

3rd Cheshvan 5769/1st November 2008

Minister: Rabbi Lionel Rosenfeld

Emeritus Chazan: Rev. Moshe Dubiner

Parashat Noach

Hertz Cohen Stone Gutnick Shabbat 4.21pm

Sedra 26 34 30 38 Shabbat ends 5.22pm

Haftarah 41 56 1131 1375



PRAYING FOR RAIN- SOME TECHNICAL INFORMATION

We've just begun the month of Marcheshvan, and from next Tuesday evening, which will be the 7th of the month, Jews living in Israel will begin inserting the special prayer for rain, "*ve-tein tal u-matar*," in the major weekday prayer known as the *Amidah*, or *Shemoneh Esrei*. Those of us living in Diaspora, however, won't start adding this prayer for several weeks, on December 5th, sixty days after the Autumn Equinox. (*Is that correct? See below.**). The reason for the discrepancy highlights the varying levels of urgency for rainfall. Israel has a dire need for rain; the earlier it comes in autumn, the better. Yet the prayer requesting it is not added before or during Succot, since rain would prevent the performance of the mitzvah of sitting or dwelling in the succah. In Temple times when Jews would travel to Jerusalem for the three pilgrimage festivals of Pesach, Shavuot and Succot, there was an interest in having the rains delayed until all the pilgrims returned home. Thus the Jews of Eretz Yisrael began asking for rain two weeks after the conclusion of Succot, on the seventh of Marcheshvan. Even nowadays, when in the absence of the Temple we do not observe the pilgrimage mitzvah of "aliyah le-regel", we nevertheless continue the practice in Israel of waiting until the 7th of Marcheshvan before reciting the prayer for rain. (However, many authorities maintain that if a resident of Israel mistakenly added the insert after Succot but before this date, he need not repeat the shemoneh esrei correctly, since the rainy season has in effect already begun.)

Diaspora Jewry, which was originally centred in Babylon, did not need rain as urgently during the autumn weeks; the critical period began only later, closer to the official onset of winter. The custom therefore evolved that Jewry outside of Eretz Yisrael wait to add "*ve-tein tal u-matar*" sixty days after the Autumn Equinox - but see below.

* *The Equinox* defines the two times of the year when night and day are about the same length: the sun is crossing the Equator and is an equal distance from both the North and South Poles. The *Autumn Equinox* in the northern hemisphere is September 22nd, the first day of the season of autumn, when the sun crosses the Equator moving southward, and heralds the beginning of a long period of darkness at the Pole. 60 days later would actually be November 22nd, but because of differences in the way the Sages made their calculations (too complex to discuss here), December 5th was agreed as the day to begin praying for rain. A 13-day delay in reciting the prayer for rain is significant, particularly in regions where rain is desperately required earlier, yet although it is uncomfortable to be out of harmony with reality to such a great degree, the prevailing opinion has been that without an International Bet Din such a halachic adjustment cannot be made.

Whatever the date may be, and whether we say the prayer for rain in Israel or the Diaspora- may our prayers be answered! *Shabbat Shalom*.

Next Shabbat - Lech Lecha

7th November— 8th November 2008

Commences 4.08pm Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat 4.00pm

Announcements

We welcome Rabbi Yisroel Lew & Rebbetzin Lew together with all participants in 'Friday Night Live' Singles Dinner (in conjunction with Chabad Bloomsbury)

Kiddush Sponsor

Beatrice & Meyer Bengio invite the congregation to Kiddush in the Hartog Gallery after the service to commemorate the Yahrzeit of Meyer's father Amram Bengio z"l.

Breakfast Sponsor

Breakfasts this week are sponsored anonymously by a member of the community

Birthdays—Mazal Tov to:

Samuel Shear Imogen Aaronson
Harry Aaronson Joshua Miller
Stephanie Rapp Max Rayden
Georgina Zarko Victoria Franks
Judith Abrahams Jonathan Esfandi
Harvey Soning Eldred Tabachnik
Linda Lewis Gerald Lipton
Betty Freeman Peggy Davis

Refuah Shelemah

Gertie Endfield Rachel bat Yehudit
Raphael Etesami Raphael ben Michal
Seymour Freed Shmuel Zeev ben Sara Rivka
Kathlean Slade Krainer bat Esther

Our Rabbi

You can contact Rabbi Lionel & Natalie Rosenfeld at rabbilr@marblearch.org.uk
Phone: 020 7535 0458
mobile: 07811202244

Our Website:

www.marblearch.org.uk

Friday 31st October

- 7.30 am Shacharit followed by breakfast & Haftarah Shiur by Ervin Landau
4.15 pm Mincha, Kabbalat Shabbat & D'var Torah by Rabbi Lionel Rosenfeld

Shabbat 1st November

- 8.45 am Shiur with Ervin Landau
9.15 am Shacharit
After Kiddush **LUNCHEON CLUB** in the Bloomstein Hall
4.15 pm Mincha, followed by Seudah Shlishit, & D'var Torah by Rabbi Lionel Rosenfeld
5.22 pm Maariv & Havdalah

Sunday 2nd November

- 8.30 am Shacharit followed by breakfast and Thought for the Day by Alan Goldberg

Half Term Cheder Age 4 – 12 years. Contact Batsheva Burns for further information on 0796 88 555 96 or email cheder.marblearch@gmail.com

Monday 3rd November

- 7.30 am Shacharit followed by breakfast & D'var Torah by Michael Milston
10.00 am Rabbi Rosenfeld's Parasha Shiur for Ladies
3.00 pm Senior members teaparty
5.00 pm Rabbi Rosenfeld's Bat Mitzvah Class

Tuesday 4th November

- 7.30 am Shacharit followed by breakfast & Shiur by Rabbi Yosef Vogel
5.00 pm Rabbi Rosenfeld's Hebrew Reading & Siddur Class

Wednesday 5th November

- 7.30 am Shacharit followed by breakfast and Parsha Shiur by Ervin Landau

Thursday 6th November

- 7.30am Shacharit followed by breakfast & D'var Torah by Bernard Silver

Friday 7th November

- 7.30 am Shacharit followed by breakfast & Haftarah Shiur by Ervin Landau

**Mincha & Ma'ariv through the week
Sun 2nd - Thurs 6th November 4.15pm**

Security Rota

Simon Lyons. Yaacov Schmidt. Steven Truman.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Rabbi Rosenfeld's Parsha Shiur for Ladies

A weekly series has begun. New participants are most welcome. This week's Shiur will be held at **10.00am on Monday** (note earlier time)

Rabbi Rosenfeld's Bat Mitzvah Class

Rabbi Rosenfeld's class for girls preparing for Bat Mitzvah will be held next Monday 3rd November at 5.00pm

Rabbi Rosenfeld's Hebrew Reading & Understanding the Siddur Class

This class will now begin on Tuesday December 2nd at 5.00pm. Those wishing to join should email Rabbi Rosenfeld on rabbilr@marblearch.org.uk or call the office

Rabbi Rosenfeld's GCSE Class in Judaism for post Bar & Bat Mitzvah teenagers

This class will now begin on Thursday November 13th at 6.00pm. New participants are welcome. Please contact him at rabbilr@marblearch.org.uk or call the office

Luncheon Club—Shabbat 1st November

Everyone welcome to attend. Limited space available. Please contact the office now to make your reservation to avoid disappointment

Monday 3rd November 2008 at 3.00pm

Mrs. Natalie & Rabbi Lionel Rosenfeld invite our senior members to a tea party in the Bloomstein Hall Please come along with all your friends.
RSVP: Kindly contact Maureen at 020 7723 9333 or by email Maureen@marblearch.org.uk

Monday 24th November at 7.45pm

"Ethics , Jews and Embryos" with Baroness Ruth Deech

Ruth Deech was chair of the UK Human Fertilisation & Embryology Authority from 1994-2002, HFEA is a national committee charged with monitoring all IVF clinics and laboratories in the UK, and with approving assisted reproductive treatments and embryo research. In the period of her chairmanship to 2002 the HFEA oversaw the introduction of preimplantation genetic diagnosis and stem cell research. For further details please see our website www.marblearch.org.uk

Choral Shabbat Service from Montreal, 7th December:

We are delighted to welcome world-renowned Composer and Choir Director Stephen Glass together with Chazan Gideon Zelermyer and Montreal Choir who will join Rabbi Rosenfeld for Choral Shacharit and Musaf

JACS—Jewish Adult Cultural Society

EXCITING!! STIMULATING!! NETWORKING!!

This is a "MUST" for you!!!

Over '55' - the newly formed Marble Arch Group of 'JACS' Please call the office to register your interest, 0207 723 9333