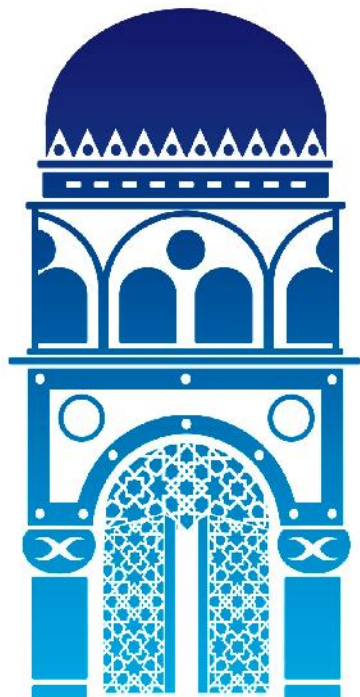


# WEST LONDON SYNAGOGUE

ק"ק שער ציון

WELCOMES YOU



שַׁבַּת שְׁלוֹם

SHABBAT SHALOM

25-26 May 2018

12 Sivan 5778

# SHABBAT SHALOM AND WELCOME TO WEST LONDON SYNAGOGUE

## FRIDAY

**6.00pm:**     **Erev Shabbat Service**  
Led by Rabbis David and Sybil  
Sermon by Rabbi Sybil

**Wardens:**    Paul Jaffa, Rita Yusupoff and Stewart Sether  
**Beadle:**     Micky Nathanson

## SATURDAY

**10.30am:**    **Coffee Morning**

**11.00am:**    **Shabbat Morning Service**  
Led by Rabbis David and Sybil  
Sermon by Rabbi David

**Wardens:**    Paul Jaffa, Rita Yusupoff and Vivien Feather  
**Beadle:**     Micky Nathanson

**Torah:**       Numbers 6:22-7:11  
**Haftarah:**   Ezra 1:1-11

*Please join us for Shabbat kiddush after the service.*

### **Doctor or fully trained first aider?**

If you are a doctor or trained first aider please make yourself known to the wardens and beadle.

## PARASHAT NASO

*Parashat Naso* concludes the census begun in the first chapters of Numbers with a counting of the Gershonites, Merarites, and Kohathites and a description of their work in the sanctuary. It also includes instructions for removing from the Israelite camp those suspected of disease or those who may have become impure by touching a dead body. Moses explains how to seek forgiveness for wrongdoing and what to do if a husband suspects his wife of adultery. The practices of the nazirite are repeated together with a description of the ritual for completing a nazirite vow. The portion concludes with the threefold priestly blessing for the people of Israel and with a description of the offerings brought by the twelve tribal chieftains to the sanctuary dedication ceremony.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### We wish a warm Mazel tov to:

- Ann Rachlin on her 2nd Bat Mitzvah.
- Zachariah Gouldman/Draper and his parents Juliet Gouldman and Tim Draper on his baby blessing.
- Shoshanah Warshaw and Dan Armes on their birthdays.

The mitzvah of *derech erez-consideration for other people* is really important for us at West London Synagogue, so we would ask you to make sure that your mobile phone is turned off before the service and to leave cameras in your bags. As this is a religious place, we would also ask you to avoid inappropriate clothing or chewing gum during the service. Many thanks for your consideration in following our communal *minhag-traditions*.

*The Rabbis and Wardens*

וַיִּדְבֹר יְיָ אֶל־מֹשֶׁה לֵאמֹר: כַּג דְּבַר אֶל־אַהֲרֹן וְאֶל־בְּנָיו לֵאמֹר כֹּה תְּבָרְכוּ אֶת־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל אֲמֹר לָהֶם: ׀ כִּד יְבָרְכֶךָ יְיָ וַיִּשְׁמְרֶךָ: ׀ כֹּה יֵאָר יְיָ | פְּנֵיו אֵלֶיךָ וַיַּחֲנֶךָ: ׀ כֹּו יִשָּׂא יְיָ | פְּנֵיו אֵלֶיךָ וַיִּשֶׂם לְךָ שָׁלוֹם: ׀ כֹּז וְשָׁמוּ אֶת־שְׁמִי עַל־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וְאֲנִי אֲבָרְכֶם:

וַיְהִי בַיּוֹם בָּלוֹת מֹשֶׁה לְהַקִּים אֶת־הַמִּשְׁכָּן וַיִּמַּשַׁח אֹתוֹ וַיִּקְדָּשׁ אֹתוֹ וְאֶת־כָּל־כְּלָיו וְאֶת־הַמִּזְבֵּחַ וְאֶת־כָּל־כְּלָיו וַיִּמַּשְׁחֵם וַיִּקְדָּשׁ אֹתָם: ב וַיִּקְרִיבוּ נְשִׂאֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל רָאשֵׁי בֵּית אֲבֹתָם הֵם נְשִׂאֵי הַמִּטָּה הֵם הָעֹמְדִים עַל־הַפְּקָדִים: ג וַיָּבִיאוּ אֶת־קַרְבָּנָם לִפְנֵי יְיָ שֵׁשׁ־עֶגְלֹת צֶבַע וּשְׁנַי־עָשָׂר בָּקָר עֶגְלָה עַל־שְׁנַי הַנְּשִׂאִים וְשׁוֹר לְאֶחָד וַיִּקְרִיבוּ אוֹתָם לִפְנֵי הַמִּשְׁכָּן: ד וַיֹּאמֶר יְיָ אֶל־מֹשֶׁה לֵאמֹר: ה קַח מֵאֹתָם וְהָיוּ לְעֹבֵד אֶת־עֲבֹדַת אֹהֶל מוֹעֵד וְנִתְּתָה אוֹתָם אֶל־הַלְוִיִּם אִישׁ כְּפִי עֲבַדְתּוֹ

וַיִּקַּח מֹשֶׁה אֶת־הָעֶגְלֹת וְאֶת־הַבָּקָר וַיִּתֵּן אוֹתָם אֶל־הַלְוִיִּם: ז אֵת | שְׁתֵּי הָעֶגְלֹת וְאֵת אַרְבַּעַת הַבָּקָר נָתַן לְבְנֵי גֵרְשׁוֹן כְּפִי עֲבַדְתָּם: ח וְאֵת | אַרְבַּע הָעֶגְלֹת וְאֵת שְׁמֹנֶת הַבָּקָר נָתַן לְבְנֵי מְרָרִי כְּפִי עֲבַדְתָּם בְּיַד אֵיתָמָר בֶּן־אַהֲרֹן הַכֹּהֵן: ט וּלְבְנֵי קָהָת לֹא נָתַן כִּי־עֲבַדְתָּ הַקֹּדֶשׁ עֲלֵהֶם בְּכֹתֵף יִשָּׂאוּ: י וַיִּקְרִיבוּ הַנְּשִׂאִים אֶת חֲנֻכַּת הַמִּזְבֵּחַ בַּיּוֹם הַמִּשַׁח אֹתוֹ וַיִּקְרִיבוּ הַנְּשִׂאִים אֶת־קַרְבָּנָם לִפְנֵי הַמִּזְבֵּחַ: יא וַיֹּאמֶר יְיָ אֶל־מֹשֶׁה נְשִׂיא אֶחָד לַיּוֹם נְשִׂיא אֶחָד לַיּוֹם יִקְרִיבוּ אֶת־קַרְבָּנָם לְחֲנֻכַּת הַמִּזְבֵּחַ:

## NUMBERS 6:22-7:11

**6:22** The Eternal One spoke to Moses: **23** Speak to Aaron and his sons: Thus shall you bless the people of Israel. Say to them:

**24** The Eternal One bless you and protect you! **25** The Eternal One deal kindly and graciously with you! **26** The Eternal One bestow [divine] favour upon you and grant you peace! **27** Thus they shall link My name with the people of Israel, and I will bless them.

**7:1** On the day that Moses finished setting up the Tabernacle, he anointed and consecrated it and all its furnishings, as well as the altar and its utensils. When he had anointed and consecrated them, **2** the chieftains of Israel, the heads of ancestral houses, namely, the chieftains of the tribes, those who were in charge of enrolment, drew near **3** and brought their offering before The Eternal One: six draught carts and twelve oxen, a cart for every two chieftains and an ox for each one. When they had brought them before the Tabernacle, **4** The Eternal One said to Moses: **5** Accept these from them for use in the service of the Tent of Meeting, and give them to the Levites according to their respective services.

**6** Moses took the carts and the oxen and gave them to the Levites. **7** Two carts and four oxen he gave to the Gershonites, as required for their service, **8** and four carts and eight oxen he gave to the Merarites, as required for their service—under the direction of Ithamar son of Aaron the priest. **9** But to the Kohathites he did not give any; since theirs was the service of the [most] sacred objects, their portorage was by shoulder.

**10** The chieftains also brought the dedication offering for the altar upon its being anointed. As the chieftains were presenting their offerings before the altar, **11** The Eternal One said to Moses: Let them present their offerings for the dedication of the altar, one chieftain each day.

## EZRA 1:1-11

And in the first year of Cyrus King of Persia, that the word of The Eternal One by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, The Eternal One stirred up the spirit of Cyrus King of Persia, so that he issued a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and put it also in writing, saying: Thus says Cyrus King of Persia: The Eternal One, God of Heaven has given me all the kingdoms of the earth; and The Eternal One has charged me to build a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Who is there among you of all God's people? God be with them, and let them go up to Jerusalem, which is in Judah, and build the House of God, the God of Israel, God's House which is in Jerusalem. And whoever remains in any place where Cyrus sojourns, let the people of that place help him with silver, and with gold, and with goods, and with beasts, beside the freewill offering for the House of God which is in Jerusalem. Then rose up the chiefs of the houses of Judah and Benjamin, and the priests, and the Levites, with all those whose spirit God had stirred to go up to build the House of The Eternal One, which is in Jerusalem. And all those who were around them strengthened their hands with utensils of silver, with gold, with goods, and with beasts, and with precious things, besides all that was willingly offered. Also Cyrus the King of Persia brought forth the utensils of the House of The Eternal One, which Nebuchadnezzar had brought from Jerusalem, and had them put in the house of his gods; and Cyrus King of Persia brought them forth, by the hand of Mithredath, the treasurer, and counted them to Sheshbazzar, the prince of Judah. And this is the number of them: thirty basins of gold, one thousand basins of silver, twenty nine knives, thirty bowls of gold, silver bowls of a second sort four hundred and ten, and other utensils one thousand. All the utensils of gold and of silver were five thousand four hundred. All these Sheshbazzar brought up when the exiles were brought up from Babylon to Jerusalem.

## RABBI NEIL'S THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

May God bless you and keep you  
May God's face shine upon you and be gracious to you  
May God's face turn towards you and give you peace.

The Hebrew is majestically poetic, with the lines increasing in size proportionately from 3 words, 5 words, 7 words:

יברכך ה' וישמרך  
יאר ה' פניו אליך ויחנך  
ישא ה' פניו אליך וישם לך שלום

We understand the potential for God's blessing on us to multiply and overflow. We've all witnessed the child who imagines they can count in twos forever – or perhaps it's just me who has endured long journeys in the car listening to multiples of two up to a thousand! This is what the blessing in Parashat Naso implies – God's blessing is endless, it is uplifting and it is peace.

The bounteous blessing from God is contrasted with the gifts each tribe brings to the newly inaugurated tabernacle on the following twelve days – listed straight after this blessing. Each tribe brings an identical quantity of gifts and here the Torah makes a significant and emphatic point and one understood by many commentators. The Torah could have just said, 'Every tribe brought their offerings' but instead listed each tribe in painstaking fashion. This is to tell us that every tribe, no matter what they imagined to be their status or wealth, brought exactly the same – no-one could be jealous that they were first or last, because everyone's offering was the same.

The Torah is therefore at pains to show the expansive bounteous blessing from God and to limit the ostentatiousness and extravagance of the tribes. Not only is no tribe bigger or better – human life and existence is equally valued before God. But also, we are finite and in accepting our finitude we can discover our humanity.

This is a constant reminder in Judaism – it is at the heart of the simplicity of burial rituals: as we come into the world, so we leave it. When we pray, we stand alongside each other as equals before God. None of us escapes the trials and tribulations of life unscathed. And when we come together as a holy community we are all regarded as equal. As the Mishnah says, the Torah teaches that we are all descendants of Adam so that none can say my father was greater than yours!

## SAVE THE DATE

### **Friday 8 June**

#### **7.15pm: Erev Shabbat Dinner**

Guest speaker – Simon Stevens

Simon Stevens is a British health manager, public policy analyst and politician. He was appointed as chief executive of NHS England 2014, succeeding David Nicholson.

The cost is £29.50 per adult member and £35 per adult non-member, which includes a catered 3 course meal. For more information or to book, please contact Kathryn Forro on 020 7535 0259.

### **Saturday 9 June**

#### **11.00am: Volunteers Shabbat Morning Service**

Special Volunteers Shabbat to honour our many wonderful volunteers, who give so much of their time and energy to the synagogue and its various projects. It is a chance to highlight the amazing work done by so many volunteers in this community.

### **Sunday 10 June**

#### **7.00pm: Parents' Association Supper Quiz**

Book your babysitter now! This is a grown-up event for Religion School Parents & members of the WLS community.

£20 PER PERSON, REDUCED RATES AVAILABLE ON REQUEST.

RAFFLE TICKETS PRICES:

1 ticket for £5 | 5 tickets for £20 | 10 tickets for £35 | 20 tickets for £60

RSVP or purchase your raffle tickets: [RS.Parents@wls.org.uk](mailto:RS.Parents@wls.org.uk), call Adi on 020 7535 0275 or stop by the PA Coffee Table on Sunday mornings.

## WLS BOARD ANNOUNCEMENT

We are looking for up to 4 new members of the WLS Board to be ratified at the AGM on 26 June 2018.

If you are interested please send a CV or brief biography (125 words), to Stewart Sether ([stewart.sether@wls.org.uk](mailto:stewart.sether@wls.org.uk)), Executive Director by Friday 1 June 2018.