



Rosh Hashanah
& Yom Kippur
at Ohel Leah Synagogue
5782/2021

*Ohel Leah
High Holidays
Guide*


OHEL LEAH
SYNAGOGUE

*Rabbi Asher & Rachel Oser
together with
Rabbi Aviel & Michal Javasky
Eyal & Orit Ginati
wish you a
Shana Tova!*

אבינו מלכנו החזירנו בתשובה שלמה לפניך

*“Our Father our King, return us to You
in perfect repentance”*





Ohel Leah Synagogue

70 Robinson Road, Mid-Levels, Hong Kong
Tel: (852) 2589-2621 / Cell: (852) 9848-1422
Email Address: RabbiA@OhelLeah.org

Dear Community Members,

We are delighted to announce that we plan to hold High Holiday services in Ohel Leah this year. This is of course subject to possible changes in the regulations and there are still some important restrictions as follows:

To maximize our capacity and commitment to safety, proof of vaccination must be included with every booking. If you have a medical reason for not being vaccinated please let us know and exceptions may be made. We want to accommodate as many people as possible. You can help us by letting others know that this year anyone attending a service will need to register ahead of time.

There are other ways this year will be different. Although our beloved Cantor Arnon and Rabbi Sahar would very much like to be with us, the current situation makes this prospect unlikely. Therefore "in house" and "local talent" will lead our services. Usually we have multiple services with a number of overseas cantors and guests. While we are still exploring additional options, at this time we plan on offering two services, one will follow the Artscroll Mahzor and one will be a Sephardic service.

Because of these added protocols, we are sending our booking form earlier than usual. Let us pray that just as 5781 draws to a close and 5782 appears on the horizon, so we will witness the end of the pandemic for the whole world, confident that God's love and mercy will bring us a Shana Tova Umetukah.

כתיבה וחתימה טובה

Rabbi Asher C. Oser

(Form also available at www.OhelLeah.org)

OLS HIGH HOLIDAY SERVICES 5782/2021 BOOKING FORM

Name: _____ Email Address: _____

OLS Member Non-OLS Member

I have enclosed proof of vaccination

Please reserve for me the following seats:

Askenazic Service Sephardic Service

ROSH HASHANAH SERVICE

MALE

FEMALE

Rosh Hashanah Eve – Mon, September 6

Evening Service: 6:17 pm

Day 1 Rosh Hashanah – Tue, September 7

Morning Service: 9:00 am

Evening Service (Arvit): 7:00 pm

Day 2 Rosh Hashanah – Wed, September 8

Morning Service: 9:00 am

Evening Service (Arvit): 7:00 pm

YOM KIPPUR SERVICE

MALE

FEMALE

Yom Kippur Eve – Wed, September 15

Kol Nidre Service: 6:10 pm

Yom Kippur Day – Thu, September 16

Morning Service: 9:00 am

Afternoon Service: 4:45m

Neila Service: 5:45 pm

The price for non-OLS members is HK\$1400 single, HK\$2400 couple. This charge applies regardless of whether the seat reservation is for one of the above days or all of the above days.

Payment Instructions (please select one of the following)

I authorize the Ohel Leah Synagogue to debit my JCC autopay account No. _____

Please charge to my: Visa Card; Master Card; American Express Card

Cardholder Name: _____ HK\$ _____

Card No.: _____ Expiry Date: _____

AMEX/Visa Serial No.: _____ Signature _____

Kindly return this form to Ohel Leah Synagogue by **August 27, 2021**, 70 Robinson Road, Mid-Levels, Hong Kong. Email OLS@OhelLeah.org / Fax (852) 2548-4200.

Sukkot 5782/2021 Arba'at Minim Order Form

Name: _____ Tel: _____ Email: _____

I would like to order:

- _____ Etrog and Lulav set(s). Cost per set is HK\$890.
- _____ Children's Chinuch set(s). Cost per set is HK\$450.

Total HK\$ _____

Payment Instructions (please select one of the following)

- I authorize the Ohel Leah Synagogue to debit my JCC autopay account No. _____
- Please charge to my:
 - Visa Card; Master Card; American Express Card

Cardholder Name: _____ HK\$ _____

Card No.: _____ Expiry Date: _____

AMEX/Visa Serial No.: _____ Signature _____

Please return this form by **August 31, 2021** to Ohel Leah Synagogue office.
Email OLS@OhelLeah.org; or Fax (852) 2548-4200.

We will advise you of the date and time to pick up your set.



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Dear Friends,

The Yizkor prayer will be recited on Yom Kippur (September 16) and on Shemini Atzeret (September 28).

In order for the names of your relatives or friends to be mentioned during the Yizkor prayer, please complete and return the enclosed form. Alternatively, you could email the details to the synagogue office on OLS@OhelLeah.org.

גמר חתימה טובה

Rabbi Asher C. Oser

Hebrew name of deceased relative/friend:

Father's Hebrew name of deceased relative/friend:

Your relationship with deceased relative:

Your name & family name:

Top Twenty Rosh HaShana/Yom Kippur Questions 5782/2021

1. When is Rosh HaShana?

This year Rosh HaShana begins on Monday night September 6th and continues until Tuesday night September 8th.

2. Is Rosh HaShana also two days in Israel?

Yes, even in Israel Rosh HaShana is kept for two days and both days are equally important.

3. How many blasts of the shofar are heard?

On Rosh HaShana there are a hundred blasts of the shofar. The most important are the first set of thirty.

4. Do women make a *sh'hecheyanu* blessing before candle lighting on both nights?

Yes. There is a custom to buy a new fruit or wear a new garment while making this blessing on the second night.

5. What is *Hatarat Nedarimim* and when does it take place?

Hatarat Nedarim is the annulment of religious vows and it is done in the synagogue after shacharit on the morning before Rosh HaShana.

6. What other customs are there before *Rosh HaShana*?

There is a custom to give charity, take a haircut and shave.

7. Why do we eat special foods on *Rosh HaShana*?

Certain foods are symbolic representations of the good year we expect.

8. What is *tashlikh*?

Tashlikh is the custom of going to a body of water and "throwing" one's sins in the sea. Many do this on the second day of Rosh HaShana but one can perform tashlikh until Yom Kippur.

9. Am I allowed to cook on Yom Tov?

Yes, unlike Shabbat, one is allowed to cook food on Yom Tov to be eaten that Yom Tov day. Care should be taken to use a pre-existing flame to light the stove. To ensure a pre-existing flame is always available, many have the custom to light a 26hr yearzeit candle at the beginning of Yom Tov.

10. When does the Yom Kippur fast start and end in Hong Kong?

It starts Wednesday, September 15th at 6:08pm and ends on September 16th at 6:59pm

11. What should I do if it's difficult for me to fast or if I am taking medication?

People who need to take medication or who need to eat should consult a Rabbi about the best method to do so on Yom Kippur.

12. Besides for eating and drinking, what else is forbidden on Yom Kippur?

- *We don't wear leather shoes.*
- *We don't bathe.*
- *We don't use perfumes, oils or moisturizers.*
- *We're not intimate with our spouses.*

13. What time is Yom Kippur candle lighting? 6:08pm

14. How many blessings are there over the candles and when are they recited?

Tonight at candle lighting women recite two blessings. These blessings can be recited in Hebrew or English. The first blessing is:

Baruch ata Ado-noi Elo-heinu melech ha-olam, asher kid-shanu bi-mitzvotav, ve-tzee-vanu le-had-lik ner shel yom ha-ki-purim

(Blessed are You, our God, Creator of time and space, who enriches our lives with holiness, commanding us to kindle the Yom Kippur lights.)

The second blessing is the shehecheyanu blessing:

Ba-ruch a-tah A-do-noi E-loi-hei-nu Me-lech ha-o-lam she-he-chee-ya-nu v'ki-yi-ma-nu vi-hi-gi-ya-nu liz-man ha-zeh

(Blessed are You, our God, Creator of time and space, who has supported us, protected us, and brought us to this moment.)

15. Besides the two Shabbat / Yom Tov candles, how many other candles are lit?

At candle lighting time, married men have a custom of lighting their own candle and anyone who has lost a parent lights a yahrzeit candle. If one has lost two parents it's ok to light a single yahrzeit candle. No blessing is recited on these candles.

16. Do I recite a blessing on the tallit every time it is worn?

Whenever a tallit is put on during daylight we make a blessing. If one leaves synagogue during the Yom Kippur break then on return a blessing is made again.

17. What is the seduah ha-mafeseket?

This is the last meal before the fast begins. Kiddush is not recited at this meal and it is not necessary to have two challas.

18. Should children be encouraged to try fasting?

The custom is to encourage children nine above to have their meals a little later than usual.

19. What must be done in order for Yom Kippur to be effective?

Yom Kippur brings atonement when there is genuine repentance beforehand. Before Yom Kippur we apologize to people whom we think have offended. We forgive others in the hope that God will forgive us.

20. How is Havdala on Yom Kippur different from Havdala on Shabbat?

Havdala marks the transition from sacred time to everyday time. Whereas at the conclusion of Shabbat we light a new flame for Havdala, at the conclusion of Yom Kippur we are careful to light the Havdala candle from a flame that was burning throughout Yom Kippur. The Havdala candle at the conclusion of Shabbat (also) resembles the creation of fire at the beginning of the week and so it is recreated anew. The Havdala flame at the conclusion of Yom Kippur only represents the fact that we were prohibited from using a flame during Yom Kippur; it does not represent the recreation of fire at the beginning of the week. To mark this distinction we use a flame that was burning during Yom Kippur.