

WEST LONDON SYNAGOGUE

ק"ק שער ציון

WELCOMES YOU



שַׁבַּת שְׁלוֹם

SHABBAT SHALOM

10/11 May 2019

6 Iyyar 5779

SHABBAT SHALOM AND WELCOME TO WEST LONDON SYNAGOGUE

FRIDAY

6.00pm:

Erev Shabbat COMBO Service

Led by Rabbi Julia, Rabbi Helen, Rabbi David and Rabbi Neil

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 Julia and Rabbi Helen

Sermon by: Rabbi Julia

Wardens:

David Chapman, Steven Rowe and Sydney Levinson

Beadles:

Julia and Julian Markson

Torah:

Leviticus 21: 1-15

Haftarah:

Ezekiel 44: 15-31

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 EMOR

Parashat Emor presents the laws regulating the lives of priests, who presided over the sanctuary and its sacrifices. Mention is made of the donations and offerings that are acceptable for the sanctuary. This portion also includes a calendar of celebration, including the Sabbath, Pesach, Shavuot, Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and Sukkot. It concludes with the laws dealing with profanity, murder and the maiming of others.

FROM THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE 1948

Accordingly we, the members of the National Council, representing the Jewish people in the State of Israel and the Zionist Movement, have assembled on the day of the termination of the British Mandate for Palestine, and, by virtue of our natural and historic right and of the resolution of the United Nations, do hereby proclaim the establishment of a Jewish State in the Land of Israel - the State of Israel. The State of Israel will be open to Jewish immigration and the ingathering of exiles. It will devote itself to developing the land for the good of all its inhabitants. It will rest upon foundations of liberty, justice and peace as envisioned by the prophets of Israel. It will maintain complete equality of social and political rights for all its citizens, without distinction of creed, race or sex. It will guarantee freedom of religion and conscience, of language, education and culture. It will safeguard the Holy Places of all religions. It will be loyal to the principles of the United Nations Charter. Even amidst the violent attacks launched against us for months past, we call upon the sons of the Arab people dwelling in Israel to keep the peace and to play their part in building the State on the basis of full and equal citizenship and due representation in all its institutions, provisional and permanent. We extend the hand of peace and good-neighbourliness to all the states around us and to their peoples, and we call upon them to co-operate in mutual helpfulness with the independent Jewish nation in its land. The State of Israel is prepared to make its contribution in a concerted effort for the advancement of the entire Middle East. We call upon the Jewish people throughout the Diaspora to join forces with us in immigration and construction, and to be at our right hand in the great endeavour to fulfil the age-old longing for the redemption of Israel. With trust in Almighty God, we set our hands in witness to this Proclamation, at this session of the Provisional Council of State, on the soil of the homeland, in the city of Tel Aviv, this Sabbath Eve, the fifth of Iyar, 5708, the fourteenth of May 1948.

וַיֹּאמֶר יְיָ אֱלֹהֵי מֹשֶׁה אָמַר אֶל־הַכֹּהֲנִים בְּנֵי אַהֲרֹן וְאָמַרְתֶּן אֲלֵהֶם לִנְפֹשׁ
 לֹא־יִטְמָא בְּעַמּוּי: ^בכִּי אִם־לְשֹׂארוֹ הַקָּרֵב אֵלָיו לְאִמּוֹ וּלְאָבִיו וּלְבִתּוֹ
 וּלְאָחִיו: ^גוְלֹאֲחֹתּוֹ הַבְּתוּלָה הַקְּרוּבָה אֵלָיו אֲשֶׁר לֹא־הִיְתָה לְאִישׁ לָהּ
 יִטְמָא: ^דלֹא יִטְמָא בְּעַל בְּעַמּוּי לְהַחֲלוֹ: ^הלֹא־יִקְרַח קְרָחַהּ בְּרֵאשִׁים
 וּפְאֵת זָקֵנִים לֹא יִגְלַחוּ וּבְבִשְׂרָם לֹא יִשְׂרְטוּ שְׂרָטָת: ^וקְדָשִׁים יִהְיוּ
 לְאֱלֹהֵיהֶם וְלֹא יַחֲלֹו שֵׁם אֱלֹהֵיהֶם כִּי אֶת־אֲשֵׁי יְיָ לֶחֶם אֱלֹהֵיהֶם הֵם
 מִקְרִיבִם וְהָיוּ קְדָשׁ: ^זאִשָּׁה זֹנָה וַחֲלָלָהּ לֹא יִקְחוּ וְאִשָּׁה גְרוּשָׁה מֵאִשָּׁה
 לֹא יִקְחוּ כִּי־קֹדֶשׁ הוּא לְאֱלֹהֵיו: ^חוְקֹדְשֹׁתָיו כִּי־אֶת־לֶחֶם אֱלֹהִיד הוּא
 מִקְרִיב קֹדֶשׁ יִהְיֶה־לָּד כִּי קְדוֹשׁ אֲנִי יְיָ מִקְדָּשְׁכֶם: ^טוּבַת אִישׁ כְּהֵן כִּי תַחַל
 לְזַנּוֹת אֶת־אָבִיהָ הִיא מִחֲלָלָת בָּאֵשׁ תִּשְׂרָף: ^יוְהַכֹּהֵן הַגָּדוֹל מֵאָחָיו
 אֲשֶׁר־יוֹצֵק עַל־רֵאשׁוֹ שְׂמֹן הַמִּשְׁחָה וּמִלֵּא אֶת־יָדוֹ לְלִבֵּשׁ אֶת־הַבְּגָדִים
 אֶת־רֵאשׁוֹ לֹא יַפְרֹעַ וּבְגָדָיו לֹא יִפְרֹם: ^{יא}וְעַל כָּל־נַפְשׁוֹת מֵת לֹא יָבֹא
 לְאָבִיו וּלְאִמּוֹ לֹא יִטְמָא: יב וּמִן־הַמִּקְדָּשׁ לֹא יֵצֵא וְלֹא יַחֲלֹל אֶת מִקְדָּשׁ
 אֱלֹהֵיו כִּי נֹזֵר שְׂמֹן מִשְׁחַת אֱלֹהֵיו עָלָיו אֲנִי יְיָ: ^{יג}וְהָיָה אִשָּׁה בְּבַתּוּלָיָהּ יִקַּח:
^{יד}אֲלִמְנָה וּגְרוּשָׁה וַחֲלָלָהּ זֹנָה אֶת־אֵלָהּ לֹא יִקַּח כִּי אִם־בְּתוּלָה מֵעַמּוּי
 יִקַּח אִשָּׁה: טו וְלֹא־יַחֲלֹל זָרְעוֹ בְּעַמּוּי כִּי אֲנִי יְיָ מִקְדָּשׁוֹ:

LEVITICUS 21:1-15

21 The Eternal One said to Moses, "Speak to the priests, the sons of Aaron, and say to them: 'A priest must not make himself ceremonially unclean for any of his people who die, 2 except for a close relative, such as his mother or father, his son or daughter, his brother, 3 or an unmarried sister who is dependent on him since she has no husband—for her he may make himself unclean. 4 He must not make himself unclean for people related to him by marriage,[a] and so defile himself. 5 "'Priests must not shave their heads or shave off the edges of their beards or cut their bodies. 6 They must be holy to their God and must not profane the name of their God. Because they present the food offerings to The Eternal One, the food of their God, they are to be holy. 7 "'They must not marry women defiled by prostitution or divorced from their husbands, because priests are holy to their God. 8 Regard them as holy, because they offer up the food of your God. Consider them holy, because I The Eternal One am holy—I who make you holy. 9 "'If a priest's daughter defiles herself by becoming a prostitute, she disgraces her father; she must be burned in the fire. 10 "'The high priest, the one among his brothers who has had the anointing oil poured on his head and who has been ordained to wear the priestly garments, must not let his hair become unkempt[b] or tear his clothes. 11 He must not enter a place where there is a dead body. He must not make himself unclean, even for his father or mother, 12 nor leave the sanctuary of his God or desecrate it, because he has been dedicated by the anointing oil of his God. I am the The Eternal One. 13 "'The woman he marries must be a virgin. 14 He must not marry a widow, a divorced woman, or a woman defiled by prostitution, but only a virgin from his own people, 15 so that he will not defile his offspring among his people. I am the Eternal One, who makes him holy.'"

But the levitical priests descended from Zadok, who maintained the service of My Sanctuary when the people of Israel went astray from Me—they shall approach Me to minister to Me; they shall stand before Me to offer Me fat and blood—declares Adonai. They alone may enter My Sanctuary and they alone shall approach My table to minister to Me; and they shall keep My charge. And when they enter the gates of the inner court, they shall wear linen vestments: they shall have nothing woollen upon them when they minister inside the gates of the inner court. They shall have linen turbans on their heads and linen breeches on their loins; they shall not gird themselves with anything that causes sweat. When they go out to the outer court—the outer court where the people are—they shall remove the vestments in which they minister and shall deposit them in the sacred chambers; they shall put on other garments, lest they make the people consecrated by [contact with] their vestments. They shall neither shave their heads nor let their hair go untrimmed; they shall keep their hair trimmed. No priest shall drink wine when he enters into the inner court. They shall not marry widows or divorced women; they may marry only virgins of the stock of the House of Israel, or widows who are widows of priests. They shall declare to My people what is sacred and what is profane, and inform them what is clean and what is unclean. In lawsuits, too, it is they who shall act as judges; they shall decide them in accordance with My rules. They shall preserve My teachings and My laws regarding all My fixed occasions; and they shall maintain the sanctity of My sabbaths. [A priest] shall not defile himself by entering [a house] where there is a dead person. He shall defile himself only for father or mother, son or daughter, brother or unmarried sister. After he has become clean, seven days shall be counted off for him; and on the day that he re-enters the inner court of the Sanctuary to minister in the Sanctuary, he shall present his sin offering—declares Adonai. This shall be their portion, for I am their portion; and no holding shall be given them in Israel, for I am their holding. The meal offerings, sin offerings, and guilt offerings shall be consumed by them. Everything proscribed in Israel shall be theirs. All the choice first fruits of every kind, and all the gifts of every kind—of all your contributions—shall go to the priests. You shall further give the first of the yield of your baking to the priest, that a blessing may rest upon your home. Priests shall not eat anything, whether bird or animal, that died or was torn by beasts.

RABBI JULIA'S THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

I've just come back from an incredible if cold and wet, few days in Venice, just before the opening of the Biennale. Lots of WLS members there or arriving the next day - we have a considerable art loving crowd! But, because we could not go to the opening of Edmund de Waal's exhibit, we went to a pre-opening- in the Venice Ateneo- where he has an installation that is a library, full of books from all over the world, representing the destruction of libraries from Nineveh to Mosul and many in between. Then we went on to the Jewish Museum, to see and hear about further installations and get to the summit - a heart wrenching set of fragile porcelain and shards in the sukkah at the top of the old Canton synagogue, representing impermanence, fragility, the ethereal nature of human existence. Go if you can.

But even if you can't, the message of the library installation, with half rubbed out quotations, is one for all of us. It comes from Edmund himself, of course, but it really comes from Heinrich Heine: ""Dort, wo man Bücher verbrennt, verbrennt man am Ende auch Menschen." "Where they burn books, they will, in the end, burn human beings too." How prescient Heine was in 1821, but also how important that we stand up NOW to any attempt to destroy knowledge or the means of gaining knowledge, whether it's education for girls or libraries, schools being burned or universities being censored. For us Jews, this is a basic principle- and also key to our survival.

SAVE THE DATE

Tuesday 14 May

6.00pm: CBT Café - When the Black Dog Visits: Living with Depression

6pm for 6.30pm sharp start

The CBT Café is a partnership between WLS and Sophie and Emma, who founded their company, 'Unravelling Minds', in order to help lessen the stigma surrounding mental health.

The CBT Café is a place for those with lived experience of mental health, whether in their own lives or in the lives of those close to them, to come and share experiences. It is a non-therapeutic environment for people to meet together. So drop in, unwind and learn, and what better way to do this than over a cup of tea and a piece of cake. After all, mental health is for everyone, just like cake! RSVP appreciated but not essential. Cake donations welcomed!

For more details or to RSVP, contact Tirza on 020 7535 0278.

Thursday 16 May

12.30pm: Seymour Group Lunch

Guest speaker: Vera Grodzinski M.A., Ph.D who will speak on French Impressionism, Jewish Collectors and Patrons before WW1. Vera is a historian of comparative social and cultural modern Jewish history, a lecturer, writer and freelance curator.

£15 payable at the door. Book early by phoning Hermy Jankel on 020 7722 8489.

If she is unavailable please leave a clear message. Cancellations will only be accepted before 10am on the preceding Monday. Otherwise you will be charged.

Parking? We aim to finish by 2.30pm

Thursday 16 May

7.00pm: Kolnoa-Cinema & Social Care Special Screening - Next to Her/At Li Layla

To mark Mental Health Awareness Week, we screen a story of two sisters, one of whom has learning difficulties and behaves in a challenging way which provokes the other. Their relationship has its ups and downs, but ultimately they are loyal to one another. A hard watch, but we can see why the film took the Cannes Film Festival by storm. The WLS Social Care team will join us for the after-screening Q&A. Screenings 7.45pm, drinks and nibbles from 7pm. No charge for admission but contributions to costs are warmly welcomed - suggested contribution: £10 (unwaged £5).

Saturday 18 May

1.00pm: Library Hour

This month theres going to be a special twist to the Library Hour. In honour of the upcoming summer holidays we are going to have the 1st "Library Hour Book Club" where we want everyone to bring along your favourite "Holiday Read" - the book, either fiction or non-fiction (but somehow related to Jews and/or Judaism), that you could just not put down! We hope that by the end of the Library Hour everyone will walk away with an idea about what to read this summer. And hopefully - a borrowed or loaned copy of their chosen BOOK!