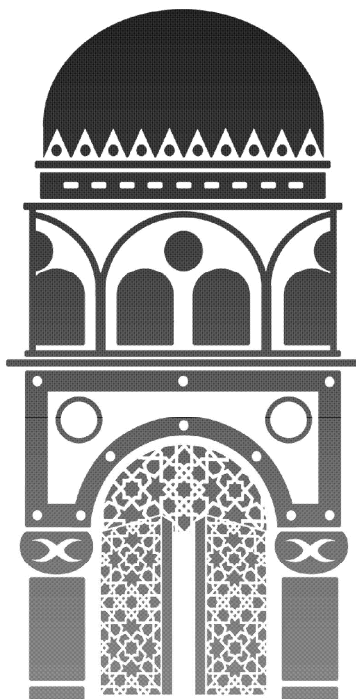


WEST LONDON SYNAGOGUE

ק"ק שער ציון

WELCOMES YOU



שַׁבַּת שְׁלוֹם

SHABBAT SHALOM

2-3 November 2018

25 Cheshvan 5779

SHABBAT SHALOM AND WELCOME TO WEST LONDON SYNAGOGUE

FRIDAY

6.00pm: **Erev Shabbat Service**
Led by Rabbi Helen
Sermon by: Rabbi Helen

7:15pm: Shabbat Shirah Service
Led by Rabbi Neil

Wardens: Gillian Westwood, Oliver Walton, Liliane Chan
Beadle: Micky Nathanson

SATURDAY

10.30am: **Coffee Morning**

11.00am: **Shabbat Morning Service**
Led by Rabbi Helen and Rabbi Neil
Sermon by: Rabbi Neil
Torah Read by: Wylie Brunman-Bar Mitzvah

Wardens: Gillian Westwood, Oliver Walton, Liliane Chan
Beadles: Micky Nathanson

Torah: Genesis 23: 7-20
Haftarah: II Samuel 1: 17-2: 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 CHAYYEI SARAH

While *Chayyey Sarah* may be translated as “Sarah’s lifetime,” this Torah portion actually tells us about Sarah’s death. Abraham seeks to purchase the cave of Machpelah, in Hebron, for her burial. Ephron, the son of Zohar, owns the land, and Abraham bargains with him for the purchase. After the burial, Abraham sends a trusted servant back to his native land to find a wife for Isaac. The servant chooses Rebekah and returns with her to the Land of Israel where Isaac takes her for his wife.

COMMUNITY NEWS

We wish a warm mazal tov and good wishes to:

- Wylie Brunman and his family on his Bar Mitzvah.

וַיִּקַּם אַבְרָהָם וַיִּשְׁתַּחֲוֶה לְעַם־הָאָרֶץ לְבְנֵי־חֵת: חַוְדַּבְרַתְּ אַתָּם לֵאמֹר
 אִם־יֵשׁ אֶת־נַפְשְׁכֶם לְקַבֵּר אֶת־מֵתִי מִלְּפָנַי שְׁמַעֲנִי וּפְגַעוּ־לִי בְּעַפְרוֹן
 בֶּן־צֹחַר: ט וַיִּתֵּן־לִי אֶת־מַעְרַת הַמַּכְפֵּלָה אֲשֶׁר־לוֹ אֲשֶׁר בְּקִצְהַ שְׂדֵהוּ
 בְּכֶסֶף מָלֵא וַתִּנְנֶה לִּי בְּתוֹכְכֶם לְאַחֲזֵת־קִבְרִי:

וַעֲפְרוֹן יָשָׁב בְּתוֹךְ בְּנֵי־חֵת וַיַּעַן עֲפְרוֹן הַחִתִּי אֶת־אַבְרָהָם בְּאָזְנֵי בְנֵי־חֵת
 לְכֹל בָּאֵי שְׁעַר־עִירוֹ לֵאמֹר: יֹא לֹא־אֲדַנִּי שְׁמַעֲנִי הַשְּׂדֵה נְתַתִּי לָךְ
 וְהַמַּעְרָה אֲשֶׁר־בּוֹ לָךְ נְתַתִּיהָ לְעֵינַי בְּנֵי־עַמִּי נְתַתִּיהָ לָךְ קִבֵּר מִתְּדָ:
 יב וַיִּשְׁתַּחֲוֶה אַבְרָהָם לִפְנֵי עַם־הָאָרֶץ: יג וַיַּדְבֵּר אֶל־עֲפְרוֹן בְּאָזְנֵי
 עַם־הָאָרֶץ לֵאמֹר אֵךְ אִם־אַתָּה לוֹ שְׁמַעֲנִי נְתַתִּי כֶסֶף הַשְּׂדֵה קַח מִמֶּנִּי
 וְאִקְבְּרָה אֶת־מֵתִי שָׁמָּה:

וַיַּעַן עֲפְרוֹן אֶת־אַבְרָהָם לֵאמֹר לוֹ: טו טו אֲדַנִּי שְׁמַעֲנִי אֲרָץ אַרְבַּע מֵאוֹת
 שְׁקֵל־כֶּסֶף בֵּינִי וּבֵינְךָ מֵהֵּנָּה וְאֶת־מִתְּדָ קִבֵּר: טז וַיִּשְׁמַע אַבְרָהָם
 אֶל־עֲפְרוֹן וַיִּשְׁקַל אַבְרָהָם לְעֲפְרוֹן אֶת־הַכֶּסֶף אֲשֶׁר דָּבַר בְּאָזְנֵי בְנֵי־חֵת
 אַרְבַּע מֵאוֹת שְׁקֵל כֶּסֶף עֶבֶר לִסְחָר: [שְׁנַיִן] יז וַיִּקַּם | שְׂדֵה עֲפְרוֹן אֲשֶׁר
 בַּמַּכְפֵּלָה אֲשֶׁר לִפְנֵי מִמְרָא הַשְּׂדֵה וְהַמַּעְרָה אֲשֶׁר־בּוֹ וְכָל־הָעֵץ אֲשֶׁר
 בַּשְּׂדֵה אֲשֶׁר בְּכָל־גְּבֻלוֹ סָבִיב: יח לְאַבְרָהָם לְמִקְנָה לְעֵינַי בְּנֵי־חֵת בְּכֹל
 בָּאֵי שְׁעַר־עִירוֹ: יט וְאַחֲרֵי־כֵן קִבֵּר אַבְרָהָם אֶת־שָׂרָה אִשְׁתּוֹ אֶל־מַעְרַת
 שְׂדֵה הַמַּכְפֵּלָה עַל־פְּנֵי מִמְרָא הוּא חֲבֵרוֹן בְּאֶרֶץ כְּנָעַן: כ וַיִּקַּם הַשְּׂדֵה
 וְהַמַּעְרָה אֲשֶׁר־בּוֹ לְאַבְרָהָם לְאַחֲזֵת־קִבְרִי מֵאֵת בְּנֵי־חֵת:

GENESIS 23: 7-20

7 Thereupon Abraham bowed low to the people of the land, the Hittites, 8 and he said to them, "If it is your wish that I remove my dead for burial, you must agree to intercede for me with Ephron son of Zohar. 9 Let him sell me the cave of Machpelah that he owns, which is at the edge of his land. Let him sell it to me, at the full price, for a burial site in your midst."

10 Ephron was present among the Hittites; so Ephron the Hittite answered Abraham in the hearing of the Hittites, all who entered the gate of his town, saying, 11 "No, my lord, hear me: I give you the field and I give you the cave that is in it; I give it to you in the presence of my people. Bury your dead." 12 Then Abraham bowed low before the people of the land, 13 and to Ephron in the hearing of the people of the land, saying, "If only you would hear me out! Let me pay the price of the land; accept it from me, that I may bury my dead there."

14 And Ephron replied to Abraham, saying to him, 15 "My lord, do hear me! A piece of land worth four hundred shekels of silver—what is that between you and me? Go and bury your dead." 16 Abraham accepted Ephron's terms. Abraham paid out to Ephron the money that he had named in the hearing of the Hittites—four hundred shekels of silver at the going merchants' rate. 17-18 So Ephron's land in Machpelah, near Mamre—the field with its cave and all the trees anywhere within the confines of that field—passed to Abraham as a possession in the presence of the sons of Heth, before all who went in at the gate of his city. 19 And after this, Abraham buried Sarah his wife in the cave of the field of Machpelah, before Mamre (that is, Hebron) in the land of Canaan. 20 So the field and the cave that is in it were deeded to Abraham by the sons of Heth as property for a burial place.

II SAMUEL 1:17-2:11

17 And David intoned this dirge over Saul and his son Jonathan—18 He ordered the Judites to be taught [The Song of the] Bow. It is recorded in the Book of Jashar. 19 Your glory, O Israel, Lies slain on your heights; How have the mighty fallen! 20 Tell it not in Gath, Do not proclaim it in the streets of Ashkelon, Lest the daughters of the Philistine rejoice, Lest the daughters of the uncircumcised exult. 21 O hills of Gilboa— Let there be no dew or rain on you, Or bountiful fields, For there the shield of warriors lay rejected, The shield of Saul, Polished with oil no more. 22 From the blood of slain, From the fat of warriors—The bow of Jonathan Never turned back; The sword of Saul Never withdrew empty. 23 Saul and Jonathan, Beloved and cherished, Never parted In life or in death! They were swifter than eagles, They were stronger than lions! 24 Daughters of Israel, Weep over Saul, Who clothed you in crimson and finery, Who decked your robes with jewels of gold. 25 How have the mighty fallen In the thick of battle— Jonathan, slain on your heights! 26 I grieve for you, My brother Jonathan, You were most dear to me. Your love was wonderful to me More than the love of women. 27 How have the mighty fallen, The weapons of war perished! 2:1 Sometime afterward, David inquired of The Eternal One, “Shall I go up to one of the towns of Judah?” The Eternal One answered, “Yes.” David further asked, “Which one shall I go up to?” And The Eternal One replied, “To Hebron.” 2 So David went up there, along with his two wives, Ahinoam of Jezreel and Abigail wife of Nabal the Carmelite. 3 David also took the men who were with him, each with his family, and they settled in the towns about Hebron. 4 The men of Judah came and there they anointed David king over the House of Judah. David was told about the men of Jabeshgilead who buried Saul. 5 So David sent messengers to the men of Jabesh-gilead and said to them, “May you be blessed of The Eternal One because you performed this act of faithfulness to your lord Saul and buried him. 6 May The Eternal One in turn show you true faithfulness; and I too will reward you generously because you performed this act. 7 Now take courage and be brave men; for your lord Saul is dead and the House of Judah have already anointed me king over them.” 8 But Abner son of Ner, Saul’s army commander, had taken Ish-bosheth son of Saul and brought him across to Mahanaim 9 and made him king over Gilead, the Ashurites, Jezreel, Ephraim, and Benjamin—over all Israel. 10 Ishbosheth son of Saul was forty years old when he became king of Israel, and he reigned two years. But the House of Judah supported David. 11 The length of time that David reigned in Hebron over the House of Judah was seven years and six months.

RABBI HELEN'S THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Last week, we read Vayera, when Abraham and Sarah are given the miraculous news that they are to have their much longed for child. Here at West London, we had a baby blessing for a beautiful little boy, and nothing could have felt more appropriate last Shabbat. Imagine my horror when I heard that in the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, where they also had a baby naming, it turned to tragedy. They lost 11 members of their congregation and others, including first responders, were wounded as they tried to save innocent lives. On Wednesday we held a special Memorial Service in their memory.

This Shabbat we read Chayyei Sarah, the name of the portion means the life of Sarah, though it actually deals with her death. And there we have the essence of the Jewish response to death, to honour the life that has been, to cherish memories and look for a positive way to memorialise those we have lost. The shooter in Pittsburgh particularly hated the Jewish charity towards refugees, so one way to respond to a hate crime is to redouble our efforts to help refugees and asylum seekers in memory of those who died.

SAVE THE DATE

Monday 5 November

7.00pm: Eretz: Insight Israel

7pm wine and nibbles, 7.30pm talk begins

In view of the Nation State Bill passed by the Knesset in July, we have invited back our friends Ron Gerlitz and Rawnak Natour from SIKKUY (a Jewish / Arab organisation in Israel, dedicated to a shared society) to give us an insight and to answer your questions in a safe supportive environment. The new Law has thrown areas of Israeli society into confusion, forcing us to rethink how a shared society, and equality for Arab citizens, will be achieved. Join us for an informal, informative evening. Additional guest speakers to be confirmed.

Register in advance with Kathryn on 020 7535 0259.

Monday 5 November

7.00pm: Lyons Learning Project – Images of God with Professor Andrew Benjamin

£40 - 5, 12, 19, 26 November

Following a path through the Book of Genesis, Greek Philosophy and modern Jewish philosophy we will deal with questions of imitation Dei and the Image of God. This will be a brilliant opportunity to learn about classical philosophy, Jewish thought and share your own ideas!

Andrew Benjamin is currently Anniversary Professor of Philosophy and the Humanities at Kingston University London. He is a graduate of the Australian National University, Université Paris 7 and the University of Warwick. He has published over 20 books and numerous articles in philosophy, many of which touch on themes central to Jewish Philosophy and Theology.

Saturday 10 November

11.00am: Remembrance Day Shabbat Service

This beautiful and meaningful service includes a list of synagogue members who died in the First and Second World Wars, the Last Post played on the bugle and the lowering and raising of the AJEX flag. It allows us to honour those who gave their lives for their country and the participation of those who were in the services. Servicemen and women please wear your medals.

Descendants are also invited to bring along medals (to be worn on the left). The Rabbis and Wardens look forward to welcoming families to this special service and Kiddush.