



The Arch

Western Marble Arch Synagogue



Picture of the week: Today, Thursday, is Tu B'Shvat - the New Year for Trees. The first sign that spring is ahead and that hope is always ahead. Am Yisrael Chai and Tu B'Shvat Sameach! (The "calanit" flower in Israel)

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Shabbat Parashat Beshalach

Shabbat begins: 4.24pm
Shabbat ends: 5.31pm

	Sedra	Haftarah
Hertz	265	281
Cohen	407	434
Stone	366	1152
Gutnick	422	1404

WESTERN MARBLE ARCH
SYNAGOGUE PRESENTS:



Jonathan Sacerdoti
Israel: The War So Far & Where Next
Journalist and broadcaster Jonathan Sacerdoti joins us for analysis and discussion of what is really going on in Israel and the Middle East, and what may happen next as the conflict develops.

Shabbat 27th January
11:40am @ WMA

WMA
WESTERN MARBLE ARCH

The Week

Friday 19 January

4.30pm Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat,
followed by Chicken Soup Kiddush

Shabbat 20 January

8.45am Shiur with Rabbi Epstein
9.15am Shacharit followed by kiddush
10.30am Shiur Rebbetzin Ilana
11.40am Jonathan Sacerdoti in
conversation with Rabbi Epstein
4.30pm Mincha & Seuda Shlishit
5.31pm Ma'ariv & Havdalah

Shacharit followed by breakfast & shiur

Sunday: 8.30am
Monday-Friday: 7.30am

Mincha & Ma'ariv

Sunday-Thursday: 3.45pm

Message from Rabbi Epstein

Dear Community,

#BringThemHomeNOW – Day 104

This parasha, more than any other, articulates the speed at which slavery and oppression can turn to freedom and salvation.

The Shabbat, Parashat Beshalach, is also known as Shabbat Shira - the Shabbat of Song. This year, especially, this takes on a whole new hue. It is hard to explain the emotional rollercoaster and trauma that has taken place in the few days that are described in the parasha.

It is understood from the commentators that, while the plagues were happening in Egypt over the course of a year, the Children of Israel were indeed enslaved, but they were not working. They walked out of Egypt following the catastrophic smiting of the firstborn of Egypt - human and animal.

They make their way to the Red Sea and they are fearful. Red Sea in front of them, marauding Egyptians behind them (who woke up to the fact that the Israelites had left, and chased after them!) and desert to either side.

They have nowhere left to go and, as is their habit, they cry out for SOMEONE ELSE to help them.

Then Hashem said to Moses, "Why do you cry out to Me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. (Ex. 14:15)

But, at the same time, Moses promised the people just a few verses earlier:

But Moses said to the people, "Have no fear! Stand by, and witness the deliverance which Hashem will work for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today you will never see again.

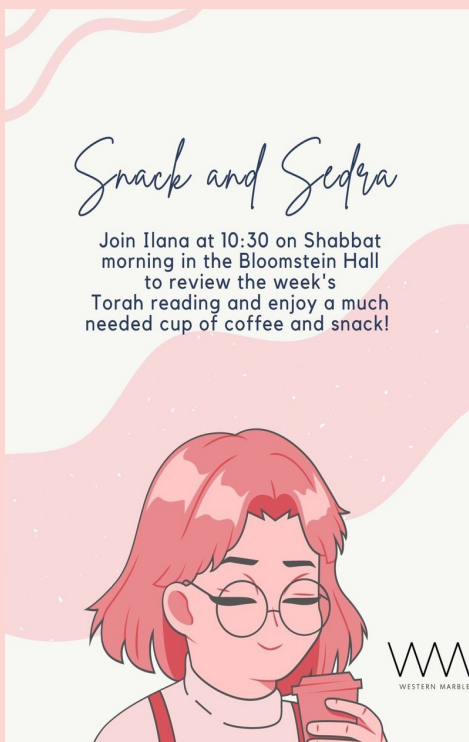
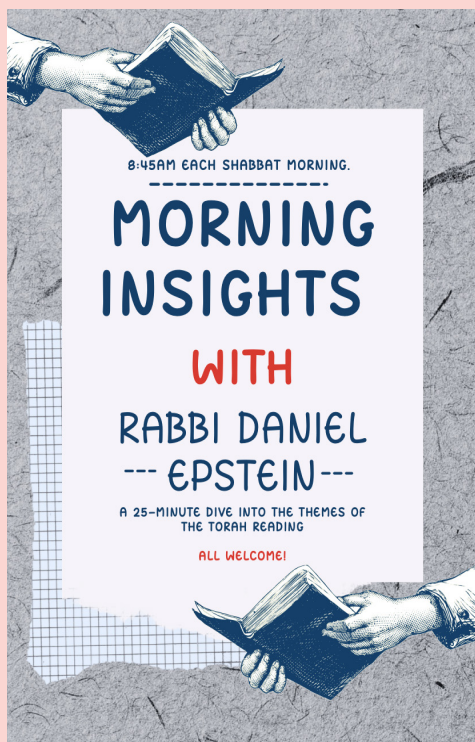
Why did the people cry out and why did God respond the way He did?

I believe that this is the paradigm for resilience, and it is not the first example.

Many generations before this time, in Genesis 32, when Jacob prepares anxiously to meet Esau after 22 years, he prepares in 3 ways.

continued overleaf...

What's On



continued from above...

He sends gifts ahead to his brother, he splits his camp into two, and he prays.

This integration of "hishtadlut" (personal effort) and "emunah" (faith in God, often via prayer) is the secret to our survival.

After over two centuries in slavery, God had to re-engage the people and educate them again in this powerful mixture of self-determination and faith.

The Children of Israel emerged from the Red Sea, which God miraculously split for them and drowned the mighty Egyptian army, and their first response was cathartic relief which they expressed in the most majestic song that we have - The Song at the Sea ("Shirat HaYam").

Where words cannot suffice, music often takes over and lifts the soul and spirit beyond anything we could imagine.

At this challenging time in our collective lives, let us deepen our faith through song on this special Shabbat.

Shabbat shalom uMevorach,
Rabbi Daniel & Ilana

Mazelto

We wish Mazeltov to Cyril Breslauer and family on the birth of his 5th Great Grandchild in Israel.

BIRTHDAYS

Alexander Goldberg, Alexia Khodari, Maurice Woolfson, Joanne Remo, Adam Cedar, Andrew Newton, Michael Harris, Martin Maxwell, David Woolf, Richard Marchant

ANNIVERSARIES

Rachel & Gavin Stollar, Yvonne & Ervin Landau, Karen & Anthony Yadgaroff

CARE IN THE COMMUNITY

WMA Welfare Committee is here to help. Contact us through the office on 020 7723 9333 if you are in need of assistance or if you would like to volunteer.

Yahrzeits

Saturday 27 January: Alexandra Land (Father)

Sunday 28 January: Nicholas Posnansky (Mother), Timothy Lipton (Mother), Sam Lipton (Mother)

Tuesday 30 January: Patricia Gold (Mother)

Friday 2 February: Joanne Remo (Father), Patricia Gold (Husband)

WMA is adopting a vigil for Tal Shoham and more details will follow on how we engage with his family moving forward.

TAL SHOHAM
טל שהם
(38)

has been held hostage
in Gaza since
7 October 2023

**#BRING HIM
HOME NOW**



For more information please visit our website: www.marblearch.org.uk