



Times of Services 2015

Friday 11 December
Shabbat begins: 3.36 pm
Chanukah candle lighting,
Mincha/
Kabbalat Shabbat: 3.30 pm

Shabbat 12 December
Shacharit: 9.30 am
Haftorah: **Ben Kosky**
Mincha: After Kiddush
Shabbat ends: 4.45 pm

Sunday 13 December
Rosh Chodesh Tevet
Shacharit: 8.15 am

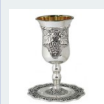
Friday 18 December
Shabbat begins: 3.37 pm
Mincha/
Kabbalat Shabbat: 3.45 pm

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 or commemorating a family Yahrzeit, or if you are 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!



Every Tuesday evening at 8.00 pm at Ealing Synagogue. All welcome. No charge.

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
Neil Shestopal: 020 8579 5099

Ealing Synagogue Newsletter



שבת שלום

Friday 11 December 2015/Shabbat 30 Kislev 5776
Shabbat Chanukah and Rosh Chodesh
Sidra: **Mikketz**

MAZAL TOV TO

Guy Orndel on his engagement to **Miranda Friend**. The Ealing community extends a hearty Mazal Tov to their respective families and wish them only much happiness in their future together.

SHABBAT 19 DECEMBER SPECIAL BIRTHDAY KIDDUSH

Judith and Brian Robinson together with Alan Sierota have pleasure in inviting the Ealing community to their special joint Birthday Kiddush in honour of Brian's 80th birthday and Alan's 65th birthday. Please join us in wishing Brian and Alan Happy Birthday and many more years of "wardening" and "shamasing" respectively.

Happy Hanukkah



Ealing Synagogue,

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Reg. Charity No. 242552

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Administrator: Sandra Moses

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Ealing Synagogue Website: www.ealingsynagogue.org.uk

Snapshot Torah



GUIDE TO THE WEEKLY PARSHA

SECOND EDITION / ISSUE 10

12th December 2015

MIKEITZ

30th Kislev 5776

Kohen - First Aliya:

Chapter 31, verses 1 - 14

- Two years after Yosef was sent to Prison, Pharaoh had two dreams which disturbed him very much.
- Not one of his advisors were able to give him a satisfactory answer to what the dreams were relating to.
- The Chief Butler suddenly remembers Yosef and recounts to Pharaoh how the baker and he both had dreams whilst in prison and Yosef was able to interpret them both accurately.

Levi - Second Aliya:

Chapter 31, verses 15 - 38

- Yosef is released from jail and is summoned to face Pharaoh.
- Pharaoh relates his dreams to Yosef. The first depicted seven fat cows coming out of the river Nile, closely followed by seven lean cows. The lean cows proceeded to consume the fat cows but remained thin.
- The Second dream saw seven healthy ears of corn being devoured by seven tatty looking ones but not looking any better afterwards.
- Yosef explained that both dreams have the same interpretation. The seven fat cows and seven healthy ears of corn represent seven years of abundant crops. Whereas the seven lean cows and seven tatty ears of corn mark seven years of famine which will be so severe it will wipe out the memory of the years of plenty.

Shlishi - Third Aliya:

Chapter 31, verses 39 - 52

- Impressed with Yosef's answer, Pharaoh removes his signet ring and puts it on Yosef's hand, promoting him to second-in-command of the whole of Mitzraim (Egypt).
- Yosef marries Asat and are blessed with two children: Menashe and Ephraim.

Revri - Fourth Aliya:

Chapter 31, verse 53 - Chapter 32, verse 18

- Just as predicted. After seven years of plenty, famine struck hard. People both from Mitzraim and its neighbouring countries flocked to see Yosef in order to buy grain.
- Yaacov's family also struggling, so he sent away all of his sons, except for Binyamin, to Mitzraim to purchase food.
- Upon arrival the brothers are sent straight to the viceroy. Yosef recognises them straight away but his brothers had no clue who he is.
- Yosef refuses the brothers reasons of why they are in Mitzraim and accuses them of being spies and locks them up in prison for three days.

Chamishi - Fifth Aliya:

Chapter 32, verse 19 - Chapter 33, verse 15

- Yosef keeps Shimon as a hostage and tells his brothers they must prove to him that they were speaking the truth and they must return back to Mitzraim with Binyamin. In order to release him.
- Yosef then sent the brothers home laden with sackful of grain along with all their money which they used to purchase it. Once home the brothers recount to Yaacov what had transpired, but Yaacov refuses to let them take Binyamin back in order to release Shimon from prison.
- Yaacov finally relents after they once again, run out of food. Yehudah swears to keep his youngest brother safe.

Shishi - Sixth Aliya:

Chapter 33, verse 16 - Chapter 34, verse 17

- The brothers, once again, upon entering Mitzraim are sent straight to the Viceroy. This time however Shimon is released and the brothers were then all invited into the viceroy's palace as his guests.
- Frightened, the brothers began recounting their story of how they came across their own money in their sacks of food and would like to repay it back. All the viceroy seemed to be interested in however was the welfare of Yaacov.
- Yosef orders his steward to place his golden goblet into the sack of Binyamin filled with food and send them on their way. Later the steward chases after the brothers, and arrests Binyamin for the theft of the goblet which was found in his possession.
- Returning once more to the viceroy, the brothers offer themselves up as slaves in exchange for Binyamin's release.

Shevri - Seventh Aliya: - Reading For ROSH CHODESH, Bamidbar Chapter 28, verses 9 - 15

Maftir - 6th day CHANUKAH, Bamidbar Chapter 7 verses 24 - 29

- The Maftir deals with the dedication of the Altar, listing the different gifts that the head of the twelve tribes brought to the Mishkan (tabernacle).

Haftarah - SHABBAT CHANUKAH, ZECHARIAH Chapter 2 verse 14 to Chapter 4 verse 7

OVERVIEW:

- ✦ Shortly before the building of the Second Temple, Zechariah prophesies a vivid depiction of the joy that will prevail when Hashem will return back to Jerusalem.
- ✦ Zechariah describes a scene in the Heavenly Court; where Satan was seeking to incriminate the first Kohen Gadol to serve in the Second Temple, because of his sins. Hashem himself defends the High Priest and in turn rebukes Satan for his accusations.
- ✦ Hashem then proceeds to outline the rewards awaiting the Kohen Gadol if he and his descendants follow in Hashem's ways. Namely resuming full service in the Beis Hamikdash and the coming of the Mashiach.

GEMATRIA LINKED TO THE SEDRA:

- ✦ The main focus of Chanukah is the 73 Ner (Candle light) has the numerical value of 230. If you multiply 230 by 8, corresponding to the number of days we celebrate Chanukah you come to 2000.
- ✦ The first day of Chanukah falls on the 25th Kislev. If you take the 25 and add it to the 2000 you find it will equal to the exact number of words (2025) written in this week's Parsha of Mikkeitz on which Chanukah nearly falls upon each year.

WEEKLY DISCUSSION:

History is filled with object lessons, both positive and negative, and the story of Chanukah certainly contains its share of inspirational examples. Chanukah represents the first successful revolt on behalf of religious identity and the freedom to practice our Jewish faith in its entirety. The fight of the Maccabees led by Judah Maccabee was against a pressure of an outside value system that was influencing Jewish society and while it became a physical war, its essence was purely spiritual.

The battle revolved around the Greeks wishing to introduce a more Hellenist and ideological approach into the Jewish culture with a more philosophical emphasis on religion than a practical one. Opposing them, you had the Maccabees who had the courage not to assimilate into the Greek culture and bow down to the outside pressures. Although vastly outnumbered they stood up and fought over the true ideology and practices that should be dominant within the Jewish society.

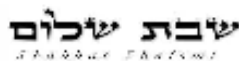
When we read the story of the Maccabees it seems like the battles that took place only lasted a couple of weeks. Judah Maccabee and his army win and the Greek forces go home. But, in fact, it takes 25 years of fighting and a great many casualties on both sides until the Greeks finally reach a peace agreement with the Jews to live amicably with each other.

Three years into the war, Jerusalem is re-conquered and the Maccabees find the Beis Hamikdash of Hashem defiled and turned into a pagan sanctuary. When they re-enter the Temple, the first thing they do is try to light a make-shift menorah (as the real gold one had been melted down by the Greeks) but only one vial of pure lamp oil with the special seal is discovered. They use this vial to light the menorah and miraculously it stays lit for eight days, by which time fresh pure oil has been pressed and delivered to the Temple.

If we look at these two miracles, clearly the military victory was greater yet it is the miracle of the oil that is commemorated during the festival of Chanukah. The military victory may have been more impressive, but as we already mentioned, the real battle was spiritual and not physical. It is precisely this spiritual victory that is symbolized by the light of the menorah.

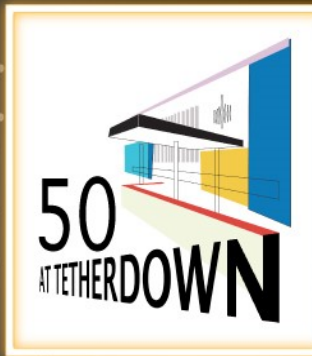
What the Maccabees stood and waged war for, was the need to maintain the uniqueness of our Jewish identity and meaning. Keeping and upholding the Torah! This primary goal is just as important for all of us today as it was during the time of Chanukah if not more so. It goes without saying that the current struggles in Israel against our Arab neighbours and the world's conflict with the idealism of ISIS and other similar factions is on the fore-front of our minds. May Hashem hear our prayers and bless us the same courage the Maccabees found to stand up and fight for what we believe in.

The light of Chanukah is symbolic of the inner spiritual strength of the Jewish society as a whole that despite all odds is never extinguished. It is precisely this inner spiritual strength that has enabled us, the Jewish people to outlast the greatest empires in history and have monumental impact on humanity.



Compiled, Designed & Written by Jeremy Symons

► MUSWELL HILL SYNAGOGUE PRESENTS ◀



CHANUKAH ON THE HILL

SAT 12 / 12 / 2015
7.30 - 10.30 PM

**Join our wonderful 50th
Anniversary celebrations of
our Tetherdown home.**

Enjoy a 'Salt beef supper'* with
entertainment and magic from **Dave
Schneider** and **Joe Raine**, a wonderful
selection of music from **Jonah and
the Wailers**, **Simone Snyder & Shirli
Gilbert** and of course our resident
pianist **Danny Kuperberg**.

A night not to be missed!

Tickets & Booking

Ticket price £25

Bookings can be made online at
**[https://myus.theus.org.uk/events/
31078/chanukah-on-the-hill/](https://myus.theus.org.uk/events/31078/chanukah-on-the-hill/)**

Tickets are on sale now and will be available,
on a first come first served basis.

*Vegetarian meal available on request
at time of booking.



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CHIEF RABBI

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RABBINIC
EXCELLENCE

*This event is supported by the Chief
Rabbi's Centre for Rabbinic Excellence.*

MUSWELL HILL
SYNAGOGUE

“Muswell Hill Synagogue’s building in Tetherdown was consecrated on 12 September 1965 and we are celebrating this 50th Anniversary on the evening of Saturday, 12 December. Details are above and we would love it if any ex-members of MHS would like to join us. Tickets can be booked through the US website (link in the flyer) or by calling the Shul Office on 020 8883 5925.”

Jo Cowan, Administrator, Muswell Hill Synagogue



Experience the
MAGIC of CHANUKAH

with
*Rabbi
Geoffrey Shisler*

Join us, on the last night of
Chanukah
for an

Evening of Magic and Song

with our ever popular guest artist

Rabbi Geoffrey Shisler

WHEN

Sunday 13th December 2015

WHERE

Kenton Synagogue, Shaftesbury Ave.
HA3 0RD

TIME

Candle Lighting	7.00pm
Dinner	7.15pm
Entertainment	8.15pm

TICKETS £15

CONTACT 020 8907 5959

admin@kentonsynagogue.co.uk



**Happy
Chanukah**



STANMORE & CANONS PARK SYNAGOGUE
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH AJEX
PRESENT

AN EVENING WITH

JONNY TURGEL

FROM CHAZANUT TO BROADWAY **II**

13TH DECEMBER 2015

8TH NIGHT CHANUKAH

Featuring

World renowned violinist

Miriam Kramer

The highly acclaimed
Orchestra

**The
Kramer
Camerata**

And Stanmore's talented pianist

Joshua Nesbitt

Tickets: £25.00

Book at www.sacps.org.uk/concert.html or
Stanmore Shul office on 020 8954 2210
7.30pm prompt. Doors open 7pm



For sponsorship packages
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on 07785 227474

PHOTO: BENJAMIN TURGEL

