## Appendix 'A' Comparative Calendar of Catholic and Judaic Feasts $^{33}$

| CATHOLIC  | DATES                         | JUDAIC  | JEWISH<br>MONTHS              |
|---|-------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| ADVENT * Preparation period for Christmas, begins 4 weeks before Christmas Eve                                | November                      |   | Heshvan                       |
| CHRISTMAS Celebrates the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. "I am the light of the world."                       | December 25                   | <b>FEAST OF LIGHTS HANUKKAH</b> Dedication of the temple Joyful 8 days feast                  | Kislev                        |
| Octave / 8 days of Christmas  | ,                             |   | Tebeth                        |
| PRESENTATION 40 days after Jesus' birth   | February 2                    |   | Shebat                        |
| Judaic tradition  LENT *  Period of atonement, begins 40 days before Easter,                                  | March 14-15                   | FEAST OF PURIM Celebrates God's victory over the Haman's plot to destroy the Jews             | Adar                          |
| ends on Holy Thursday <sup>33a</sup> EASTER * Celebrates the Resurrection                                     | April 14<br>15<br>21          | PASSOVER<br>Unleavened Bread<br>Closing Passover  | Nisan                         |
| of our Lord Jesus Christ  | May                           |   | Iyyar                         |
| PENTECOST * Celebrates the sending of the Holy Spirit and the foundation of the Church (50 days after Easter) | June 6  July August September | Feast of Pentecost Celebrates Moses receiving the Law on Mount Sinai (50 days after Passover) | Sivan<br>Tammuz<br>Ab<br>Elul |
|   | October 1-2                   | Feast of Trumpets<br>Begins the civil year  | Tishri                        |
| NOTE: * flexible feasts dates   | 10                            | Day of Atonement<br>YOM KIPPUR  |                               |
|   | 15-21                         | Feast of Tabernacles<br>Memorial for Israelites<br>wandering in the desert <sup>34</sup>      |                               |
| The Day of the Lord   | Sunday                        | Sabbath   | Saturday                      |

<sup>33.</sup> The origins of these Judaic feasts are found in *Leviticus* 23, except for the feasts of Purim (*Esther* 9) and *Hanukkah* (*1Macc* 4).

34. Tabernacles: syn. Booths or Tents. The forefathers lived in tents while in the desert.

<sup>33</sup>a. The Holy Week: *Holy Thursday eve*, celebration of the Institution of the Eucharist and Holy Orders. *Good Friday*, celebration of the Passion and Death of our Lord. *Holy Saturday* (day), Mass is not celebrated, communion is distributed from the reserve. The Church awaits Her Lord in front of opened and empty tabernacles. *Holy Saturday* (night) Easter Vigil; liturgy of the light, and Baptism of new members of the Church.