



Shabbat Announcements

Parshat Nitzavim

September 12, 2015 28 Elul, 5775

TORAH
ARTSCROLL 1086
HERTZ 878

HAFTORAH
ARTSCROLL 1202
HERTZ 883

Rabbi Jonathan Sacks on Parshat Nitzavim and the Refugee Crisis

You would have to be less than human not to be moved by images of the refugee crisis threatening to overwhelm Europe: the scenes in Budapest, the 71 bodies found in the abandoned lorry in Austria, the 200 people drowned when their boat capsized off the coast in Libya and, most heartbreaking of all, the body of three-year-old Aylan Kurdi, lifeless on a Turkish shore: an image that will linger long in the mind as a symbol of a world gone mad. This is the greatest humanitarian challenge faced by Europe in decades. Angela Merkel was not wrong when she said: "If Europe fails on the question of refugees, its close connection with universal civil rights will be destroyed."

also means "opportunity". Now is a unique opportunity to show that the ideals for which the European Union and other international bodies such as the United Nations were formed are still compelling, compassionate and humane. Many of the conventions and protocols establishing legal rights for refugees emerged in the aftermath of the Second World War, as did the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. One of the dark moments in that history occurred in July 1938, when representatives of 32 countries gathered in the French spa town of Evian to discuss the humanitarian disaster that everyone knew was about to overtake the Jews of Europe wherever Hitler's Germany held sway. Jews were desperate to leave. They knew their lives were at risk and so did the politicians and aid agencies at the conference. Yet country after country shut its doors. Nation after nation in effect said it wasn't their problem.

children rescued from Nazi Germany. Half a century later, I came to know many of those who had been rescued. They loved Britain and sought richly to contribute to it. I and many other Jews of my generation grew up with that love, knowing that without Britain's willingness to provide our parents and grandparents with refuge, they would have died and we would not have been born. As long as human history is told, these acts of humanitarianism will stand as a triumph of the spirit over political expediency and moral indifference. Sixty years after Kindertransport, a gathering took place in London of more than 1,000 of those who had been rescued. It was a highly emotional day as one after another told their stories. But the speech that had us all in tears was not from one of the rescued children but from the late Lord Attenborough, whose family was among the rescuers. He spoke of how his parents summoned their three boys and told them they wanted to adopt two young Jewish girls from Germany, Helga and

The influx of refugees overwhelming parts of Europe is a massive crisis, but it is at just such times that it is worth remembering that the Chinese ideogram for "crisis"

At such times, even small humanitarian gestures can light a flame of hope. That is what happened in Kindertransport, the initiative that saw 10,000 Jewish

Times	
Candle lighting	6:53 pm
Friday Mincha	6:55 pm
Hashkama	8:00 am
Parsha Shiur	8:30 am
Youth Minyan	8:30 am
Main	9:00 am
Beit Medrash	9:15 am
Gemara Shiur	5:45 pm
Mincha	6:45 pm
Shabbat ends	7:59 pm
Sun. Sept. 13 - Wed. Sept. 16 Erev RH - Fast of Gedaliah See schedule on page 2	
Sunday	7:30/8:30 am
Thursday	6:35/7:45 am
Friday	6:45/7:45 am
Mincha - Thurs	6:50 pm
Latest Times for Shema/Shemoneh Esrei	
September 12	9:42/10:45 am
September 19	9:44/10:46 am
Next Shabbat Vayeilech	
Candle Lighting	6:42 pm
Mincha	6:45 pm

SEUDAH SHLISHIT IS SPONSORED BY
ELDA & BIJAN NIKNAM
IN MEMORY OF HIS FATHER AVRAHAM ROULHOLLAH BEN FARAJOLLA
AND BY
MICHAEL ARYEH, MARK GERSTEN, ISSAC SACHMECHI,
SEAN SEDAGHATPOUR, BEN SHAVOLIAN AND EDDIE SHIRAZIAN
WHO HAVE COMPLETED MASECHET BABA KAMA.

Irene. They explained the sacrifices they would all have to make. They would now be a family of seven rather than five, which meant they would have to share more widely, and that, they said, included their love, because "you have us, but they have nobody". The boys agreed and the two girls became part of their family. As he told this story, Lord Attenborough wept and said that was the most important day of his life. Suddenly, we realized that it is the sacrifices we make for the sake of high ideals that make us great and that applies to nations as well as individuals.

Even in the best-case scenario, Europe alone cannot solve the problems of which the refugees are the victims. The conflicts that have brought chaos to the Middle East continue to defy any obvious solution. Every option that has been tried has seemed to fail: military intervention in Afghanistan and Iraq, no-fly zones in Libya and non-intervention in Syria. None has put out the smoldering fires of unrest, religious and ethnic discord and civil war. It is all too easy to say that this is not our problem and, besides, it is happening a long way away. Yet nothing in our interconnected world is a long way away. Everything that could go global does go global, from terror to religious extremism to websites preaching paranoia and hate. Never before have John Donne's words rung more true: "Any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind." Therefore, "never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee".

A strong humanitarian response on the part of Europe and the international community could achieve what military intervention and political negotiation have failed to achieve. This would constitute the clearest evidence

that the European experience of two world wars and the Holocaust have taught that free societies, where people of all faiths and ethnicities make space for one another, are the only way to honor our shared humanity, whether we conceive that humanity in secular or religious terms. Fail this and we will have failed one of the fundamental tests of humanity.

I used to think that the most important line in the Bible was "Love your neighbor as yourself". Then I realized that it is easy to love your neighbor because he or she is usually quite like yourself. What is hard is to love the stranger, one whose color, culture or creed is different from yours. That is why the command, "Love the stranger because you were once strangers", resonates so often throughout the Bible. It is summoning us now. A bold act of collective generosity will show that the world, particularly Europe, has learned the lesson of its own dark past and is willing to take a global lead in building a more hopeful future. Wars that cannot be won by weapons can sometimes be won by the sheer power of acts of humanitarian generosity to inspire the young to choose the way of peace instead of holy war.

SLICHOT SCHEDULE

All Weekday Morning Slichot at **7:20am in Youth Center**

All Weekday Evening Slichot at **9:00 pm in Beit Medrash**

This Sunday Morning Slichot (**9/13 Erev Rosh Hashana**) will be 1 hour before regular Shacharit times **6:30am/7:30am**

Next Sunday morning (**9/20**) will be 1/2 hour before regular Shacharit times **7:00/8:00 am**

ROSH HASHANA SCHEDULE

Sunday, September 13, Rosh Hashana Eve

Candle lighting	6:50 pm
Mincha	6:55 pm

Monday, September 14, Rosh Hashana I

Shacharit	8:00 am
Mincha	6:55 pm
Candle Lighting After	7:56 pm

Tuesday, September 15, Rosh Hashana II

Shacharit	8:00 am
Mincha	6:55 pm
Yom Tov Ends after	7:58 pm

Wednesday, September 16, Tzom Gedaliah

Fast Begins	5:13 am
Shacharit with Selichot	6:15/7:15 am
Mincha	6:45 pm
Fast Ends	7:37 pm

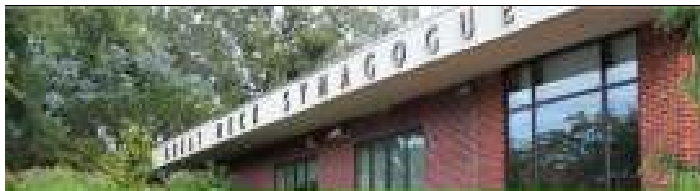


GNS Yoetzet Halacha Lisa Septimus
 Welcomes your questions about mikvah, observance of taharat mishpacha (halacha relating to married life) and women's health, as it connects to Jewish law. Reach out to her at:
 Phone: 516.415.1111
 Email: gnsyoetzet@gmail.com.
 All conversations and emails are kept confidential.



Great Neck Synagogue
 26 Old Mill Road, Great Neck, NY 11023
 516-487-6100

Rabbi Dale Polakoff, Rabbi
Rabbi Ian Lichter, Assistant Rabbi
Dr. Ephraim Wolf, z"l, Rabbi Emeritus
Zeev Kron, Cantor
Eleazer Schulman, z"l, Cantor Emeritus
Rabbi Sholom Jensen, Youth Director
Zehava & Dr. Michael Atlas, Youth Directors
Mark Twersky, Executive Director
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Lisa Septimus, Yoetzet Halacha 516-415-1111



Shabbat Guest Speaker Series



Kickoff Shabbat with Great Neck
 Yontzer Halacha Lina Septimus
 September 12, 2015

Shabbat Morning: "If Only... The Excuses We Make"

- 11:25 am Beit Midrash
- 11:40 am Main Sanctuary

Shabbat Afternoon Shiur for Women
 "Total Immersion: Linking Yom Kippur & Mikveh"

5:30 pm Beit Midrash

Light Dessert will be served.

The Septimus family has been appointed Yontzer Halacha of Great Neck. She was named a Yontzer Halacha of the Five Towns and moved to a Yontzer in Manhattan for two years. She teaches at North Shore Hebrew Academy High School, where she coordinates informal education programs and serves as Dean of the Class of 2016. In her active role as rabbi at the Young Israel of North Woodmere, she is integrally involved with adult education and youth programming. Rachel taught at The Jewish Center in Manhattan, Riverdale Jewish Center, Ditcha, and Hebrew University Summer Learning Program.

Support Our Shabbat Dinners

PLEASE DONATE TO SUPPORT OUR SHABBAT DINNER PROGRAM



2014 Dinner Donations
 \$1000 - \$5000: [Name]
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Shabbat Guest Speaker Series



DR. ERICA BROWN
 SEPTEMBER 19, 2015

SHABBAT LUNCHEON:
 "THE BIG SORRY: MANAGING REGRET"

SEUDAH SHLISHIT (6:25 PM):
 "SCANDAL! DO WE STILL ANSWER TO A HIGHER AUTHORITY?"



Dr. Erica Brown is an educator and author who consults for the Jewish Agency and other Jewish non-profits and currently serves as the community scholar for The Jewish Center in Manhattan. Erica was a Jerusalem Fellow, is a faculty member of the Weaner Foundation, an Ani Chai Fellow, winner of the Tod Farber Professional Excellence Award, and is the recipient of the 2009 Covenant Award for her work in education and the 2012 Bernie Rubenstein Award.

SHABBAT DINNER & GUEST SPEAKER SERIES

All reservations and payments can be made online at growingkosher.com or by phone at (212) 362-1111.



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 \$5 - \$9: [Name]

PROZBUL 5775

This past year, 5775, was observed as a shmitah year. Among the many regulations of the shmitah year is the remission of all personal debts which would occur at the end of the shmitah year. Following a decree by Hillel the elder who died in 10 CE, a prozbul document could effectively hand over the collection of the debt to the communal representatives, thereby preventing their remission. Such a document is still in use today and should be filled out before September 13, 2015. For more information on prozbul, please see our website and follow the links where instructions and forms will be provided. You should fill out the form labeled PRUZBUL FORM BEFORE WITNESSES FOR SUBMISSION TO BETH DIN OF AMERICA, have it witnessed by two kosher witnesses and either send it in to the Beit Din or drop it off for Rabbi Polakoff or Rabbi Lichter. Forms will also be available at the shul and may be filled out and witnessed after davenning during the week.

ROSH of

FUN

-Adrenaline Entertainment-

Erev Rosh HaShana

Sunday September 13
 Preschool-4th Grade

10:45-1:15pm

Braun Youth Center

\$10 per person

\$18 per family

Includes pizza lunch

(please contact Dr. Mike - mjatlas1@yahoo.com for any dietary needs)

You Don't Want to Miss This!!!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RABBI POLAKOFF'S SHABBOS DRASHA THROUGH 5775, IS DEDICATED IN MEMORY OF PINCHAS BEN YOSEPH FOR OTHER SUCH OPPORTUNITIES PLEASE CONTACT HOWARD WOLF [212-686-9800](tel:212-686-9800) EXT 220

IF YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO IS MOVING INTO THE GREAT NECK AREA PLEASE LET THE OFFICE KNOW.

TESHUVAH DRASHA

Join us this Tuesday evening for a lecture given by YU Rosh Yeshiva, **Rabbi Baruch Simon** on insightful thoughts on Rosh Hashana. Mincha 7:00 pm to be followed by shiur at 7:30 pm.

CHAVERIM CENTER

Many individuals and families in our Shul Community would like to host Shul members for meals during the Chagim. Other individuals and families would like to attend Yom Tov meals. Our Chaverim Committee would like to facilitate the hosting and guesting process. Please email or call Ellen Polakoff [516.317.7338](tel:516-317-7338), Katie Lichter [516.859.5124](tel:516.859.5124) or Cindy Hodkin [516.317.9632](tel:516.317.9632) if you would like to guest or host.

GNS PASS IT FORWARD

PASS IT FORWARD, which delivers over 1000 meals for Rosh HaShana to those in need, wants:

VOLUNTEERS TO PACK FROM 12-2 PM & VOLUNTEERS TO ACCOMPANY DRIVERS FROM 2-4 PM on this THURSDAY, SEPT 10th.

PLEASE email koshercookinggn@gmail.com or michberman@gmail.com

They will also be collecting non-perishables for Kol Nidrei to go to food pantries.

ROSH HASHANA CARDS

Sisterhood is selling beautiful Rosh Hashana cards. Early bird special rates will be 10 cards for \$18 until **Sept. 1st**. After that date they will be \$2.50 each. Please call **Judy Lillien** at [516 487 6845](tel:516-487-6845) to pick up your cards. Cards can also be picked up in shul office.

HIGH HOLIDAY USHERS NEEDED

Volunteer Ushers needed for Main Sanctuary on High Holidays See Mark Twersky or Richard Lillian.

MIKVAH HOURS FOR MEN FOR YOM TOV

The North Shore Mikvah will be open for men only on Erev Rosh Hashanah, **September 13th**, and Erev Yom Kippur, **September 22nd, from 5AM-3PM**. Men must bring their own towels. The cost for Mikvah use is \$30.00.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT GREAT NECK SYNAGOGUE

September 12: Yoetzet Halacha: Lisa Septimus
 September 13: Youth Event: Rosh of Fun
 September 19: Shabbat Scholar: Dr. Erica Brown
 September 19: Youth Shabbat (Main Minyan)
 September 20: Men's Club: Yankees vs. Mets
 September 21: R' Frand Teshuvah Drasha (webcast)
 September 27: Erev Sukkot Youth Trips

MAZAL TOVS & COMMUNITY NEWS

Mazal Tov to Jessica & David Smooha on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter **Talia**.

Mazal Tov to Hilly & Charlene Milun on their 50th wedding anniversary.

BREAKFAST RECEPTION

A reception for **Cong. Lee Zeldin** will be held on Sunday, **Sept. 20th at 10-11:30am** at the **Spitalnick home**, 10 Birchwood Lane, Kings Point. To RSVP please call **Nancy Marks: [631-772-1900](tel:631-772-1900)**.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

We want to thank our SCOPE magazine sponsors this year – nearly 60 of them – which is a record number! Their names are listed on page 10 of the recent Rosh Hashanah edition of SCOPE magazine. We are extremely grateful for their financial support which is critical to being able to continue to publish SCOPE magazine for our membership. It is not too late to be a sponsor for the remaining issues of SCOPE magazine this year (Chanukah and Pesach issues) – please contact Diane Rein at drein@verizon.net to add your name to the sponsorship list! If you enjoy reading SCOPE magazine – please be a sponsor! Thank you very much!

Gideon Yudelowitz and family would like to thank Rabbi Polakoff, Rabbi Lichter, Cantor Kron and the entire GNS community for their outpouring support and sympathy following the loss of his father Harold Yudelowitz z"l.

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Saturday, 28 Elul

Louis Goldstein for Nathan Goldstein
 Ron Malen for Schmuel ben Pesachya

Sunday, 29 Elul

Susan Mayer for Frieda Abramson
 Zachary Dicker for Mintza Dicker
 David Lax for Yoel Lax
 Edward Parver for Harry Parver

Monday, 1 Tishrei

Anne Gold for Rebecca Feinstein
 Abraham Glasman for Arthur Glasman
 Chava Shalmon for Abraham Grinszpan
 George Miner for Irving Miner
 Bijan Niknam for Abraham Roulholla Niknam

Tuesday, 2 Tishrei

Vicki Maher for Herschel Brzezinski

Wednesday, 3 Tishrei

Leon Fuks for Sarah Fuks
 Jack Wachstock for Lazar Wachstock

Thursday, 4 Tishrei

Elizabeth Lieberman for Sarah Fox
 Sharon Goldwyn for Jennie Goldwyn
 William Helmreich for Sarah Helmreich
 Judith Weinstein for Raoul Kloogman
 Milton Mitzner for Sam Mitzner
 Howard Wolf for Herman Wolf