



Times of Services 2017

Friday 20 January
Shabbat begins: 4.13 pm
Mincha/
Kabbalat Shabbat: 4.15 pm

Shabbat 21 January
Shabbat Mevorachim
Shacharit: 9.30 am
Haftorah: Jo Glass
Mincha after Kiddush
Shabbat ends: 5.22 pm

Sunday 22 January
Shacharit: 8.40 am

Friday 27 January
Shabbat begins: 4.26 pm
Mincha/
Kabbalat Shabbat: 4.30 pm

Reading the Haftarah

If you would like to read Haftarah to mark a special event or just to make your personal contribution to the service, please contact Brian Robinson, who will be delighted to help with any preparation or revision.

Sponsoring an Event



If you are celebrating a Simcha commemorating a family Yahrzeit, or just feeling generous, please consider sponsoring a Shabbat morning Kiddush, Seudah or Sunday morning breakfast. Contact Joan Michaels: 020 8579 4261.

AJR—Meets the 1st Tuesday in every month at 2.00 pm. Contact Leslie Sommer: 020 8993 7574.

Israeli Dancing!



Tuesday evenings, 8.00 pm at Ealing United Synagogue, Grange Road.
Sunday mornings, 10.30 am at Ealing Liberal Synagogue, Lynton Avenue. All welcome. Nominal charge of £1.00.

In the event of a bereavement, in the first instance please contact the Burial Office : 020 8950 7767.
Rabbi Hershi Vogel: 07970 829758
Brian Robinson: 020 8567 6558

Ealing Synagogue

שבת שלום

Friday 20 January 2017/Shabbat 23 Tevet 5777
Sidra: Shemot



MAZAL TOV

To **David and Eira Ruben** on the birth of a new granddaughter, **Amalia Libby**, in Israel. Mazal Tov is extended to parents **Adam and Sophie Silverstein** and all the family. Wishing everyone much nachat and joy from the new addition.

FRIDAY 27 JANUARY HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

The Mayor of Ealing, Councillor Dr. Patricia Walker, invites the Ealing community to Ealing Town Hall to mark Holocaust Memorial Day on Friday 27 January at 10.00am. The event will take place in the Nelson Room in Ealing Town Hall.

If you would like to attend, please RSVP by telephone: 0208 825 8630 or by email: mayor@ealing.gov.uk.

SHABBAT 28 JANUARY ROSH CHODESH SHEVAT BIRTHDAY KIDDUSH

Ray and Marianne Temple have pleasure in inviting the Ealing community to Kiddush to celebrate **Ray's 70th birthday**. Please join us in wishing Ray many happy returns.

HELP THE HOMELESS

During January, Ealing Green Church's Night Shelter is offering overnight care for the homeless. They are requesting donations of gloves, socks, woolly hats, scarves and toiletries. If you are able to help, please bring items to Ealing Synagogue on Tuesdays or Thursdays. Your support is appreciated.

Ealing Synagogue,
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Reg. Charity No. 242552
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Ealing Synagogue Website: www.ealingsynagogue.org.uk

Snapshot Torah



GUIDE TO THE WEEKLY PARSHA

FOURTH EDITION / ISSUE 13

21st January 2017

SHEMOT

23rd Tevet 5777

Kohen - First Aliya:

Chapter 1, verses 1 - 17

- ✦ A new Pharaoh is now in command and fearing that Jewish nation might one day decide to rise up against him; enslaved and set them to work to build two cities for him, Pithom and Ramses.
- ✦ Realising, the more he oppressed them, the more the Jewish population multiplied. Pharaoh sent for two Jewish midwives Shifra and Puah demanding them to kill all the male new-borns they delivered.

Levi - Second Aliya:

Chapter 1, verse 18 – Chapter 2, verse 10

- ✦ Shifra and Puah were fearful of Hashem, so they refused to do Pharaoh's bidding Pharaoh, therefore made a decree that any son that is born will be thrown into the river Nile but the daughters can live.
- ✦ Shifra gives birth to a baby boy and manages to keep it hidden for three months. Afraid of him being found she concealed the child inside a small casket and places it in some reeds along the bank of the river and got the baby's Sister Miriam to keep watch.
- ✦ Pharaoh's daughter, who came down to the river to bathe, happened to find the child and took pity on it. She decides to keep him for herself. She asks Miriam to find someone to nurse the child, so Miriam ran home and fetched her mother. Pharaoh's daughter then named the boy Moshe (Moses) because he was drawn out of the water.

Sh'lishi - Third Aliya:

Chapter 2, verses 11 - 25

- ✦ Moshe, now grown up, takes a walk and sees an Egyptian beating a Jew. Moshe kills the Egyptian and buries him in the sand. The next day, Moshe tries to break up a fight between two Jews and quickly realises that the Egyptian's murder had become common knowledge, leaving him no choice but to flee to the land of Midian.
- ✦ Moshe assists the daughters of a Midian priest (Yisro), who were being prevented by other shepherds to fetch water from a well to feed their flocks. Moshe takes dwelling in Yisro's home and later marries one of his daughter's (Zipporah). She conceives and gives birth to a son whom they call Gershom.

R'VI' - Fourth Aliya:

Chapter 3, verses 1 - 15

- ✦ While out one day shepherding Yisro's sheep, Moshe came across a strange sight. A bush was ablaze but none of the branches were being consumed by the flames. Approaching the bush Moshe is halted by Hashem who tells him to remove his shoes as he is standing on sanctified ground.
- ✦ Hashem reveals to Moshe that he has heard the plight of B'nai Yisrael back in Mitzraim and has decided the time has now arrived with Moshe's help, to liberate and deliver them to a land flowing with milk and honey.

Chamishi - Fifth Aliya:

Chapter 3, verse 16 - Chapter 4, verse 17

- ✦ Hashem tells Moshe to return back to Mitzraim and convince the Jewish elders to come with him to Pharaoh for permission to leave Mitzraim for three days only, and if he refuses relay the message that Hashem will punish him with many plagues until he concedes.
- ✦ Moshe argues that no-one would ever listen to him, so Hashem shows Moshe two signs that will prove he is Hashem's messenger and tells him that Aron (Aaron) his brother will be Moshe's spoke person.

Shishi - Sixth Aliya:

Chapter 4, verses 18 - 31

- ✦ Moshe returns to Yisro, picks up his family and departs back to Mitzraim. On the way Hashem chastises Moshe for not circumcising his so Zipporah gives Gershom a bris and Moshe is saved.
- ✦ After being commanded by Hashem, Aron goes into the desert to greet his brother,

Sh'vi'i - Seventh Aliya:

Chapter 5, verse 1 - Chapter 6, verse 1

- ✦ Using the signs that Hashem had given them Aron and Moshe convinced the Jewish people that Hashem will soon release them from his bondage. Moshe and Aron then went to Pharaoh with Hashem's request but Pharaoh refused to listen and in anger, increased the hard labour further to make the Jewish people suffer even more.
- ✦ Moshe and Aron are blamed for their new hardships but Hashem comforts them as they will soon see how Hashem himself will liberate his people and take them out.

Haftorah-

YISHAYAH (ISAIAH) Chapter 27 verse 6 to Chapter 28 verse 13 and Chapter 29, verses 22 & 23

OVERVIEW:

- ✦ Due to the Jewish nation's spiritual and moral decline, Yishayah forewarns the people of their eventual destruction beginning, with the exile of the ten tribes of Israel.
- ✦ Yishayah reassures them however, that in the end, our essence, the "root" of Yaakov, will survive and flourish, as it had throughout our history.

SNAPSHOT GUIDE THROUGH THE SIDDER: Pesukei D'Zimrah - Yehi Chavod Hashem

- ✦ The prayer Yehi Chavod (May the glory of Hashem ...) is collectively a number of verses taken from various Tehilim 146 – 150 and should be recited with extra special intensity.
- ✦ This entire prayer reflects the state in which we are all striving the world as we know to become in the future; with the arrival of the messianic era.
- ✦ Hashem's ultimate plan for us since our conception would have been visualized with the whole world standing to attention, acknowledging that Hashem is our one supreme ruler and that we can all live united in recognizable peace, serving him in the newly reconstructed third Beis Hamigdosh.

WEEKLY DISCUSSION:

I can honestly and definitively say I don't understand fully how Hashem works and functions within the framework of our world, but after reading the beginning of this week's sedra, even though he's not mentioned, I could obviously see that Hashem was somehow at work behind the scene, preparing the way for our ancestor's salvation. With help from three inspirational women.

Pharaoh, has just decreed that all new-born Hebrew baby boys were to be thrown into the Nile to die and had empowered every Egyptian, to carry out his command. Into this horror a certain mother Yocheved gave birth to a son. She somehow managed to hide him for three months until she realized that it wouldn't be safe to keep him much longer. Absolutely resolute that her son would live. Yocheved cleverly did the unthinkable. She placed her son in the one place where no one would ever think to look for a child; in the very same river that was supposed to be her son's grave: The Nile!

I don't know how much time passed, but there soon came a frightening day. It appeared that Yocheved's determination would not be enough to save her beloved son. Pharaoh's daughter had come to the Nile to bathe. She noticed a basket tangled in the reeds and sent her servant to retrieve it. The baby's sister Miriam who was concealed nearby, dutifully guarding the baby, watched with horror as her brother was carried towards Pharaoh's daughter. To Pharaoh's daughter surprise, upon opening the casket and seeing a baby lying there. Her heart went out to the child. But her head told her that this was obviously born to a Hebrew trying to evade its certain death. Pharaoh's daughter was now faced with an agonising decision. Should she follow her compassionate motherly instincts and save the boy, or obey and carry out her ruthless father's orders and empty the contents of basket into the Nile?

The baby's sister, Miriam witnessing the indecision, jumped out from where she was hiding, boldly risked her own life and approached Pharaoh's daughter daring to offer up a solution: Compassion won out and before the day was out. Pharaoh's daughter was now actually paying the baby boy's birth mother to nurse and care for him. Imagine your son not only being saved, but now you are being paid, out of Pharaoh's own pocket, to mother him. If this isn't divine intervention, then nothing is.

We all know what became of that child, he grew up to be Moshe, the greatest leader and prophet who ever lived. He led Bnai Israel out of Mitzraim, from under the bondage of Egyptian slavery, reignited our Jewish identity and taught us all Hashem's Torah which was handed down to us at Mount Sinai.

The start of the book of Shemot and Moshe's birth may seem to be told in very low-key terms. There are not yet astounding miracles to wow us. Those will come later. Yet the message here is that Hashem sometimes works behind the scenes in the shrewd actions of determined mothers, in the love of daring and quick thinking sisters, and in the compassion and persuasive power of a tyrant's daughter! Before the amazing miracles there is simply the faithfulness of ordinary people who live their lives selflessly. Totally devoted to Hashem

.For me, this is why the story of Moshe's birth is so important. A boy was not merely spared, but a whole nation. The salvation of Moshe was the salvation of all Klal Yisrael. Not only did Moses owe his life to these three remarkable women, but we, even today owe our liberation to them as well.

שבת שלום
Shabbat Shalom!

Compiled, Designed & Written by Jeremy Symons