

# THE OXFORD SYNAGOGUE-CENTRE

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## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER September 2021 Tishrei 5782

### SHABBAT TIMES

🕒 Parasha - 🕒 Candle Lighting  
🕒 Shabbat ends (Maariv & Havdalah)  
For service times see page 2 & 4

03 & 04 September – 27 Elul

🕒 Nitzavim

🕒 5:38 – 🕒 6:28

10 & 11 September – 5 Tishrei

🕒 Vayelech

🕒 5:41 – 🕒 6:31

17 & 18 September – 12 Tishrei

🕒 Haazinu

🕒 5:44 – 🕒 6:34

24 & 25 September – 19 Tishrei  
Shabbat Chol Hamoad

🕒 5:47 – 🕒 6:36

01 & 02 October – 26 Tishrei

🕒 Bereishit

🕒 5:50 – 🕒 6:40

### RABBI'S MESSAGE

#### THE SOUND OF SILENCE

[With thanks to Simon & Garfunkel—Go ahead, sing... nobody is listening!]

*Hello Oxford, my old friend  
I've come to talk with you  
again  
Because a vision of empty  
pews  
Came to me while I was  
sleeping  
And as I stand here sharing  
in your pain  
All I hear  
Is the sound of silence*

*Those seats were filled with  
praying Jews*

*But Covid chased them out  
their pews*

*Lockdown kept them all at  
bay*

*The fear of illness far away  
When people get used to  
praying in their home*

*In G-d's home  
All we hear is silence*

*Rosh Hashana's coming, I  
then saw*

*Hundreds of people, maybe  
more*

*People sitting where they  
belong*

*People finally doing what  
they so long*

*People calling out their  
heartfelt prayers*

*Finally dared  
To disturb the silence*

*"Jews", said I, "Of course  
you know*

*On Yomtov off to Shul we go  
Talk to G-d so that He may  
hear you*

*Hear my words that I might  
teach you"*

*And your words, deep from  
within your hearts*

*All echoed  
In the sounds of prayer*

Shana Tova  
Rabbi Yossi Chaikin

### FROM THE REBBETZIN

This has been the fastest and the longest year that I ever remember. On the one hand it seems like it has been forever that we have been living like this: lockdown; quarantine; in-person; no shul; back to shul; Zoom school; back to school and so on... On the other hand it feels like just yesterday we went to shul, davened and celebrated Yomtov.

Now it is just a week to go. Please G-d we will be in Shul, albeit socially distanced, masked and sanitized, but praying so very very hard that Hashem hears all of our prayers. That He listens to all of our pleas, that He grants us all a good healthy, happy and sweet year ahead. That he blesses us with everything we yearn for letovah, in goodness and kindness.

May the sadnesses and difficulties of 5781 come to an end and the happinesses and blessings of 5782 begin.

Shana Tova

Rivky

**DVAR TORAH*****The Making of Sacred Time****By Laibl Wolf (chabad.org)*

Like water artfully filling its vessel, the soul, too, adopts the contours of its container — the human body. It flows into each limb and organ, interfacing with the biological machinery appropriately, allowing the body to express the life force within. The soul animates the big toe no less than it does the brain, but the spiritual energy of the big toe is limited to the function of this part of the body, while the energy transmitted via the brain is of greater intensity and amplitude. Through the brain, the life force of the soul spreads to the other component parts of the body.

On a cosmic level, the cosmic "breath of creation" also fills and expresses through its galactic parts, be these the physical phenomena of the solar systems and space in general, or through the spiritual flora and fauna of the higher realms.

A more subtle expression of the soul of creation is that of the dimension of time. Time, like space, is punctuated by differences of shape, form, and substance. But the shapes of time are not visible to the eye. These are sensed by the aptitude of wisdom and insight.

Time too possesses a metaphorical head and body. The Hebrew month of Tishrei is the "brain" through which the soul of time flows before spreading its life force to the rest of the time-body.

Each of the Hebrew months is punctuated by a character — a spiritual shape. For example, the month of Nissan reveals the spiritual thrust of national strength — hence it is also the month of the exodus from Egypt. Sivan is the month for acceptance of insight — hence the Torah was given during this month on Mt. Sinai. Tishrei is the head to the body of the other months of the year. In the same way that we appreciate the wisdom of a great master and look forward to sitting at the master's feet, drinking from the fountain of insight, so we sit at the feet of the month of Tishrei, seeking the creative flow of time that this month brings.

But even a student sitting at the feet of a master must prepare first to be worthy of absorbing the wisdom. So we spend the month before, Elul, preparing spiritually for the moment when the soul of creation flows anew, embracing creation with the new garment of a new age.

Most potent in Tishrei is the beginning of this foremost of the months. Just as the most creative moment of any thought is its beginning — the moment of

consciousness when the spark of illumination becomes apparent for the first time — in like manner, the first two days of the first month are the most creative days of the year.

These formative days of Tishrei are called Rosh HaShanah — "the head of the year." And you and I spend the remainder of the year accepting the new bounty of this "new-time" and work at becoming a worthy co-creator of the yet unfinished symphony of creation.

May the flow of "new time" bring all of us the wisdom and insight to carry out the processes of spiritual construction, the Mitzvot, and bring about the realization of a new song of spiritual beauty that the world will sing when our eyes are truly opened.

**SERVICE TIMES**

*In person services have resumed but we are gradually building up to having all services every day of the week.*

*Please check with the office if you wish to come to shul on a particular day to ensure there will be a service.*

*For services 6/09-29/09 see page 4.*

**SHACHARIT (A.M.)**

<b>Sunday &amp; Public Holidays</b>	8:00
<b>Monday to Friday</b>	7:15
<i>22/08 - 03/09: 7:00 (Selichot)</i>	
<b>Shabbat &amp; Festivals</b>	9:30

**MINCHA AND MAARIV (P.M.)**

<b>Sunday to Friday</b>	5:45
<b>from 03/10</b>	6:00
<b>Shabbat</b>	5:30

**MAZAL TOV**

We wish a hearty Mazal Tov to:

**BIRTHDAYS**

- Barney Gordon on the occasion of his 99<sup>th</sup> birthday on the 7<sup>th</sup> September.
- Riva Stein on the occasion of her 75<sup>th</sup> birthday on the 7<sup>th</sup> September.
- Colin Bliss on the occasion of his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday on the 13<sup>th</sup> September.
- Percy Bloom on the occasion of his 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday on the 22<sup>nd</sup> September.
- Annette Wolk on the occasion of her 95<sup>th</sup> birthday on the 24<sup>th</sup> September.
- Hazel Benard on the occasion of her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday on the 27<sup>th</sup> September.

**BEREAVEMENTS**

We wish long life to

- Ygal Mencer on the death of his mother, Flory.
- Jeannette Markowitz on the death of her husband, Marke.

May Hashem comfort them and their families among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem and grant them long life.



TISHREI 5782 CALENDAR						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SHABBAT
<b>LEGEND:</b> 🕯 Candle lighting 🕖 Shabbat / Yom Tov ends 🕊 Service ★ Other	6 September	7 September 1 Tishrei	8 September 2 Tishrei	9 September 3 Tishrei	10 September 4 Tishrei	11 September 5 Tishrei
	<b>EREV ROSH HASHANA</b> 🕊 Shacharit: 6:45 a.m. ★ Annulment of vows 🕊 Mincha/Maariv: 5:45 p.m. 🍏 Apple & Honey in evening  🕯 5:39 p.m.	<b>ROSH HASHANA</b> 🕊 Shacharit: 9:30 a.m. 📖 Torah Reading: 10:00 a.m. 🕊 Shofar: 10:20 a.m. 🕊 Musaf: 10:40 a.m. 🕊 Shofar (only): 3:00 p.m. 🕊 Mincha: 5:30 p.m. ★ Tashlich 6:00 p.m. 🕊 Maariv: 6:35 p.m. ★ Eat new Fruit in evening  🕯 6:29 p.m.	<b>ROSH HASHANA</b> 🕊 Shacharit: 9:30 a.m. 📖 Torah Reading: 10:00 a.m. 🕊 Shofar: 10:20 a.m. 🕊 Musaf: 10:40 a.m. 🕊 Shofar (only): 3:00 p.m. 🕊 Mincha/ Maariv: 5:45 p.m.  🕯 6:30 p.m.	<b>FAST OF GEDALYA</b> ★ Fast begins: 5:04 a.m. 🕊 Shacharit: 6:45 a.m. 🕊 Mincha/Maariv: 5:30 p.m. ★ Fast ends: 6:17 p.m.  21 September	🕊 Shacharit: 6:45 a.m. 🕊 Mincha/Maariv: 5:45 p.m.  🕯 5:41	<b>SHABBAT SHUVA</b> 🕊 Shacharit: 9:30 a.m. 🕊 Mincha/Maariv: 5:30 p.m.  🕯 6:31 p.m.
12 September 6 Tishrei	13 September 7 Tishrei	14 September 8 Tishrei	15 September 9 Tishrei	16 September 10 Tishrei	17 September 11 Tishrei	18 September 12 Tishrei
🕊 Shacharit: 8:00 a.m. 🕊 Mincha/Maariv: 5:45 p.m.	🕊 Shacharit: 7:15 a.m. 🕊 Mincha/Maariv: 5:45 p.m.	🕊 Shacharit: 7:15 a.m. 🕊 Mincha/Maariv: 5:45 p.m.	<b>EREV YOM KIPPUR</b> 🕊 Shacharit: 7:00 a.m. ★ Fast begins: 5:43 p.m. 🕊 Kol Nidrei: 5:45 p.m.  🕯 5:43 p.m.	<b>YOM KIPPUR</b> 🕊 Shacharit: 9:30 a.m. 📖 Torah Reading: 9:50 a.m. 🕊 Yizkor: 10:15 a.m. 🕊 Musaf: 10:30 a.m. 🕊 Mincha: 5:00 p.m. 🕊 Neilah: 5:45 p.m. ★ Fast ends: 6:33 p.m. 🕊 Maariv: 6:30 p.m.  🕯 6:33 p.m.	🕊 Shacharit: 7:15 a.m. 🕊 Mincha/Maariv: 5:45 p.m.  🕯 5:44	<b>SHABBAT HA'AZINU</b> 🕊 Shacharit: 9:30 a.m. 🕊 Mincha/Maariv: 5:30 p.m.  🕯 6:34 p.m.
19 September 13 Tishrei	20 September 14 Tishrei	21 September 15 Tishrei	22 September 16 Tishrei	23 September 17 Tishrei	24 September 18 Tishrei	25 September 19 Tishrei
🕊 Shacharit: 7:15 a.m. 🕊 Mincha/Maariv: 5:45 p.m.	<b>EREV SUKKOT</b> 🕊 Shacharit: 7:15 a.m. 🕊 Mincha/Maariv: 5:45 p.m. ★ Eat Dinner in Sukkah  🕯 5:45	<b>SUKKOT</b> 🕊 Shacharit: 9:30 a.m. ★ Shake Lulav & Etrog ★ Eat all meals in Sukkah 🕊 Mincha/Maariv: 5:45 p.m.  🕯 6:35 p.m.	<b>SUKKOT</b> 🕊 Shacharit: 9:30 a.m. ★ Shake Lulav & Etrog ★ Eat all meals in Sukkah 🕊 Mincha/Maariv: 5:45 p.m.  🕯 6:35 p.m.	<b>CHOL HAMOED</b> 🕊 Shacharit: 7:00 a.m. ★ Shake Lulav & Etrog ★ Eat all meals in Sukkah 🕊 Mincha/Maariv: 5:45 p.m.	<b>CHOL HAMOED</b> 🕊 Shacharit: 7:00 a.m. ★ Shake Lulav & Etrog ★ Eat all meals in Sukkah 🕊 Mincha/Maariv: 6:00 p.m.  🕯 5:47	<b>CHOL HAMOED</b> 🕊 Shacharit: 9:30 a.m. ★ Eat all meals in Sukkah 🕊 Mincha/Maariv: 5:30 p.m.  🕯 6:36 p.m.
26 September 20 Tishrei	27 September 21 Tishrei	28 September 22 Tishrei	29 September 23 Tishrei	<b>PLEASE NOTE ALL SERVICES ARE STRICTLY BY PRIOR BOOKING</b>  SPACES ARE LIMITED  Please contact the office on 011-646-6020 (phone or WhatsApp) or admin@oxfordshul.com for details and bookings		
<b>CHOL HAMOED</b> 🕊 Shacharit: 7:00 a.m. ★ Shake Lulav & Etrog ★ Eat all meals in Sukkah 🕊 Mincha/Maariv: 6:00 p.m.	<b>HOSHANA RABBA</b> 🕊 Shacharit: 6:30 a.m. ★ Shake Lulav & Etrog ★ Eat all meals in Sukkah 🕊 Mincha/Maariv: 5:45 p.m.  🕯 5:48	<b>SHEMINI ATZERET</b> 🕊 Shacharit: 9:30 a.m. 🕊 Yizkor 10:15 a.m. 🕊 Mincha/Maariv: 6:00 p.m.  🕯 6:38	<b>SIMCHAT TORAH</b> 🕊 Shacharit: 9:30 a.m. 🕊 Mincha/Maariv: 6:00 p.m.  🕯 6:38			