

23rd Ellul 5769/12th September 2009

Minister: Rabbi Lionel Rosenfeld

Emeritus Chazan: Rev. Moshe Dubiner

**Parshat Nitzavim Vayelech**

	Hertz	Cohen	Stone	Gutnick		Shabbat Begins	7.10pm
Sedra	878	1138	1086	1316		Shabbat ends	8.10pm
Haftarah	883	1145	1202	1480			

Some of the most powerful and emotional language in the Bible is contained in the first of this week's 2 Sidrot— Nitzavim Moses prophesies on the future of the Jewish nation and introduces his speech by declaring that the Torah is binding on both *"those that are here, standing with us today before G-d, and on those that are not here with us today"* (Deuteronomy 29:14). Is this not prophetic of a time when so many Jews will claim that the Torah is "no longer applicable"? Further, is it possible to overlook the fact that just a few verses later (in Ch. 30), Moses tells us that after we have been exiled all over the world, G-d will then return us to our land?

Yet even when the people of Israel were ruled by kings who went by the Torah, the *teshuvah* (repentance) movement was lacking. In one of the most telling prophecies delivered in the days of one of the most Torah-observant kings, King Josiah, the prophet Jeremiah still has to admonish the people. He warns them of overconfidence. As Jeremiah is describing the blessings which await them if they repent, he tells them: *"plough for yourselves a furrow, and do not sow upon thorn bushes"* (Jeremiah 4:3). The commentators explain that this refers to the fact that before a field is to be sown, it must be cleared out and ploughed through, and not merely sown upon as is.

The message of Jeremiah is clear: we cannot start afresh until we resolve to do away with the old. One needs to dig into one's heart and resolve to change in order to complete *teshuvah*.

The sages in the Talmud expand upon this theme, teaching that Josiah set up a police force whose job it was to ensure idolatry was eradicated from the land, but in response, many of the people constructed idols which were to be placed partially on the door and partially on the wall. When the "idolatry police" would come in, the door would be opened and the idol would become unrecognizable. However, as soon as the door was closed the idol was once again intact. In this way, they evaded detection and the idolatry was never fully eradicated. Our rabbis are thus indicating that the *teshuvah* was far more external than internal: sincere repentance requires internal resolve, not merely conforming to social trends.

We are just a few days away from the most important days of our calendar. It is no coincidence that the rabbis arranged the Torah readings and the calendar so that Nitzavim is read around the time of Rosh Hashanah, so that we study this portion, and become inspired by it: *I have set before you a choice.....Love G-d and observe His commandments so that you will live and prosper .....so choose life!*

May we all be inscribed in the Book of Life.  
Shabbat Shalom

*Based on a lecture given by Rabbi Menachem Leibtag at Yeshivat Har Etzion.*

**Next Shabbat— Rosh Hashanah**

18th—20th September 2009  
Commences 6.54pm Mincha & Maariv 6.45pm

**Announcements**

**Today's Choral Shabbat Service**

We thank Jason Silver together with Anthony Caplan, Jack Ferro, Gabriel Gottlieb & Laurie Page for enhancing our Services this Shabbat.

**Kiddush Sponsor**

Renee & Allan Ladow invite the Congregation to Kiddush after the service to celebrate the marriage of their son Pierre to Bianca Imerman

**Breakfast Sponsor**

Breakfasts this week are kindly sponsored by Michael Rose to commemorate the Yahrzeit of his father Malcolm Rose z"l

**Birthdays— Mazal Tov:**

Samuel Goodman	Hugo Steckelmacher
Hayley Ronson	Jacqueline Eppel
Harry Handelsman	Joe Miller
Orna Boston	

**Wedding Anniversaries—Mazal Tov:**

Jessica & Russell Boxer  
Katie & Toby Goldblatt  
Carolyn & Mark Mishon  
Jaqueline & Graham Colover  
Jean & Marcel Stellman

**Refuah Shlemah**

Simon Reiss	Simcha Ben Shragga Fivell Seymour Freed Shmuel Zeev ben Sara Rivka
Nat Winsor	Noach ben Miriam Chayah Shira bat Leah
Gala Colover	Chana bat Yehudit Rivka bat Chava Shira Rivka bat Yehudit Bat-Zion

**Condolences**

To Debra Ziff on the passing of her father Heinz Samson z"l. Shiva will be observed at 10 Hallgate London NW8 9PG. Evening Services at 8.00pm Thursday 10th and Sunday 13th September

**Friday 11th September**

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

**Shabbat 12th September**

8.45 am Shiur with Robbie Sherman  
9.15 am **Choral Shacharit & Musaf**  
7.00 pm Mincha, Seudah Shlishit & D'var Torah by Rabbi Lionel Rosenfeld  
8.10 pm Maariv & Havdalah

**Sunday 13th September**

8.10 am Shacharit followed by breakfast and D'var Torah  
10.00 am Cheder **Aged 4—12 years**. Contact Rabbi Lionel Rosenfeld for further information on 07811202244 or email rabbilr@marblearch.org.uk

**Monday 14th September**

7.10 am Shacharit followed by breakfast & D'var Torah by Michael Milston  
10.30am Rabbi Rosenfeld's Shiur for Ladies—"High Holyday Prayers—Part 2"

**Tuesday 15th September**

7.10 am Shacharit followed by breakfast Shiur by Rabbi Yosef Vogel

**Wednesday 16th September**

7.10 am Shacharit followed by breakfast and Parsha Shiur by Rabbi Lionel Rosenfeld

**Thursday 17th September**

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

**Friday 18th August**

6.45 am Shacharit followed by breakfast & Haftarah Shiur by Rabbi Lionel Rosenfeld

Mincha & Ma'ariv this week:  
Sun 13th —Thurs 17th Sept 5.45pm

**Kiddush Rota**

Carol Truman. Jessica Truman.

**Security Rota**

Alan Goldberg.

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](http://www.marblearch.org.uk)**

**Rabbi Lionel is pleased to announce that all the students in his GCSE Jewish Studies Class of 2008/2009 achieved an 'A' Star grade and we congratulate them.**

**The class for the coming year will begin on Thursday October 15th and thereafter every Thursday after school. Please contact him**

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

**Cheder: A new term, a new Headmistress**

We are pleased to welcome Mrs. Miriam Kaye as our new Cheder Headmistress and we wish her much success. The new cheder term began last Sunday and we have already received 2 new families who are beginning this week. Miriam is planning some innovative cheder events, besides working to improve all the children's Hebrew reading and writing skills this year. If you know of any children who are unattached to a cheder and would benefit from a warm and caring educational environment, please contact Miriam Kaye through the office, or Rabbi Lionel Rosenfeld on his mobile or email.

**Rabbi Rosenfeld's Monday Ladies' Shiur**

The weekly Ladies' Shiur - Monday, September 14th, at 10.30am. Subject: High Holyday Prayers—Part 2. Ladies who have not previously attended are most welcome.

**Temporary Seats**

**Please remember to contact the Synagogue Office to order your extra seats for family and friends for the Chagim.**

**Arba Minim**

**Order your Lulav & Etrog now**  
Contact Robert Golbert in the Office

**Succot Meals**

Natalie & Rabbi Lionel Rosenfeld invite you to join them for Yom Tov Meals in the Succah:

**Friday Evening Dinner 2nd October**

**Shabbat Lunch 3rd October**

**Sunday Lunch 4th October**

£35 per person per meal/Children under 12 £20/  
Children under 5 no charge/ Students £10

**Limited space available—book now to avoid disappointment.** Call the office on 020 7723 9333

**Supper & Evening with Allan Conway Sunday 25th October**

Join us for what will be a fabulous fun evening with good friends, good food and drink and lots of laughs and surprises.

Allan Conway is a leading consultant in the field of graphology and divides his time between lecture tours and consultancy work. He is highly in demand as a public speaker and he has made numerous appearances on TV and radio and regularly appears on Big Brother's Little Brother, Ready Steady Cook and Celebrity Split Ups and ITV News at Ten.

**The Archers Tuesday 27th 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