



SHABBATSHMOOZE

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WHAT'S GOING ON
MAZELTOVS / SPONSORSHIPS

SHABBAT TIMES

FRIDAY

MINCHA	6.00pm
KABBALAT SHABBAT	6.15pm
CHILDREN'S SERVICE	6.15pm

SATURDAY

SHACHARIT	8.45am
TORAH READING	9.40am
CHILDREN'S SERVICE	10.30am
BROCHA FOLLOWING SHUL SERVICE	

MINCHA

FOLLOWED BY THE SEUDAH SHLISHIT	5.45pm
MA'ARIV & SHABBAT ENDS	7.05pm

WEEKLY SHUL SERVICES

SHACHARIT: MONDAY – FRIDAY	7.00am
SUNDAY & PUBLIC HOLIDAYS	8.00am
ROSH CHODESH	6.45am
MINCHA: SUNDAY – THURSDAY	6.00pm

PARSHA PAGES

HAFTORAH: SOLLY GUTMAN

TORAH: COHEN 1138, HERTZ 878, L/T 1010, A/S 1086
HAFTORAH: COHEN 1155, HERTZ 891, L/T 1246, A/S 1204

SELICHOT

From this week through to Yom Kippur, our week-day Shacharit services are preceded by Selichot - special penitential prayers in which we seek forgiveness, both personally and as a community. The service combines Biblical verses, ancient poetic prayers and responsive readings, expressing themes of repentance, forgiveness and Divine compassion. At its heart are the 13 Attributes of Divine Mercy, revealed to Moshe as a pathway to forgiveness.

Sunday: Selichot at 7:30am, followed by Shacharit
Weekdays: Selichot at 6:30am, followed by Shacharit



FROM THE RABBI'S DESK

Dear Friends

As we enter the final Shabbat of the year and prepare for Rosh Hashanah, the parasha of *Nitzavim* offers us a powerful framework for how to approach the year ahead and, through that, invite blessing into our lives.

Nitzavim, the first of this week's two parshiot, opens with the words, *Atem nitzavim hayom*, "You are standing today." There is another Hebrew word for standing, *omdim*. *Nitzavim*, however, implies a standing that is firm and enduring.

Moshe was speaking to the Jewish people on the final day of his life. *Hayom*, "today", refers to that day, but our sages also note that the word is in the present tense and can be understood as referring to Rosh Hashanah each year.

The Torah then describes everyone standing together, from the leaders of the tribes to those involved in the most ordinary daily tasks, from the greatest to the seemingly simplest.

The message is beautiful. Their ability to stand firmly came from the fact that they stood together. They recognised their interdependence and understood that the strength of the Jewish people lies in its unity. Perhaps that should be one of our central thoughts as we enter a new year.

If we want to stand firmly in the year ahead, we need to stand united. There are two important ideas within that.

First, as part of a greater whole, we are held. We are never truly alone. As Jews, we belong to something far greater than ourselves, an extraordinary people bound together across generations and across the world. But secondly, that whole depends on each of its parts. Every one of us is unique. Every one of us has something that only we can contribute. As we stand on the threshold of a new year and hope for a year of strength and blessing, we should not only ask what the coming year will bring us, but what we are prepared to bring to it.

What can I contribute to my family, my community and the Jewish people? What unique gift, strength or opportunity is mine to use? If we can enter the new year standing together, each taking responsibility for the part that only we can play, then we create the conditions for blessing.

May we stand firmly, stand united, and bring out the extraordinary potential that awaits us in the year ahead.

RABBI HECHT

YIDDISH WORD OF THE WEEK

WHAT IS "SCHMUTZ"?



Schmutz is a Yiddish word that means "dirt" or "grime." Properly pronounced, it should rhyme with "puts," not "cuts." It is sometimes spelled *shmutz* or *shmootz*.

Schmutzike Biology: Keeping clean is important in Judaism. Before sitting down to a meal, we wash our hands. This handwashing is followed by a short blessing, and has almost nothing to do with physical cleanliness, as it takes place after your hands are already clean. So before washing for bread, make sure to wash your *schmutzike hent* ("grubby hands").

A Chassidic Tale About Schmutz

There was once a young bird who knew only of her mother's nest. She began to feel that the nest was small, dirty and smelled. The chick felt compelled to fly off on her own, in search of a more wholesome environment.

She went from place to place, but wherever she went, she found an awful smell. Finally, discouraged and disillusioned, she returned home to consult with her Mama Bird. "Little Bird," said her mother, "the world doesn't smell—there's just a piece of *schmutz* stuck to your beak."

This reflects the teaching of the Baal Shem Tov that if you see a flaw in someone else, it's because you yourself have this same blemish. In a sense, the other is merely mirroring your own *schmutz* for you to see and correct.

SCENE @ MARAIS ROAD SHUL

BARMI CLUB



HIGHLIGHTS IN JEWISH HISTORY

MON SEP 7, 2026 25 Elul, 5786
CREATION BEGINS (3760 BCE)

The first day of Creation occurred on 25 Elul, when G-d created existence, time, matter, darkness and light.

Although Rosh Hashanah is described as “the beginning of Your works,” it actually marks the sixth day of Creation, when Adam and Eve were created. With the creation of humanity, the world gained the ability to fulfil its Divine purpose. For this reason, the Jewish calendar counts the years of history from Rosh Hashanah, while the first day of Creation took place six days earlier, on 25 Elul.

TUES SEP 8, 2026 26 Elul, 5786
CREATION OF THE SKIES (3760 BCE)

On the second day of Creation, G-d created the heavens, forming an expanse that separated the waters above from the waters below. G-d called this expanse Heaven, completing the second day of Creation.

WED SEP 9, 2026 27 Elul, 5786
CREATION OF DRY LAND AND VEGETATION (3760 BCE)

On the third day, G-d gathered the waters together so that dry land could appear, naming the dry land Earth and the gathered waters Seas.

G-d then caused the earth to produce vegetation, including grasses, seed-bearing plants and fruit trees, each reproducing according to its kind. The Torah twice describes the creations of this day as “good.”

THURS SEP 10, 2026 28 Elul, 5786
CREATION OF THE CELESTIAL BODIES (3760 BCE)

On the fourth day, G-d created the sun, moon and stars. The greater luminary, the sun, was appointed to rule the day, while the lesser luminary, the moon, would rule the night. These heavenly bodies would also serve to mark days, seasons and years.

FRI SEP 11, 2026 29 Elul, 5786
CREATION OF SEA CREATURES AND BIRDS (3760 BCE)

On the fifth day of Creation, G-d filled the waters with living creatures and created the birds to fly across the heavens. He blessed them to “be fruitful and multiply,” filling the seas and the earth with life.

ADAM AND EVE (3760 BCE)

The following day, 1 Tishrei — Rosh Hashanah — was the sixth day of Creation. G-d created Adam from the dust of the earth, breathed into him the “breath of life,” and placed him in the Garden of Eden “to work it and to guard it.”

Seeing that “it is not good for man to be alone,” G-d created Eve as Adam’s partner. Together, Adam and Eve became the first human beings and gave humanity its unique responsibility to develop, protect and bring Divine purpose into G-d’s world.

PARSHA

NITZAVIM-VAYALECH

נצבים - וילך

OUTLINE

THE NATION ENTERS GOD’S COVENANT [29:9–28]
INGATHERING OF THE EXILES FORETOLD [30:1–10]
ACCESSIBILITY OF THE TORAH [30:11–14]
CHARGE TO “CHOOSE LIFE” [30:15–20]
MOSES CONCLUDES HIS FINAL MESSAGE [31:1–8]
MOSES WRITES A TORAH SCROLL [31:9]
LAWS OF HAKHEL [31:10–13]
GOD’S TESTIMONY FOR THE FUTURE [31:14–23]
MOSES’ SCROLL IS PLACED WITH THE HOLY ARK [31:24–27]
ELDERS GATHER TO HEAR SONG OF HA’AZINU [31:28–30]

THEMES

ETERNAL BOND

God entered into an eternal bond with us all (29:12). Your road to self-discovery will inevitably lead to God.

RETURN

In the End of Days, all of us will return to God with heart and soul, and we will be gathered in from our worldwide dispersion. We will experience Divine guidance and success as a nation, and the Torah will be implemented as God originally intended (30:1–10).

COURAGEOUS LEADERSHIP

God urges Moses’ successor, Joshua, to be a courageous leader, with a strong backbone. Joshua was appointed because of his enthusiasm, loyalty and faith (31:1–8).

MESSAGE FOR EVERYONE

Every seven years, the entire nation would gather in Jerusalem to hear the king read from a Torah scroll. Men, women, and children participated (31:10–13). The Torah has a message for every person, regardless of age or circumstance.

DIVINE ECLIPSE

When God “hides His face” (31:16–18), it is to spur us to strengthen our bond with Him. When that goal is reached, great revelation follows.

INSIGHT

Moses went, and he spoke the following words to all Israel. Each of us has a spark of Moses’ spirit that awakens us to connect to God in a palpable way. The sowing of this “spark” is hinted to here: “*Moses went ... to all Israel*”—Moses imparted a portion of his own spirit into every soul of Israel. Perhaps this is why “*no person knows the place of his burial*” (below, 34:6), because, in fact, Moses is enshrined within all of our hearts (*Rabbi Alexander Zusya Friedman, 20th century*).

REFLECTION

The ultimate purpose of Torah is not to increase our knowledge per se, but to instruct us to conduct our lives to the fullest advantage of both ourselves and the community at large. As a matter of course, it provides all the knowledge necessary for the attainment of this ultimate purpose.

BIRTHDAYS

MAZELTOV TO THE FOLLOWING CONGREGANTS CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS

SAT 5 SEP

JONATHAN STOLLER
LORAIN WINGRIN
.....

SUN 6 SEP

TANYA CASSEL
STEPHEN FRANK
EVELYN SACKS
.....

MON 7 SEP

SIENA BURSTAIN
BARNEY ISRALLS
HARRY RUTTENBERG
WARREN WEINER
.....

TUE 8 SEP

RAYMOND HAAS
RAEL PHILLIPS
CANDICE ROFFEY
MICHAEL WENER

WED 9 SEP

SOPHIA ABRAHAMSON
HELENE BRAUDE
KENNETH BROZIN
ROSA FOX
DEVORAH HECHT
WARREN KILBORN
.....

THURS 10 SEP

KATIE BROZIN
DARRYL FINKELSTEIN
SELWYN KAVALSKY
JOSHUA ZETLER
.....

FRI 11 SEP

COLIN GORDON
ROSLYN KURLAND

ANNIVERSARIES

MAZELTOV TO THE FOLLOWING COUPLES CELEBRATING THEIR WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

SAT 5 SEP

HILTON & JILL STERN
.....

MON 7 SEP

DAVID & GLENDA NOVIS

YAHARZEIT REMINDER

WE WISH LONG LIFE TO ALL THOSE OBSERVING YAHARZEITS THIS WEEK
REMEMBER YOUR YAHARZEIT COMMENCES THE EVENING BEFORE:

SAT 5 SEP – 23 ELLUL

JUDY ISRAELE (MOTHER-IN-LAW)
SYLVIA SANDLER (SON)
BILLY GOOTT (WIFE)
ESTHER SURDUT (FATHER)
LINDA ROSENSTEIN (HUSBAND)
HILARY ABRAMOWITZ (GRANDFATHER)
JILL LEVITT (MOTHER-IN-LAW)
BRIAN ZOLTY (MOTHER)
NECIA MILLER (MOTHER)
.....

SUN 6 SEP – 24 ELLUL

THELMA COHEN (MOTHER-IN-LAW)
ROY CURITZ (MOTHER)
LYNETTE FRIGATI (FATHER)
MICHAEL LEVIN (MOTHER)
GRAHAM MALLACH (FATHER)
RAINER ODES (HUSBAND)
JONATHAN ODES (FATHER)
.....

MON 7 SEP – 25 ELLUL

PHILLIP AVIV (BROTHER)
BILLY GOOTT (MOTHER)
DI DOS SANTOS (MOTHER)
MERVYN NICK (MOTHER-IN-LAW)
LEE SOLOMON (FATHER)
RHONA WOLPERT (MOTHER-IN-LAW)
.....

TUES 8 SEP – 26 ELLUL

MINETTE MINITZER (MOTHER)
FAY RUTTENBERG (SISTER)
JEFFREY FLAX (FATHER)
MERLE GERSHOWITZ (UNCLE-IN-LAW)
HILARY MARGOLIUS (MOTHER)
SAM GALANSKY (MOTHER-IN-LAW)
LIONEL MELTZER (FATHER)
LIZ LIPSHITZ (FATHER)
ZILLAH ASSENBAUM (MOTHER)
GREG ASSENBAUM (GRANDMOTHER)
HARRY RUTTENBERG (MOTHER)
ESTELLE GETZ (SISTER-IN-LAW)

WED 9 SEP – 27 ELLUL

ELLA BLUMENTHAL (FAMILY MEMBERS)
SADIE GRAZIANI (FATHER)
NOREEN HORWITZ (MOTHER)
COLIN KATZEN (MOTHER)
ARIEL KATZEN (GRANDMOTHER)
CARL MAY (GRANDFATHER)
.....

THURS 10 SEP – 28 ELLUL

LEON MUNITZ (MOTHER)
LEINA SANK (BROTHER)
MUNRO BLOCH (BROTHER)
MAEVA OSRIN (MOTHER)
JOCELYN PAMENSKY (MOTHER)
SHEILA SAMSON (UNCLE)
MILTON MUNITZ (MOTHER)
MORRIS MUNITZ (GRANDMOTHER)
BERNARD SHAPIRO (FATHER)
CAROL NARUNSKY (FATHER)
DOV STERN (MOTHER)
DEMIAN & LUCY TRUSKALO (DAUGHTER)
.....

FRI 11 SEP – 29 ELLUL

SANDRA GOTKIN (FATHER)
HANNAH SHORKEND (MOTHER)
PEREZ BLOOM (GRANDMOTHER)
CHARLOTTE SCHACHAT (STEPMOTHER)
STAN LURIE (GRANDMOTHER)
JEFFREY KAIMOWITZ (MOTHER)
ROY KURLAND (GRANDFATHER)
CLAUDETTE DAVIS (GRANDMOTHER)
MARION LEWIS (HUSBAND)
ALMA WEINBERG (FATHER)
ROSALIA DAVIDOWITZ (FATHER)
DAVID ZETNER (BROTHER)
CYNTHIA MARESKY-HEILBRON (BROTHER)
.....

SAT 12 SEP – 1 TISHREI

PATSY MARCOW (FATHER)
MICKEY GLASS (FATHER)
AUDREY JUDKOWSKI (FATHER)

CONSECRATIONS: SUN 6 TH SEP

10.00 A.M.: MATHILDE DOBRIN – PINELANDS 2
10.30 A.M.: VIVIENNE BERNSTEIN – PINELANDS 2

WHAT'S GOING ON

LEARNING

PRACTICAL JEWISH LIVING

MON - THURSDAY 5:30-6:00pm

SHIUR AND DISCUSSION WITH RABBI HECHT

CURRENTLY EXPLORING THE LAWS OF SHABBAT

WEEKLY MENS' SHIUR WITH RABBI HECHT

TUESDAYS 4.00-4:45PM 25 AUG - 1 & 8 SEP

EXPLORING THE MACHZOR - HIGH HOLIDAY PRIMER

WEEKLY WOMENS' SHIUR WITH DEVORA KRUSS

WEDNESDAYS AT 10.30AM

2026 TIME TABLE OF SERVICES 5787

ROSH HASHANAH

Fri 11 Sep	Candle Lighting	earliest	5.22pm
		latest	6.17pm
	REMEMBER TO LIGHT A 24HR CANDLE		
	Mincha	6.00pm	
	Children's service	6.15pm	
Sat 12 Sep	Shacharit	8.00am	
	Torah Reading	9.30am	
	Children's service	10.00am	
	Sermon	10.15am	
	Mincha	6.00pm	
	Children's service	6.15pm	
	Candle Lighting after (from existing flame)	7.10pm	
Sun 13 Sep	Shacharit	8.00am	
	Torah Reading	9.30am	
	Children's service	10.00am	
	Sermon & Shofar	10.15am	
	Tashlich (Pavilion)	5.30pm	
	Mincha	6.15pm	
	Yom Tov ends	7.10pm	
	(Havdalah no spices/candle)		

FAST OF GEDALIA

Mon 14 Sep	Fast Begins	5.34am
	Shacharit	6.30am
	Mincha	6.00pm
	Fast Ends	6.56pm

MAZELTOV

MAZAL TOV TO NAOMI KATZ on her Bat Mitzvah, her parents AMIT & ITIA KATZ

NATHAN & LEONIE SAREMBOCK on the marriage of their son, MARTIN IN LONDON

THANK YOU:

CHOCOLATES SPONSORED BY:

AMIT & ITIA KATZ on the occasion of their daughter, NAOMI'S BAT MITZVAH

WHISKY SPONSORED BY:

RAPHAEL BANKS to celebrate his birthday and in memory of his beloved parents, WILLIAM & ETTIE BANKS and brother MAXIE

CONDOLENCES:

SAM ABRAHAMS on the loss of his sister in Johannesburg

JOE RUBINSTEIN on the loss of his sister in Harare

STEVEN FRANKAL, CAROL GARB & MICHELLE COHEN on the loss of their mother, ISABEL FRANKAL



KABBALAT SHABBAT

FEATURING
CANTOR IVOR JOFFE
AND THE HERZLIA SINGING STARS

We invite you to join the Herzlia Weizmann and Alon Ashel children as they give us a special preview of their upcoming musical production:

L'CHAIM!
— UNITED AS ONE —

 **FRIDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 2026**
6:00 PM

ALL DONATIONS ARE MOST WELCOME



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CONTACT THE SHUL OFFICE

Are you aware of a congregant's illness or hospital stay? Perhaps you're aware of a milestone birthday or special occasion or maybe you're experiencing it yourself. Please let us know!

Please ensure ALL contact details are regularly updated with the shul office

- Email: info@maraisroadshul.com
connect@maraisroadshul.com
- Call: 021 4397543
- Add: 10 Marais Road, Sea Point, Cape Town, South Africa, 8005

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