

Parshat Mattot-Masei: Shabbat Mevarchim HaChodesh

	Hertz	Cohen	Stone	Gutnick		Shabbat Begins	8.55pm
Sedra	702	955	900	1074		Shabbat ends	10.09pm
Haftarah	725	984	1193	1465			

Forty Two ENCAMPMENTS

Parshat Mas'ei opens with a list of the wanderings of Bnei Yisrael on their journey from Egypt to Eretz Yisrael. Many commentators have raised the question of why the Torah records all of this; would it not be sufficient to say that Bnei Yisrael left Egypt and arrived at the plains of Mo'av? Rashi writes that the Torah wishes to teach us that God was merciful in that He did not make them travel excessively. Nachmanides quotes Maimonides in *The Guide to the Perplexed*, maintaining that the list of travels is meant to serve as an answer to the skeptics who would otherwise claim that Bnei Yisrael wandered in places where there was food and water – thus denying the miracles that God performed in the desert.

But we still ask why it was necessary for us to be told concerning every leg of the journey, "And they journeyed... and they encamped"? Would it not suffice to list the places where Bnei Yisrael passed through? The Rashbam (33:1) writes, "All the journeys and encampments are repeated in order to explain where they encamped" – but he provides no reason for the necessity of doing so. It would seem that the Torah wishes to teach us an important lesson. One could imagine that all of these journeys were meant only to bring the nation to Eretz Yisrael, and that they were of no special importance in and of themselves. But this is not so; rather, the encampment in each place was significant in its own right and not only as preparation for the next journey.

On one hand, each stop was really temporary, with Bnei Yisrael keeping their bags packed and ready at any moment to continue. As they encamped, they already faced towards the direction of the next journey. On the other hand, the fact that the journey was by God's command gave each stop an element of permanence; as nothing connected with God is temporary, Bnei Yisrael knew that they would stay still and not move until they received God's orders to move on.

What is true of the encampments of Bnei Yisrael in the desert also applies to the days of the week. During the six working days one progresses and develops, constantly in action. On Shabbat we have time to stop and see where we are and what we have achieved; not only to prepare our next steps but also to anchor and root ourselves in the place we are at. The Gemara (Shabbat 2b) teaches that if someone is carrying a load in the public domain on Shabbat and he halts, this stop is considered as laying down the load only if he stood "to rest," not if he stopped "to shoulder it" (i.e., to rearrange the load on his shoulders). Thus there are two types of stopping: a stop whose function is to prepare the way for continuation and progress, and a stop whose function is to rest, to grasp the place where one is. The encampments of Bnei Yisrael in the desert combined both aspects.

The same can be said of one's life in general. We may not remain constantly in the same place – a person without vision or aspirations is living life unfulfilled. But on the other hand a life cannot be a mad rush forward. What point is there if we are constantly on the run until the end of our days, without ever stopping to see where we are? Yes, we must always make progress, but so too, there has to be a coming to rest from time to time where we have halted..... Shabbat Shalom.

From a D'var Torah by Rav Aharon Lichtenstein, Rosh Yeshivat Har Etzion

Announcements

A well deserved Mazal Tov to the Chief Rabbi and Lady Sacks on his appointment as a Life Peer in the House of Lords

Kiddush Sponsor

Miriam & Garry Khasidy invite the congregation to Kiddush after the service to celebrate the first birthday of their daughter Elizabeth

Breakfast Sponsor

Breakfasts this week are kindly sponsored by Faanya Rose to commemorate the setting of the stone in loving memory of Fanny Goldin z"l in Johannesburg

Birth Announcement

Mazal Tov to Valeria & Daniel Levy on the birth of their third son

Birthdays— Mazal Tov:

Daniel Feldman	Olivia Lindsay
Alix Lederman-Whyte Buchler	
Mark Pasha	Julia Hanbury
Benedict Price	Albere Rouach
Miriam Lyons	Norma Midgen
Georgina Spencer	Wendy Kremen
Geoffrey Lewis	Angela Morrison
Paul Cohen	Geoffrey Waters
Sheilagh Ross	Leonard Carson
Sonia Sanitt	Edna Kaye
Maurice Shore	Sybil Fischelis
Livia Sacks	Jessie Simon

Wedding Anniversaries—Mazal Tov:

Sheilagh & Tony Ross
Louise & Jeremiah Harouni
Wendy & Henry Brecher

Refuah Shlemah

Simon Reiss	Simcha ben Chaya Gittel
Jack Winsor	Yaacov ben Miriam m Chayah
Seymour Freed	Shmuel Zeev ben Sara Rivka
Nat Winsor	Noach ben Miriam Chayah
Sheilagh Ross	Sara bat Meryl
Gala Colover	Chana bat Yehudit Asher Mordecai ben Shifra Shira bat Leah

Friday 17th July

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

Shabbat 18th July

8.45 am Shiur with Alan Goldberg
9.15 am Shacharit
9.00 pm Mincha, Seudah Shlishit & D'var Torah by Rabbi Lionel Rosenfeld
10.09 pm Maariv & Havdalah

Sunday 19th July

8.30 am Shacharit followed by breakfast and Thoughts for the Day by Alan Goldberg
Restarts September Cheder Aged 4—12 years. Contact Batsheva Burns for further information on 0796 88 555 96 or email cheder.marblearch@gmail.com.
Now is the time to register your child/grandchild for the new Cheder term.

Monday 20th July

7.30 am Shacharit followed by breakfast and D'var Torah by Rabbi Lionel Rosenfeld

Tuesday 21th July

7.30 am Shacharit followed by breakfast Shiur by Rabbi Yosef Vogel

Wednesday 22nd July Rosh Chodesh Av

7.15 am Shacharit followed by Rosh Chodesh breakfast and Parsha Shiur by Ervin Landau

Thursday 23rd July

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

Friday 24th July

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

Mincha & Ma'ariv this week:

Sun 19th—Thurs 23rd July 7.20pm

Security Rota

David Djanogly. Philip Hanbury. Max Rayden.

Kiddush Rota

Ruth Hanbury. Angela Wayne.

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

Our Website: For details of times of services and events, go to www.marblearch.org.uk

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The Archers Tuesday 13th October at 2.30pm

Make a note of the above date in your diary now to join us for a fun filled afternoon with guest speaker Marcel Stellman, the man behind 'Countdown', 'The Smurfs' and with a lifelong career in the music and television industry, followed by a bumper tea and music

Yizkor Book 2009/5770

Remember to return your form to the Synagogue office before going on holiday. Closing date Monday 17th August 2009

Rosh Hashanah Magazine/Brochure

This year's Shanah Tovah Magazine is being compiled, which with your help we hope will be an even bigger success than last year. Many members of the congregation use the Magazine to send New Year Greetings and as the brochure has become so important, please ensure that you are included in this worthwhile cause.

Please send or email your advert today to the Synagogue Office. Please send us your articles, photographs or letters that you wish to be considered for publication in the brochure. Closing Date 22nd July

Rosh Hashanah Magazine Children's & Pets names

Don't forget to include your children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces and nephews names in our brochure and, of course, remember to include your pets.

Market Place at WMA—Exclusively for WMA Members



A great new addition to our website has been launched ... **Market Place**, an opportunity for our members to support each other in these economically

challenging times. Whatever business you are in let us know by emailing marketplace@marblearch.org.uk so we can include your listing free on the web site.

Whatever you need to buy from a fridge to a flight check the website first and support our members. Our web page can be found at www.marblearch.org.uk/marketplace.html

THE FLU EPIDEMIC

It is vital that we take all necessary precautions to avoid the spread of the current pandemic. To this extent we already have hand tissues in the toilets, and we would ask that you dispose of them in the containers placed there. Whilst never wishing to discourage people attending shul, we would counsel that consideration be given if you are in fact suffering from the symptoms.

Try to avoid sitting too close to anyone (no problem at WMA) avoid handshaking and kissing if you are subject to coughs or sneezes. This is a serious matter, and the United Synagogue has been responsible in its preparation for a problem situation.

The Hon Officers.