

# Parshas Nitzavim Rosh Hashona

5776

## Shabbos Nitzavim

Candle lighting.....5.41pm

Mincha Erev Shabbos.....5.45pm

Shabbos Mincha.....5.20pm

Shabbos Ends.....6.30pm

Latest time for morning Shema this week: 9:01am

Earliest time for evening Shema this week: 6:29pm

## Rosh Hashona

Sep 13 - Candle lighting...5.42pm

Sep 14 - Candle lighting...6.31pm\*

Fast of Gedalia

Sep 16 - Fast begins.....4.56pm

- Fast Ends.....6.19pm

\* Not earlier than and from an existing flame



## A Rosh Hashona Message From Rabbi Y Auerbach

Rosh Hashona is called **יום הזכרון**, the Day of Remembrance in our prayers. In **מוסף** we say **מְעוֹלִים** **כִּי זָכוֹר כָּל הַנִּשְׁכַּחֹת אֶתְּךָ הוּא מְעוֹלִים**, that Hashem remembers all which is forgotten.

We tend to remember all our achievements and good deeds, all our **מצוות** and kind acts. But although it is important to be aware of our **טובים מעשים** and to feel pride in our achievements, we must also remember our mistakes. We must make a **חשבון הנפש**, a reckoning of the many instances when we missed the mark. **זכרונות** comes to remind us that Hashem remembers and scrutinizes every single action we do.

In **מוסף** we say that after Hashem remembers **נח** and all the animals who were with him in

the Ark, **ויעבר אלהים רוח על הארץ וישבו המים**, "And Hashem caused a SPIRIT to pass over the earth and the waters subsided". What is this **רוח**, this spirit, that the **פסוק** is referring to? Rashi explains that the amazing **חסד** which **נח** displayed to all the animals in the Ark, as he tirelessly fed and cared for them, is what succeeded in bringing about the end of the flood and the rebirth of all humankind. In **Tehillim(51:12-13)** it says: **יְהוָה יְבִיט שָׁהוּ, בְּרָא-לִי אֱלֹהִים... וְרוּחַ:ּ** Likewise, our good deeds and acts of **חסד** play a decisive factor on our judgement by Hashem on **הידן**, **יום הדין**, and when we live according to **רוח קדשך**, the spirit of holiness with which Hashem has tasked us, then the turbulent waters, represented by all of our **צרות** will subside and be stilled.

The United States' deal with Iran poses a real threat to the Jewish people. This represents today's turbulent waters. Our only response can and must be **רוח קדשך**, to be inspired to **תפילה וצדקה** and **תשובה**. Only through coming close to Hashem in a real way can we hope to prevail over all our many enemies.

May we all daven together, daven for each other and for the absolute recognition of Hashem throughout the world which will bring about the **גאולה** for which we so long. **גאט נישט געבענשט יאר**



## No Status Quo

The second Mishna of tractate Rosh Hashana teaches "On Rosh Hashana all who enter the world pass before Him (for judgment) like Bnei Maron" (sheep being counted). However, the Gemara there quotes an opinion that "Man is judged daily" [Rosh Hashana 16a]. At first glance, these two opinions seem to conflict with one another. Apparently, Judgment either occurs once a year or it occurs on a daily basis. The two opinions seem to be mutually exclusive.

Rav Eizele Charif tries to reconcile these statements by introducing the concept that that in reality, there are two types of judgment. When a person starts his year, it has been determined that he has certain abilities, a certain status, and certain physical and financial attributes. A status quo for the coming year is determined on Rosh HaShana. However, this "baseline" can be altered during the year -- for better or for worse -- based on the actions of the individual during the year.

However, when we approach the judgment of the New Year, there is no status quo. We do not approach the Almighty with a presumption of what has been (**chazaka d'mikara**). We do not walk into Judgment on Rosh HaShana with the idea "I have been alive until now, I will remain alive this coming year; I have been healthy and wealthy until now, so it will all continue indefinitely during the coming year". That is not a correct attitude on Rosh HaShana.

During the year, our allotment and budget has already been determined. We have been budgeted a certain amount of dollars, and health, and success in our endeavors and we proceed to spend against that pre-determined budget, even though that budget can be raised or lowered within the parameters of "Man is judged daily". However, when Rosh HaShana's judgment for the New Year arrives, there is nothing that is a given.



# SHOFAR

10 REASONS FOR THE MITZVAH OF BLOWING THE SHOFAR  
BASED ON RAV SAADIAH GAON

- 1) *Rosh Hashanah is the day that commemorates the creation of the world and it is described as the "coronation" of Hashem (G-d). As it is customary to sound a trumpet at a king's coronation so we blow the shofar on Rosh Hashanah. By blowing the shofar we recognize the "purpose" of the creation.*
- 2) *The shofar blast marks the beginning of a period of amnesty which is known as The Ten Days of Repentance. Repentance is based on the fact that since humanity has been given free-will, and our actions are not pre-determined, we must take responsibility for our actions. The ability to repent teaches us that our future is not bound by our past and that by changing our behaviour we have the ability to change our past.*
- 3) *When the Jews accepted the Torah at Mount Sinai, the sound of the shofar is described as "continuously increased and was very great" (Exodus 19:19). The shofar serves to remind us of the revelation at Mt. Sinai and therefore to renew our commitment to Hashem and to accept that Torah morality is absolute and G-d given - not relative, nor does it depend on human understanding.*
- 4) *The prophets called out to the Jewish People and aroused them to improve their ways. The shofar reminds us of the admonitions of the prophets and their calls to repentance. We should be aware of the fact that Hashem communicated with us, via the prophets, and displayed through them His desire to perfect us and not to punish us.*
- 5) *The shofar reminds us to pray for the rebuilding of the Temple where trumpets and shofars were sounded. Just as Hashem manifests His presence in the world in specific places like the Temple in Jerusalem. He also manifests His presence at special times, such as the Ten Days of Repentance.*
- 6) *The ram's horn reminds us of the Binding of Isaac when Abraham demonstrated his absolute faith in Hashem by being prepared to sacrifice his son. Hashem demonstrated His absolute love for Abraham by having him sacrifice a ram in his place.*
- 7) *The sound of the shofar is supposed to inspire fear in the hearts of those who hear it. It allows one to dwell upon fear of punishment, to progress from there to fear of doing evil and then to fear of G-d. Finally one arrives at the feeling of awe of G-d.*
- 8) *The shofar reminds us of the day of judgment in the future. And inspires us to pray for the perfection of world, all of mankind and the Messianic era.*
- 9) *The sound inspires us to yearn for the ingathering of the Exiles, that will be heralded by the sound of a shofar. There will be absolute unity amongst the Jewish People and our connection to Land of Israel will again be absolute.*
- 10) *The shofar recalls the resurrection of the dead which will be accompanied by the sound of a shofar. As G-d is the source of all life and the creator of all existence so He has complete control over death.*

## LAWS OF SHOFAR BLOWING

- *The commandment to hear the shofar blowing requires conscious intent to fulfill the mitzvah.*
- *The shofar blower recites two blessings; the community must listen to the blessings and respond "Amen" to each one. (One should not say "Baruch hu uvaruch sh'mo" to these blessings.)*
- *One should stand during the recitation of the blessings and for all of the shofar blasts.*
- *It is forbidden to speak from the beginning of the first blessing until after the final shofar blast (at the end of Mussaf).*

The Rabbonim & staff at  
Ohr Somayach  
wish you a  
Ksiva  
v'Chasima  
Tova



## OHR CHODOSH KIDDUSH



This week's Ohr Chodosh Kiddush is kindly sponsored by **Dan & Liat Elkabir** in honour of the Yortzeit of Dan's late father **Moshe ben Yoseph**

## GRANDPARENTS



Mazeltoiv to **Des & Sandra Goldberg** and **Berlene Segal** and **Neville Segal** on the birth of their granddaughter, **Tzipora Yehudis**, born to **Fuli & Meira Goldberg** in Jerusalem. Mazeltoiv great-grandparents **David & Dulcie Braude**.



## ROSH HASHANA SCHEDULE 5776

### Erev Rosh Hashana Sunday 13th September

Shacharis:			
Neitz (6.07)	Slichos	4.30am (Main Shul)	
Shacharis	Slichos	6.00am (Small Shul)	
Shacharis	Slichos	7.00am (Main Shul)	
Early Mincha		1.05pm	
Mincha		5.45pm	
Candle Lighting:		5.42pm	

### Monday 14th September First Day Yom Tov

Shacharis:		
Neitz (6.06)	5.10am	
Main Shul	7.30am	
Children's Service 2-6yrs	9.45am	
Kiddush 10 Min Prompt		
Shofar	+10.25am	
Tashlich	5.05pm	
Mincha	5.40pm	
Followed By Shiur		
Candle Lighting Not Before	6.31pm	

### Tuesday 15th September Second Day Yom Tov

Shacharis:		
Neitz (6.05)	5.10am	
Main Shul	7.30am	
Children's Service 2-6yrs	9.45am	
Kiddush 10 Min Prompt		
Shofar	+10.25am	
Mincha	5.40pm	
Motzei Yom Tov	6.32pm	

## YORTZEITS

- **Jeff Alan** for his late father
- **Lionel Horwitz** for his late father
- **Stan Orelowitz** for his late father
- **Dan Elkabir** for his late father
- **Gail Bortz** for her late father

## CHILDREN'S BIRTHDAYS

Daniella Sara Port *Happy Birthday!*

## MAIN SHUL KIDDUSH



This week's Main Shul Kiddush is kindly sponsored in honour of the 1st Yortzeit of the late **Rabbi Moshe Sher z'l**,  
הרב משה יונה בן ר'יעקב ז"ל

## ENGAGEMENT



Mazeltoiv to **Chani Friedman & Shimon Hirshowitz** on the announcement of their engagement. Mazeltoiv to proud parents **Paul & Zandra Friedman** and **Darryl & Janine Hirshowitz**.

The community offer sincere condolences to  
**Evan & Raul Fishman**

on the passing of their mother

**Hilda Fishman z'l**

wife of the late **Teddy Fishman z'l**

המקום ינחם אתכם בתוך שאר אבלי ציון וירושלים

## SHABBOS AFTERNOON SHIUR

### RABBI AUERBACH

UNDERSTANDING THE LAWS OF  
**THE SHOFAR**

*Shabbos afternoon at 4.45pm*

LADIES SHIURIM WITH

### RABBI AUERBACH

THIS WEEK

### HOW TO EFFECT PERSONAL CHANGE

at the Levitt's, 10a Terminal Cres, Glenhazel

*Wednesday at 9.00am*

### TESHUVAH by the Chazon Ish

at the Liknaitzky's, 1 Park Glen Estate,  
Terminal Crescent, Glenhazel

*Thursday at 9.15am*

## RABBI TZVI SCHWARTZ

MUSSAR FOR YOM KIPPUR  
THIS THURSDAY 17 SEPTEMBER

MUSSAR FOR SUKKOS  
NEXT THURSDAY 24 SEPTEMBER

**Thursday Nights, 8.30-9.10 PM**

In Classroom near Small, Side Shul

**Men and Women**

Recordings of classes available at [www.avtzvi.com](http://www.avtzvi.com)



# COMMUNITY SECURITY ORGANISATION GAUTENG



September 2015 / 5776

Dear Community Member,

With Rosh Hashanah quickly approaching, Jews throughout the world are encouraged to take time out of their busy schedules to reflect on the past year and to look at ways of growing, both personally and communally in the year ahead. Our Rabbis teach us that one of the important areas of communal Teshuvah is to reflect and ask ourselves what have we done for the betterment of our community.

As a volunteer organisation tasked with the community's safety and security, the CSO's ideology of 'Protecting Jewish life and the Jewish way of life, while empowering the community to protect itself' can only be fulfilled if each and every member of the community asks him or herself what more they can do to ensure the safety and security of their fellow Jews.

In this regard, the CSO urges all community members to:

- **Actively participate in your shul or school's security team**
- **Be constantly vigilant for suspicious activity in and around communal installations**
- **Contact us for advice or guidance in better securing your installation**
- **Attend the various security skills courses offered by the CSO**

Furthermore, the management of the CSO encourages you to bear in mind the following security tips over the upcoming Chagim:

#### **When walking in the streets:**

- Whenever possible, walk together in groups, particularly at night.
- We urge you to keep your walking routes to:
  - Main arterial roads
  - Well-lit streets
  - Non secluded roads
- Women and girls should be escorted by a male, particularly at night.
- All children must walk under supervision and within arm's reach of a responsible adult.
- Wherever possible, walk on the pavement. If this is not possible, walk on the right hand side of the road facing oncoming traffic.
- Wear an item of reflective clothing or a reflective belt when walking at night to ensure that you can be seen by passing motorists.
- Don't visibly wear jewellery or items of perceived value.

#### **When at home:**

- Inform your family and employees of any expected deliveries or guests and remind them NEVER to open the gate or door to anyone who is not expected.
- When expecting visitors, make prior arrangements as to arrival times and lock the gate immediately thereafter.
- Provide additional keys to all family members so that they do not have to wait outside.
- Always ensure that your front gates and doors remain locked.
- Have the CSO emergency number in plain sight and make sure it is known by your family and staff.
- Never enter your house if you notice any suspicious people or vehicles lurking nearby, as they may pose a threat.

**If at any stage you have a security or medical emergency or wish to report any suspicious activity, people, vehicles or objects in or around a Jewish installation, please contact the CSO Control Room immediately on 086 18 000 18.**

**DUE TO THE INCREASED SECURITY LEVEL, RABBI AUERBACH HAS ALLOWED THOSE DOING SECURITY DUTY TO WEAR RADIO EQUIPMENT IN A CONCEALED MANNER, WHICH SHOULD ONLY BE USED IN A CASE OF EMERGENCY.**