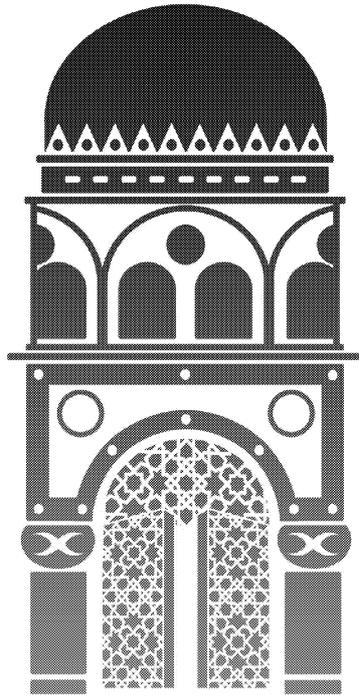


# WEST LONDON SYNAGOGUE

ק"ק שער ציון

WELCOMES YOU



שַׁבַּת שְׁלוֹם

SHABBAT SHALOM

26/27 April 2019

22 Nisan 5779

# SHABBAT SHALOM AND WELCOME TO WEST LONDON SYNAGOGUE

## FRIDAY

**6.00pm:** **Erev COMBO Shabbat Service**  
Led by Rabbi Helen and Rabbi David

**Wardens:** David Chapman, Oliver Walton and Steven Rowe  
**Beadles:** Julia and Julian Markson

## SATURDAY

**10.30am:** **Coffee Morning**

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

**Wardens:** David Chapman, Oliver Walton and Steven Rowe  
**Beadles:** Julia and Julian Markson

**Torah:** Leviticus 16:1-17  
**Haftarah:** Zechariah 3:1-10

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

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

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

## PARASHAT ACHAREI MOT

The title of this week's parashah means 'after the death' and refers to the need to avoid crossing inappropriate boundaries, whether that be the sin of hubris, that led to the death of Nadav and Avihu who offered up 'strange fire', or to other sins which were put upon the scapegoat sent into the wilderness to Azazel, a difficult Hebrew word meaning perhaps a desert spirit or steep mountain, that took upon itself the sins of the Israelites. This chapter is the source of the concept of the scapegoat. Crossing the boundary in either ways such as improper sacrifices and forbidden relationships is also forbidden in Acharei Mot.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

We wish a warm Mazel Tov to:

- Alexandra Baranowski on her Bat Mitzvah.
- Mark Kent and Amanda Brand on their Auf Ruf.
- Zoe Lavy on her birthday.
- Joy Moss on her significant birthday.

א וַיִּדְבֹר יְיָ אֶל־מֹשֶׁה אַחֲרֵי מוֹת שְׁנֵי בְנֵי אֹהֲרֹן בְּקִרְבָּתָם לִפְנֵי־יְיָ וַיִּמָּתוּ:  
 ב וַיֹּאמֶר יְיָ אֶל־מֹשֶׁה דַּבֵּר אֶל־אֹהֲרֹן אַחִיךָ וְאַל־יָבֹא בְּכַל־עֵת אֶל־הַקֹּדֶשׁ  
 מִבֵּית לְפָרֶכֶת אֶל־פְּנֵי הַכַּפֹּרֶת אֲשֶׁר עַל־הָאֲרֹן וְלֹא יָמוּת כִּי בַעֲזָן אֲרָאָה  
 עַל־הַכַּפֹּרֶת: ג בְּזֹאת יָבֹא אֹהֲרֹן אֶל־הַקֹּדֶשׁ בְּפָר בֶּן־בָּקָר לְחַטָּאת וְאֵיל  
 לְעֹלָה: ד כְּתִנַּת־בֹּד קֹדֶשׁ יִלְבָּשׁ וּמְכַנְסֵי־בֹד יִהְיוּ עַל־בָּשָׂרוֹ וּבִאֲבֹנֹת בֹּד  
 יַחְגֹּר וּבִמְצַנֶּפֶת בֹּד יִצְנַף בְּגִדֵי־קֹדֶשׁ הֵם וּרְחֵץ בַּמַּיִם אֶת־בָּשָׂרוֹ וּלְבָשָׁם:

ה וּמֵאֵת עֵדֹת בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל יִקַּח שְׁנֵי־שְׁעִירֵי עִזִּים לְחַטָּאת וְאֵיל אֶחָד  
 לְעֹלָה: ו וְהִקְרִיב אֹהֲרֹן אֶת־פֶּר הַחַטָּאת אֲשֶׁר־לוֹ וְכִפֹּר בְּעֵדוֹ וּבְעֵד בֵּיתוֹ:  
 ז וְלָקַח אֶת־שְׁנֵי הַשְּׁעִירִים וְהֶעֱמִיד אֹתָם לִפְנֵי יְיָ פֶּתַח אֹהֶל מוֹעֵד: ח וּנְתַן  
 אֹהֲרֹן עַל־שְׁנֵי הַשְּׁעִירִים גִּרְלוֹת גּוֹרֵל אֶחָד לַיְיָ וְגּוֹרֵל אֶחָד לְעִזְזָאוֹל:  
 ט וְהִקְרִיב אֹהֲרֹן אֶת־הַשְּׁעִיר אֲשֶׁר עָלָה עָלָיו הַגּוֹרֵל לַיְיָ וַעֲשָׂהוּ חַטָּאת:

י וְהַשְּׁעִיר אֲשֶׁר עָלָה עָלָיו הַגּוֹרֵל לְעִזְזָאוֹל יַעֲמִדְחֵי לִפְנֵי יְיָ לְכַפֵּר עָלָיו  
 לְשַׁלַּח אֹתוֹ לְעִזְזָאוֹל הַמִּדְבָּרָה: יא וְהִקְרִיב אֹהֲרֹן אֶת־פֶּר הַחַטָּאת אֲשֶׁר־לוֹ  
 וְכִפֹּר בְּעֵדוֹ וּבְעֵד בֵּיתוֹ וְשָׁחַט אֶת־פֶּר הַחַטָּאת אֲשֶׁר־לוֹ: יב וְלָקַח  
 מִלֶּאֱ־הַמִּחֻתָּה גִּחְלֵי־אֵשׁ מֵעַל הַמִּזְבֵּחַ מִלִּפְנֵי יְיָ וּמִלֶּא חֲפָנָיו קְטֹרֶת סַמִּים  
 דָּקָה וְהִבִּיא מִבֵּית לְפָרֶכֶת: יג וּנְתַן אֶת־הַקְטֹרֶת עַל־הָאֵשׁ לִפְנֵי יְיָ וְכִסָּה |  
 עֵנַן הַקְטֹרֶת אֶת־הַכַּפֹּרֶת אֲשֶׁר עַל־הָעֵדוּת וְלֹא יָמוּת: יד וְלָקַח מִדָּם הַפֶּר  
 וְהִזָּה בְּאֶצְבָּעוֹ עַל־פְּנֵי הַכַּפֹּרֶת קֹדְמָה וּלְפָנֵי הַכַּפֹּרֶת יִזָּה שִׁבְעַ־פְּעָמִים  
 מִן־הַדָּם בְּאֶצְבָּעוֹ: טו וְשָׁחַט אֶת־שְׁעִיר הַחַטָּאת אֲשֶׁר לְעָם וְהִבִּיא  
 אֶת־דָּמּוֹ אֶל־מִבְּיַת לְפָרֶכֶת וַעֲשָׂה אֶת־דָּמּוֹ כַּאֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה לְדָם הַפֶּר וְהִזָּה  
 אֹתוֹ עַל־הַכַּפֹּרֶת וּלְפָנֵי הַכַּפֹּרֶת: טז וְכִפֹּר עַל־הַקֹּדֶשׁ מִטְּמֵאֵת בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל  
 וּמִפְשָׁעֵיהֶם לְכָל־חַטָּאתָם וְכֵן יַעֲשֶׂה לְאֹהֶל מוֹעֵד הַשֹּׁכֵן אֹתָם בְּתוֹךְ  
 טְמֵאָתָם: יז וְכָל־אָדָם לֹא־יִהְיֶה | בְּאֹהֶל מוֹעֵד בְּבֹאוֹ לְכַפֵּר בַּקֹּדֶשׁ  
 עַד־צֵאתוֹ וְכִפֹּר בְּעֵדוֹ וּבְעֵד בֵּיתוֹ וּבְעֵד כָּל־קַהֲלֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל:

1 The Eternal One spoke to Moses after the death of the two sons of Aaron who died when they approached the Eternal One. 2 The Eternal One said to Moses: "Tell your brother Aaron that he is not to come whenever he chooses into the Most Holy Place behind the curtain in front of the atonement cover on the ark, or else he will die. For I will appear in the cloud over the atonement cover. 3 "This is how Aaron is to enter the Most Holy Place: He must first bring a young bull for a sin offering[a] and a ram for a burnt offering. 4 He is to put on the sacred linen tunic, with linen undergarments next to his body; he is to tie the linen sash around him and put on the linen turban. These are sacred garments; so he must bathe himself with water before he puts them on.

5 From the Israelite community he is to take two male goats for a sin offering and a ram for a burnt offering. 6 "Aaron is to offer the bull for his own sin offering to make atonement for himself and his household. 7 Then he is to take the two goats and present them before the Eternal One at the entrance to the tent of meeting. 8 He is to cast lots for the two goats—one lot for the Eternal One and the other for the scapegoat. 9 Aaron shall bring the goat whose lot falls to the Eternal One and sacrifice it for a sin offering.

10 But the goat chosen by lot as the scapegoat shall be presented alive before the Eternal One to be used for making atonement by sending it into the wilderness as a scapegoat. 11 "Aaron shall bring the bull for his own sin offering to make atonement for himself and his household, and he is to slaughter the bull for his own sin offering. 12 He is to take a censer full of burning coals from the altar before the Eternal One and two handfuls of finely ground fragrant incense and take them behind the curtain. 13 He is to put the incense on the fire before the Eternal One, and the smoke of the incense will conceal the atonement cover above the tablets of the covenant law, so that he will not die. 14 He is to take some of the bull's blood and with his finger sprinkle it on the front of the atonement cover; then he shall sprinkle some of it with his finger seven times before the atonement cover. 15 "He shall then slaughter the goat for the sin offering for the people and take its blood behind the curtain and do with it as he did with the bull's blood: He shall sprinkle it on the atonement cover and in front of it. 16 In this way he will make atonement for the Most Holy Place because of the uncleanness and rebellion of the Israelites, whatever their sins have been. He is to do the same for the tent of meeting, which is among them in the midst of their uncleanness. 17 No one is to be in the tent of meeting from the time Aaron goes in to make atonement in the Most Holy Place until he comes out, having made atonement for himself, his household and the whole community of Israel.

## ZECHARIAH 3:1-10

He further showed me Joshua, the high priest, standing before the angel of the Eternal One, and the Accuser standing at his right to accuse him. But [the angel of] the Eternal One said to the Accuser, "May God rebuke you, Accuser; may God who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! For this is a brand plucked from the fire." Now Joshua was clothed in filthy garments when he stood before the angel. The latter spoke up and said to his attendants, "Take the filthy garments off him!" And he said to him, "See, I have removed your guilt from you, and you shall be clothed in [priestly] robes." Then he gave the order, "Let a pure diadem be placed on his head." And they placed the pure diadem on his head and clothed him in [priestly] garments, as the angel of the Eternal One stood by. And the angel of God charged Joshua as follows: "Thus said the Eternal One of Hosts: If you walk in My paths and keep My charge, you in turn will rule My House and guard My courts, and I will permit you to move about among these attendants. Hearken well, O High Priest Joshua, you and your fellow priests sitting before you! For those men are a sign that I am going to bring My servant the Branch. For mark well this stone which I place before Joshua, a single stone with seven eyes. I will execute its engraving - declares the Eternal One of Hosts - and I will remove that country's guilt in a single day. In that day - declares the Eternal One of Hosts - you will be inviting each other to the shade of vines and fig trees."

## RABBI SYBIL'S THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Easter has in the past been a period of high tension for Jews. The passages read in Churches during Holy Week are full of references to 'the Jews,' who, according to this narrative, are responsible for the death of the Christian saviour. In Mediaeval times, Good Friday sermons spoke about the treachery of Judas, and preachers whipped up the congregations against the Jews of their own time. Many a pogrom started as men left their houses of worship and headed straight for the houses of the Jews, determined to destroy both lives and property.

Jews learnt to stay close at home. Many a year like this year, Pesach coincided with Easter and the Seder would be held surreptitiously and in fear. Opening the door for Elijah demanded an act of courage, for who knew what could be lurking outside? The prayer 'Pour out your wrath' was introduced at this time – a plea to God to punish the persecutors.

But this Easter, it seems it is the Christian community that have become victim. Assembling in Churches, and hotels in Sri Lanka, to celebrate the festival, there were eight separate bombing incidents in three different towns resulting in 290 deaths and more than 500 people injured.

Such a loss of life is a terrible tragedy at the best of times. The fact that this was a deliberate target of Christians on the holiest day of their year is a monstrous blasphemy, perpetrated by people who in the name of religion, shame their religion. What can we do but offer our sympathy and our prayers?

Yet, this incident, though unprecedented in scale is not new by any stretch of the imagination. Christians are, and have been murdered consistently for centuries. Today, more Christians are killed because of their faith than any other religious group. Numbers vary, but the serious research statistics suggest a number 3,000 to 10,000 each year. Some claim an average of 11 people every day – just over 4,000 in a year. This is seriously shocking - but it has passed us completely by. It is logical, if you think of the many countries around the world where minorities are systematically persecuted: China, Yemen, North Korea, Pakistan... but, until the incident in Sri Lanka, who gave it a thought?

We think a lot about the rise in antisemitism, there is increasing talk about islamophobia, but who pays attention to the hatred of Christians? There is not even a word for it. The tragedy in Sri Lanka teaches us a lesson; it is time to work beyond our prejudices and see that Christians too can be victims. That in many parts and places in the world, they too need our help.

## SAVE THE DATE

### **Sunday 28 April**

#### **7.00pm: Classic Gershwin - Doors open at 6.15pm**

In our very first partnership with the stylish much acclaimed 7Star Arts, we present the moving story of the life and music of composer George Gershwin, brought to life in this multi genre production featuring narration, live music and visual projections. ALL WARMLY WELCOME – a real Sunday evening Spring treat for you, your friends and family.

Prize-winning pianist and famed Gershwin interpreter Viv McLean, joins RSC, National Theatre and TV actress Susan Porrett as narrator, in an intriguing, eclectic mix of Gershwin's music – from the much loved Rhapsody in Blue, I got Rhythm Variations, and Swanee, to the rarely played Classical Preludes. Online discount: All tickets £20 at [ticketsource.co.uk/eretz](https://ticketsource.co.uk/eretz). Tickets are £25 on the door on the night.

### **Wednesday 1 May**

#### **Erev Yom Hashoah at Westminster Synagogue**

#### **6:00pm: Reflective Memorial Service | 6:45pm: Refreshments | 7:30pm: Screening of 'Forgotten Soldier' | 8:45pm: Q&As with the Production Team**

Rabbi Benji Stanley together with Rabbi David Mitchell invite the communities of West London Synagogue and Westminster Synagogue to commemorate Erev Yom HaShoah with reflective service and film screening.

Sally Noach's refusal to tell his family about his actions during the war meant that his children had little idea of their father's massive rescue operation in Lyon in the early 1940s. Almost four decades after the Dutch businessman's death, his daughter, Lady Irene Hatter, embarks on a journey to find out the truth behind her father's bravery, which helped save the lives of hundreds of Jews. Narrated by Zoe Wanamaker and Henry Goodman, Forgotten Soldier is a moving story of one's man mission to fight the Nazi killing machine.

### **Friday 10 May**

#### **Yom Ha'Atzmaut Oneg Shabbat**

**6pm:** Traditional Friday night service with our own SHABBAT SHIRA musicians – free admission, all welcome

**7.15pm:** Oneg Shabbat dinner plus singing and dancing with klezmer band – ticket holders only

One of the most popular events in the calendar. Each year at the Yom Ha'atzmaut Oneg, our generations come together to celebrate Israel's Independence in dancing and song, sharing good food and wine in a convivial atmosphere, with music provided by our favourite klezmer band, SHIR.

Tickets on line from [ticketsource.co.uk/eretz](https://ticketsource.co.uk/eretz), or buy direct from Kathryn on 020 7535 0259 or email [kathryn.forro@wls.org.uk](mailto:kathryn.forro@wls.org.uk)

£30 per adult member | £37.50 per adult non member | £18 child, fulltime student, or unwaged | £250 for a table of ten

Price includes a fully catered three course meal, wine, table service, and lots of fun!