



Times of Services 2017

Friday 13 January
Shabbat begins: 4.02 pm
Mincha/
Kabbalat Shabbat: 4.00 pm

Shabbat 14 January
Shacharit: 9.30 am
Haftarah: Leslie Sommer
Mincha after Kiddush
Shabbat ends: 5.11 pm

Sunday 15 January
Shacharit: 8.40 am

Friday 20 January
Shabbat begins: 4.13 pm
Mincha/
Kabbalat Shabbat: 4.15 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 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 13 January 2017/Shabbat 16 Tevet 5777
Sidra: Vayechi



COMMUNITY LUNCH THURSDAY 19 JANUARY

The next community lunch will be on Thursday 19 January at 12.30pm. For catering purposes, please advise Alison Shindler if you will be coming. Everyone is welcome.

THE REALLY JEWISH FOOD GUIDE 2017

The Really Jewish Food Guide 2017 will be available shortly. If you would like a copy, please contact our administrator Carole Lateman in the synagogue office. The cost is £7.95.

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.

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY THE ANTIQUES ROADSHOW SUNDAY 15 JANUARY : BBC 1 : 7.30PM

Click on the link below to read an article which was published in last Sunday's Times about a special edition of the Antiques Roadshow to be screened on Sunday 15 January on BBC1 at 7.30pm:

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/jews-out-game-among-holocaust-memories-d6vhw2dbv?shareToken=adaa7a2802a5ea675a10119430346a51>

Ealing Synagogue,

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Ealing Synagogue Newsletter: esnewsletter@btinternet.com

Ealing Synagogue Website: www.ealingsynagogue.org.uk

FORTHCOMING EVENTS 2017

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 by no later than 12pm Friday 13th January 2017.

SHABBAT 18 FEBRUARY CIVIC SERVICE

Ealing Synagogue's annual Civic Service will be attended by local dignitaries. Your support would be appreciated—we need more hosts than guests!

SUNDAY 26 MARCH “JUDAISM IN THE 21ST CENTURY—CONTEMPORARY CHALLENGES”

We are delighted that Rabbi Dr Raphael Zarum and Maureen Kendler will be our guests speakers for a morning of discussion and debate. Tickets are £15.00 each. More information will be sent separately.

Snapshot Torah



GUIDE TO THE WEEKLY PARSHA

FOURTH EDITION / ISSUE 12

14th January 2017

VAYECHI

16th Teveth 5777

Kohen - First Aliya:

Chapter 37, verse 28 – Chapter 38, verse 9

- ✚ Seventeen years have passed since Yaacov moved down to Mitzraim and the age of 147 he realises he is soon coming to the end of his life.
- ✚ Yaacov summons Yosef to him and makes him swear that when he dies, Yosef will not bury him in Mitzraim, but in the cave of Machpelah alongside his wife Leah and his other forefathers and Mothers.
- ✚ Yosef recognises how ill Yaacov has become and brings his two sons, Menashe and Ephraim to him for a blessing.

Levi - Second Aliya:

Chapter 38, verses 10 - 16

- ✚ Yaacov blesses Yosef first.
- ✚ Yaacov crosses his arms in order to place his right hand on the head of Ephraim, who was standing on Yaacov's left hand side and his left hand on the head of Menashe who was standing on Yaacov's right, before blessing them both.

Sh'lishi - Third Aliya:

Chapter 38, verses 17 - 22

- ✚ Watching this, Yosef attempts to straighten Yaacov's hands but he resisted.
- ✚ Yaacov told Yosef that Menashe was destined for greatness, but Ephraim would be even greater.

R'Vi' - Fourth Aliya:

Chapter 39, verses 1 - 18

- ✚ Yaacov gathers the rest of his sons together around his bedside. in order to bless them
- ✚ Yaacov tells Reuven even though usually a first born is honoured with a double portion of his father's belongings, because of Reuven's sins he will get nothing. However Hashem in his mercy has forgiven him.
- ✚ As Shimon and Levi destroyed Shechem and instigated the killing of Yosef. Yaacov told them they are too dangerous to be together so their portion share of the land of Israel will be scattered across the whole country.
- ✚ Yehuda is compared to a lion and hence blessed with future leaders emanating from his tribe.
- ✚ Zevulun was blessed with great business acumen enabling him to support the tribe of Yissachar while they excel in torah study.
- ✚ Compared to a snake, Dan's descendants will become almighty warriors who will attack their enemies with unexpected manoeuvres.

Chamishi - Fifth Aliya:

Chapter 39, verses 19 - 36

- ✚ Gad has told that his tribe will also become great fighters and even though they will return back in peace, they will always be in a state of constant threat from their other surrounding enemies.
- ✚ Asher was blessed with plenty of olive trees which its produce will you in the future temples.
- ✚ Compared to a deer, Naftali is blessed with light-footed messengers who will swiftly deliver the latest news to the other tribes.
- ✚ Yosef is blessed with two portions through his sons Ephraim and Menashe.
- ✚ Benjamin is told that the Beis Hamikdash will be built in his portion of land.

Shishi - Sixth Aliya:

Chapter 39, verse 27- Chapter 40, verse 20

- ✚ Yaacov passes away and Mitzraim mourn for him for seventy days.
- ✚ With Pharaoh's permission, Yosef and his brothers buried Yaacov next to his first wife Leah in the land of Canaan, in the cave of Machpelah.

Sh'vi'i - Seventh Aliya:

Chapter 40, verses 21 - 26

- ✚ Yosef gets his brothers to promise him that at the time of the Exodus from Mitzraim, his bones would be transported for reburial in the land of Canaan.
- ✚ Yosef dies at the age of one hundred and ten

Haftorah– MELACHIM (1ST BOOK OF Kings) Chapter 2, verses 1 to 12

OVERVIEW:

- ✚ Shlomo (Solomon) is standing by his dying father's bedside to receive King David's final message to him.
- ✚ King David encourages Shlomo to be strong and remain steadfast in his belief of Hashem, to ensure that his reign as the successor of the Davidic Dynasty will be a prosperous one. This includes rewarding and punishing various people for their actions during David's reign.
- ✚ Upon his death, Shlomo takes his father's place as King and his sovereignty is firmly established in the land of Israel.

SNAPSHOT GUIDE THROUGH THE SIDDER: Pesukei D'Zimrah - The Hodu Prayer

- ✚ The passage that makes up the Hodu prayer comes from the book of chronicles chapter 16, verses 8 to 36.
- ✚ The reason why this prayer is recited is to not only recount all the miracles and acts of kindness, Hashem has constantly performed for us throughout our nation's history but to express our great love, awe and respect that he will continue to assist us in our times of need and all future generations to come.

WEEKLY DISCUSSION:

Every Friday night before we begin the Kiddush and make Hamotzi, all the children are blessed by their parents. This is based on the words of blessing from this week's Parsha where Yaacov puts his hands on the heads of the sons of Yosef, Menashe and Ephraim. Before Yaacov blesses them, Yosef places the boys in such a way that Yaacov's dominant hand (His Right) would rest upon Menashe and his left hand would rest upon Ephraim. However, Yaacov then crosses his hands, so that his right hand would rest on Ephraim and his left hand upon Menashe.

This presents us with a conundrum. Commentators on the Torah says the motive why Yaacov did this was specifically because Menashe was Yosef's firstborn. This seems to me that Menashe was being overlooked by his younger brother. Was being a 'Firstborn' really a reason to denigrate Menashe?

I've found many answers to this, but I would like to convey the suggestion given by Rav Zalman Sorotzkin. "Its tradition" Ephraim received the more prestigious blessing because Menashe indeed was the bechor (firstborn). Rav Zalman then elaborates. Yaacov's father Yitzchak was chosen over his eldest brother Yishmael, Yaacov himself claimed the birthright from Esav and later transferred the birthright from his eldest son Reuven to Yosef who was one of his younger sons.

Another common question asked in relation to this episode is why, out of all Yaacov's grandchildren, why were Yosef's sons the only ones chosen to receive blessings from their grandfather? One idea is that Ephraim and Menashe were the first two Jewish children born and had lived their entire lives outside the land of Israel. Even worse they were bought up under the confines of the degenerate and immoral influences of Mitzraim. Therefore, both Menashe and Ephraim needed a special blessing from their grandfather. Who during his own lifetime faced and overcame the same challenges for over two decades during the time he dwelt in the home of the wicked Lavan. Yaacov prayed that Hashem would send down an angel to protect his grandchildren just like the one who protected him from all the evil influences Lavan had tried to bestow upon Yaacov.

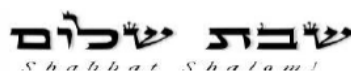
Today as we live in golus, Jewish parents need to bless their children more than ever, asking Hashem to help them keep their identity and values intact and secure. We are faced daily with temptations and challenges from the world which surrounds us, and we pray that our children will have the strength to know who they are as Jews

Menashe and Ephraim's grandfather, Yaacov, tries to bridge the cross- generational and culture gaps, and explain to his Egyptian born grandchildren what his family's legacy is really about. Beginning our Friday night meal with a hug and blessing teaches our children about love and about being proud of their Jewish heritage.

May we all be blessed with family and friends with whom we can share hugs, the teachings of Torah and the special nature of Shabbat.

CHAZAK! CHAZAK! VENISCHAZIEK!

BE STRONG! BE STRONG! AND MAY US BE STRENGTHENED!



Compiled, Designed & Written by Jeremy Symons

MACCABI GB NATIONAL SHUL TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE (NSTTL)
SUNDAY 26 FEBRUARY 2017

Maccabi GB National Shul Table Tennis League (NSTTL) 2017

SUNDAY 26TH FEB 2017
9:00am-5:00pm

NEW VENUE

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