April 24 – October 3

## Black Moon Days

In astrology, the Black Moon is the point in the chart that identifies the shadow side and thus the primary fear. There are twelve primary fears, one for the Black Moon in each sign:

ARIES – fear of unworthiness  
TAURUS – fear of scarcity  
GEMINI – fear of rejection  
CANCER – fear of abandonment  
LEO – fear of change  
VIRGO – fear of failure  
LIBRA – fear of loneliness  
SCORPIO – fear of loss  
SAGITTARIUS – fear of meaninglessness  
CAPRICORN – fear of neglect  
AQUARIUS – fear of powerlessness  
PISCES – fear of vulnerability/harm

Each time the Moon is either in conjunction or opposition to the Black Moon, these shadow sides are triggered. So, it is good to make note of these dates and be aware of the energy. It is especially significant when other planets are involved in these conjunctions.

### BLACK MOON DAYS 2019

JAN	7-9	JUL	4-6
JAN	20-22	JUL	17-20
FEB	3-5	JUL-AUG	31-2
FEB	17-19	AUG	14-16
MAR	2-5	AUG	28-30
MAR	17-19	SEP	10-13
MAR	29-31	SEP	25-17
APR	13-15	OCT	8-10
APR	26-28	OCT	22-24
MAY	10-12	NOV	4-7
MAY	23-26	NOV	19-21
JUN	7-9	DEC	2-5
JUN	20-22	DEC	16-18
		DEC-JAN	30-1

## **SPECIAL ASTROLOGICAL ALIGNMENTS THAT AFFECT YOU**

Knowing the dates when some of our natal planets are activated enables us to plan and work with the energy, instead of the energy working us. Since this Fall, we have been offering this service on OracleReport.com. These alignments present an energetic to you personally that you should be aware of. Could they be bad days? Good Days? Extra Challenging? It is information you want to know and be aware of – and then mark on your calendar to prepare for.

<http://www.oraclereport.com/charts-ii>

### **BLACK MOON**

On the days of the year that your natal Black Moon is activated, typically one can expect: lower energy levels, heightened anger/depression, impulsivity, speaking harshly before thinking, extreme intolerance of injustice, negative thinking/mind loops, and projecting one's own feelings on to others. The core fear of the shadow side comes to the surface.

To identify your natal Black Moon (core fear) and for more information, see the Appendix of *The Black Moon: Guide to Healing the Shadow Side* by Laura Walker at [www.oraclereport.com/books](http://www.oraclereport.com/books).

### **VENUS**

On the days of the year that your Venus is activated, typically one can expect to be more concerned about: a romantic relationship or the lack thereof, appearance, the desire for security, creature comforts, increased appetite, self-esteem, sexuality, finances, and aging. These days can also be highly creative. It is important to think twice about major decisions on these days, as we may not be seeing situations accurately.

### **SATURN**

On the days of the year that your Saturn is activated, typically one can expect: hyper criticism of self and others, feelings of failing in one's responsibilities, potential health concerns, feeling that one does not "measure up," issues with one's work, heightened control issues (trying to control the uncontrollable through organizing and ordering), feeling burdened, and feeling judged. The "Critical Inner Parent" goes into overdrive and we exaggerate our "faults." It is important to take personal responsibility on these days, but it is just as important to give oneself a break.

You can order a report of these dates on OracleReport.com:

<http://www.oraclereport.com/charts-ii>

## **GOING FORWARD – 2019 OR BUST!**

Now that you have some basic information marked that will be going on in the next few months, consider what you may want to do with it. Will you be paying attention?

For my part, this is the beginning. I wanted to get this list out there to have people starting to pay attention to the passage of time. And more specifically to some of the more natural cycles.

The Gregorian calendar marks the passage of time – in days, weeks and months. Somewhere in there, we find spring and summer. We find holidays based on the moon's phases during a specific season. We discover planting cycles.

Starting the first, I will be marking the passage of time and events on a calendar. I will be writing them on my blog – at [Astrogardens.com](http://Astrogardens.com) – as daily as possible. And I invite you all to be a part of it.