



Times of Services 2015

Friday 3 July

Shabbat begins: 9.06pm

Mincha/

Kabbalat Shabbat: 7.15 pm

Shabbat 4 July

Shacharit: 9.30 am

Haftorah: Leslie Sommer

Kiddush

Shabbat ends: 10.24 pm

Sunday 5 July

Fast of Tammuz

Shacharit: 8.40 am

Friday 10 July

Shabbat begins: 9.02 pm

Mincha/

Kabbalat Shabbat: 7.15 pm

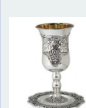
Reading the Haftarah



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 would be delighted to help with any preparation or revision that would be needed.

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.

dAJR—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 3 July 2015/Shabbat 17 Tammuz 5775

Sidra: Balak

SHABBAT 4 JULY D'VAR TORAH

This month's D'var Torah will be given by Tony Hitman.

SUNDAY 5 JULY FAST OF TAMMUZ

Fast commences at 1.05 am and ends at 10.18 pm.

SUNDAY 12 JULY SHACHARIT AND GUEST SPEAKER

Dr Steven Wilson, CEO of the United Synagogue, will be our guest speaker after Shacharit and breakfast. We hope there will also be an opportunity for Q&A. This is an opportunity for Steven Wilson to see that Ealing Synagogue is active and viable community so your support for this event would be very much appreciated. For catering purposes, please advise Dawn Shestopal or Marianne Temple if you will be attending.

SUNDAY 12 JULY GIFT AND PROJECT CHESED

Please bring your food donations to the synagogue during office hours or on Sunday morning. Details of the project are on the attached flyer.

WEDNESDAY 22 JULY FILM SHOW—IDA

Details are on page 5 of the newsletter.

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Reg. Charity No. 242552

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Ealing Synagogue Newsletter: esnewsletter@btinternet.com

Ealing Synagogue Website: www.ealingsynagogue.org.uk

Snapshot Torah



GUIDE TO THE WEEKLY PARSHA

ISSUE 38

4th July 2015

BALAK

17th Tammuz 5775

Kohen - First Aliya: Chapter 22, verses 2 - 12

- ✚ Balak, king of Moab, heard what Bnai Yisrael did to the Amorites and fears that Moab will be their next target. He assembles the elders from neighbouring Midian, who all agree to ask Balaam (Bilam) the sorcerer / Prophet to go and curse the Israelites so they can be defeated in battle.
- ✚ When a delegation of elders makes their proposition to Balaam, he tells them they must wait until he had spoken to Hashem, before he agrees or not.
- ✚ Hashem speaks to Balaam, ordering him not to curse his people because they are blessed.

Levi - Second Aliya: Chapter 22, verses 13 - 20

- ✚ Balaam sends the messengers back to Balak, with his decision of no. However Balak is persistent and sends delegation after delegation until Hashem finally consents but warns Balaam to only say what Hashem tells him.

Sh'lishi - Third Aliya: Chapter 22, verses 21 - 35

- ✚ On the way back to Balak, an angel tries to stop Balaam, Balaam's donkey sees the angel and veers off the path out of its way. Balaam hits the donkey, forcing him to return back to the path but the angel is still standing there so veers off the path once more, this time squashing Balaam's leg against a wall.
- ✚ Balaam strikes the donkey again and continues down the path. This time the angel has blocked the path completely, so the Donkey halts all together and refuses to move.
- ✚ Balaam beats the donkey again, so the donkey starts talking, asking him why Balaam had hit him three times, when all he was doing was protecting him from the angel.
- ✚ Hashem reveals the angel to Balaam, who praises the donkey for saving Balaam's life. Balaam admits his guilt and offers to turn back. The Angel allows Balaam to continue, but reminds him to only recite the words Hashem will ask him to say.

RV'I - Fourth Aliya: Chapter 22, verse 36 - Chapter 23, verse 12

- ✚ Balaam explains this to Balak but he refuses to listen. Together they set up seven altars, looking over the Bnai Yisrael's camp. Instead of curses Balaam blesses them by saying "How good are your tents, Yaacov, your dwelling places, Israel."

Chamishi - Fifth Aliya: Chapter 23, verses 13 - 26 and

Shishi - Sixth Aliya: Chapter 23, verse 27 - Chapter 24, verse 13

- ✚ Balak and Balaam sets up seven altars in two other places, but each time Balaam tried to curse Bnai Yisrael, he showered them with more blessings.
- ✚ Balak is now frustrated, especially when Balaam admits he can only say the words, Hashem puts in his mouth. So Balak sends him back home.

Sh'vi'i - Seventh Aliya: Chapter 24, verse 14 - Chapter 25, verse 9

- ✚ Bnai Yisrael are dwelling in Shittim. The daughters of Moab and Midyan begin to entice the Jewish men, convincing them to bow down and worship their idol Baal-Peor.
- ✚ A severe plague suddenly ravished the camp, so Moshe orders his judges to kill anyone who practices idolatry.
- ✚ One man brazenly brings a Midianite woman into the presence of Moshe. Pinchas, (Aaron's grandson) takes a spear and stabs them both through the heart simultaneously. Stopping the plague.
- ✚ All told twenty four thousand people had died because of it.

Haftorah – MICAH, Chapter 5 verse 6 to Chapter 6 verse 8

OVERVIEW:

- ✦ The Navi (prophet) Micah prophesies about what will occur after the war of Gog and Magog, the war which precedes the coming of the Moshiach and the Final Redemption.
- ✦ Micah then goes on to rebuke the Jewish people for not observing Hashem's commandments, calling upon witness the "mountains and hills" (a reference to our Patriarchs and Matriarchs) to testify about all the great things Hashem had done for them. For example, taking them out of Egypt etc.
- ✦ In response, the Jewish people claim that they do not know how to serve Hashem properly and ask Micah for guidance. Micah answers them by saying that everything they need is contained in the Torah, but basically they must obey Hashem's demands by performing Mitzvahs and to love your fellow man.

LINK TO SEDRA READING:

- ✦ This week's Haftorah makes mention of the incident of Balak the king of Moab hiring the sorcerer Balaam to curse the Jewish people which is the main focus of this week's Torah reading.

WEEKLY DISCUSSION:

I find the Story of Balaam very intriguing. It seems that Hashem is indecisive and easily persuaded when responding to Balaam's requests but this couldn't be further from the truth. Balak the king of Moab sends messengers to Balaam, bidding him to go and curse Bnai Yisrael. At first Balaam behaves correctly, asking Hashem's permission before taking on such an endeavour. Not surprisingly Hashem refused, leaving Balaam sending the messengers away to inform Balak that the answer is no.

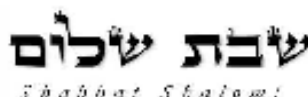
Undeterred, Balak sent out more envoys, this time laden with gifts to get Balaam to change his mind and once again Balaam appears to do the right thing, asking for Hashem's permission to go. Unpredictably this time Hashem grants his wish and allows him to leave.

Bnai Yisrael were on the brink of entering the land of Israel and being a prophet, equalling the same stature as Moshe, Balaam was handed on a plate a chance to make history. He had the opportunity to demonstrate the power of Hashem against the deception of the Moabites and their neighboring nation's false beliefs of other deities, aiding them in turning away from idolatry and follow in the ways of Hashem, bringing about the commencement of the Messianic Era. ; However Balaam wasted this great opportunity and let Hashem and the whole world down badly.

Balaam believed he could outsmart Hashem and despite the Angel's warning whom he encounters on route to Balak, is persistent and goes from place to place trying to find an angle from which he would be able to twist Hashem's words of blessings into curses, fulfilling Balak's request instead of Hashem's. Even though it backfired on him, with Balaam pronouncing a blessing towards us and not a curse. The damage had been done and as we read towards the end of the Parsha; Balaam's actions and words caused the children of Israel to sin and to suffer a terrible plague as a consequence.

This episode is a classic lesson relating to free will. It's clear to me that there's no way Hashem wanted Bnai Yisrael cursed; but when a person is led on a path that they desire to travel on. Hashem doesn't stop them. We all have choices in our lives; yet whatever path we decide to take, Hashem will be our willing vehicle, guiding us along the way of being successful.

Balaam had many chances to do the right thing but fame and greed took over and he let them all pass him by, ultimately losing everything. The lesson I take from this week's sedra is as follows. We must learn to take up all the opportunities we are offered and use them to make Hashem's true goals, our own.



Compiled, Designed & Written by Jeremy Symons



EALING SYNAGOGUE



SUNDAY 12 JULY 2015

GUEST SPEAKER
DR STEVEN WILSON
CEO, UNITED SYNAGOGUE



Dr Steven Wilson, Chief Executive of the United Synagogue, will be our guest speaker at breakfast after Shacharit on Sunday 12 July. Steven was brought up in Wembley and has lived in orthodox communities, large and small, in the UK and internationally. He is a former governor at Mathilda-Marks Kennedy Jewish Primary School. Over the last 14 years he has led and held director-level roles at major national and international research organisations.

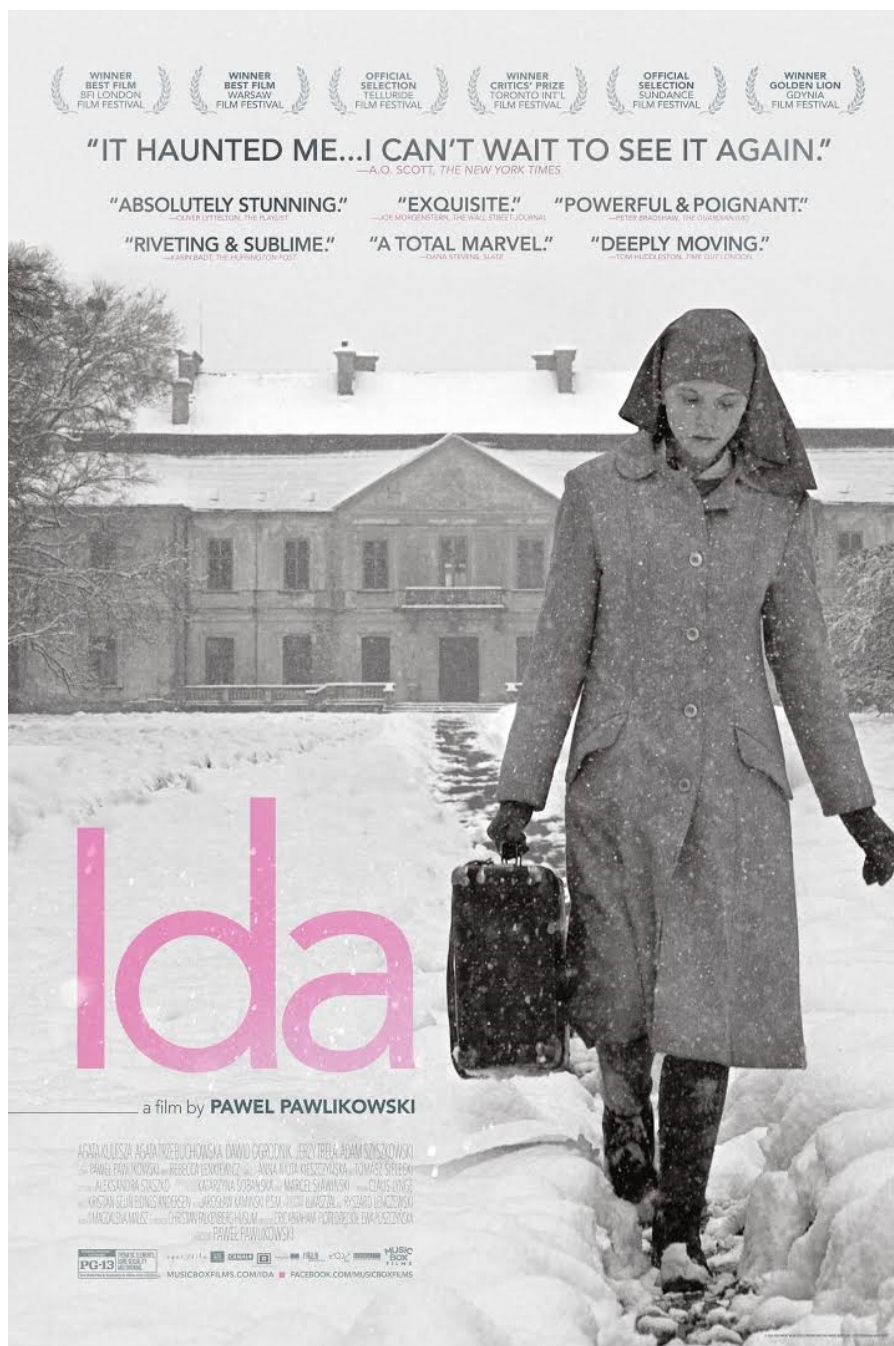
We hope to have a large audience!
For catering purposes, please advise Dawn Shestopal or Marianne Temple
if you will be coming.

SHACHARIT : 8.30 AM

BREAKFAST : 9.15 AM

WEDNESDAY 22 JULY - FILM SHOW
"IDA"—7.30 PM

Ealing Synagogue will be screening the film "Ida". The film is set in 1962 Poland. Anna is about to take her vows as a nun when she learns from her only relative this she is Jewish. Both women embark on a journey to discover their family story and where they belong. The film is in Polish with English subtitles. The film will start at 7.30 pm prompt. Cost: £5.00 per person. Light refreshments will be provided. Please contact Marianne Temple if you would like to come.



GIFT US Food

On Sunday 12th July GIFT and United Synagogue's Project Chesed are joining together to help families in need.



There are 2 ways you can get involved:

Help run a collection point: We need volunteers to staff designated collection points outside local supermarkets and kosher shops

Donate food: Just bring any unopened, **non-perishable food** into your local participating United Synagogue e.g. tinned fish or vegetables, pasta, teabags, pulses.

Sunday 12th July 2015

To volunteer and for more information

E: volunteer@jgift.org or **T:** 020 8457 4429

To drop off food at your local United Synagogue

E: chesed@theus.org.uk or **T:** 020 8343 5688



GIFT making a difference



GIFT registered charity No. 1163393
United Synagogue registered charity No. 242882

RUISLIP SYNAGOGUE

INVITES YOU TO A

Shabbaton

On

Saturday 18th July 2015

Our guest speaker is

Rabbi Dr Raphael Zarum

Dean of the London School of Jewish Studies

Who will give a sermon on

Are you part of the tribe? The responsibilities we each have to the Jewish People

Followed by lunch and a talk on:

Jewish Survival Against All Odds

Rabbi Dr Raphael Zarum has a PhD in Theoretical Physics from King's College London, is a graduate of the Jerusalem Fellows programme at the Mandel Leadership Institute in Israel and has an MA in Education. Raphael received rabbinic ordination from the Kollel of the Judith Lady Montefiore College. He is the creator of the Torah L'Am crash course and is the author of the Torat Hadracha and Jampacked Bible educational study guides. He was the first Head of faculty of the Florence Melton Adult Mini School UK and was Director of Jewish education at the UJIA Informal Jewish Education Centre. Raphael is a leading Jewish educator in the UK and teaches at conferences and seminars, synagogues and Jewish community centres across the globe. He was recently ranked 27th in the Jewish Chronicle Power100 list of the most influential people in British Jewry.

2 course luncheon

£15.00 for Adults £13.00 for Children under 13

To reserve your place, and to assist with the catering please send the attached cut-off slip to
The Administrator, Ruislip Synagogue, 9-17 Shenley Avenue, Ruislip, Middx HA4 6BP by 9th July 2015

✂

I require places for the Shabbaton Luncheon at £15.00

I require places for the Shabbaton Luncheon at £13.00 for children under 13

Food Choices:

Poached Salmon and Salads

Quiche and Salads

Food Allergy

Diabetic

I enclose my cheque made payable to Ruislip Synagogue Trust for £.....

(Please print) Name:

Names of guests:

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



Rosh Hashannah 2015/5776

"The New Ealing Review"

If you would like to donate a page in this year's Rosh Hashannah magazine, advertise an event or business, or simply insert New Year greetings and/or any other message, please complete the form below and return it to Marianne Temple. Thank you for your support.

Full Page

☐

£200.00

Half Page

☐

£100.00

Quarter Page

☐

£50.00

Box

☐

£25.00

Please tick the box of your choice

Text of Advert

To be returned by 21 August 2015

Please return to Marianne Temple, C/O Ealing Synagogue, 15 Grange Road, London W5 5QN.

I wish to advertise in the Rosh Hashannah 2015/5776 magazine and enclose my payment of £_____ (cheques to be made payable to "UNITED SYNAGOGUE").

Date: _____

Signed: _____

Print Name: _____