



**Rosh Hashanah
& Yom Kippur**
at Ohel Leah Synagogue
5783/2022

*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,

The last few years have been tough. Our Synagogue shares the Hong Kong's people's support for the Government's anti-epidemic measures. We are better situated than a year ago, but we have also endured another exhausting year of disruption and disconnection.

We are grateful to the Government for helping us to maintain our religious life. Members and visitors are reminded to observe the rules regarding registration, wearing of masks etc. at OLS and the JCC at all times.

The Talmud records that in days of old, when trouble befall a community, they recited Psalm 121. It begins:

A song of ascents.

I lift up my eyes to the mountains: from where will my help come?

My help is from the LORD, maker of heaven and earth.

The petitioner looks for help, raising their eyes to the mountaintops, they search as far as the eye can see but nothing appears. Desperate, they wonder: *from where will my help come?* And then they realize: *My help is from the LORD, maker of heaven and earth.* The High Holiday Season is a time when "the King of Kings" comes to visit us and the source of our help is near. My prayer is that at some point during the *Yamim Noraim*, Days of Awe, this sentiment turns real for us.

This year marks the 120th year of Ohel Leah Synagogue. To be a part of our Synagogue is to share a commitment to Jewish life that predates our arrival - and birth - in Hong Kong. To be a part of our Synagogue is to be part of a place that cares. The Synagogue has gone to great lengths to ensure that especially in these difficult times, anyone who joins our prayers will be uplifted. Cantor Yariv Ostashinsky will lead our service in the main sanctuary. Hazzan Jonathan Melloul and Rabbi Hananel Sahar will lead our Sephardic service. This year's High Holiday services have called on the selfless devotion of many lay people. They work solely for the good of the community - may the Almighty bless them.

May we, and all the House of Israel, be inscribed in the Book of Life.

Together with Rachel, Rabbi Aviel and Michal Javasky, Eyal and Orit Ginati, we wish our OLS family a sweet new year,

Rabbi Dr Asher C. Oser



Schedule of Main Synagogue Services Featuring Hazzan Yariv Ostashinsky

Rosh Hashanah 5783

Rosh Hashanah Eve – Sunday, September 25

Selichot	7:45 AM
Evening Service/Candle Lighting	5:58 PM

Day 1 Rosh Hashanah – Monday, September 26

Morning Service	9:00 AM
The Sounding of Shofar	10:30 AM Approx.
Kiddush	12:30 PM Approx.
Mincha following Kiddush	
Evening Service	6:49 PM
Candle Lighting - from a pre-existing flame	6:49 PM

Day 2 Rosh Hashanah – Tuesday, September 27

Morning Service	9:00 AM
The Sounding of Shofar	10:30 AM Approx.
Kiddush	12:30 PM Approx.
Mincha following Kiddush	
Evening Service	6:40 PM
Festival Ends	6:48 PM

Yom Kippur 5783

Eve of Yom Kippur – Tuesday, October 4

Selichot	6:40 AM
Afternoon Service	3:00 PM
Candle Lighting/Fast Commences	5:50 PM
Kol Nidre Evening Service	6:00 PM

Day of Yom Kippur – Wednesday, October 5

Morning Service	9:00 AM
Yizkor	11:00 AM
Approx.	
Afternoon Service	4:40 PM
Neila Service	5:30 PM
Fast Ends	6:40 PM

Children's Schedule

Playroom Open	9:00-11:30 AM
Lunch Outside (Booking in Advance)	12:00 PM
5-11 Year Olds:	
Games in Garden Room	10:00-11:00 AM
Tefilla	11:00-11:30 AM
Games in Garden Room	11:30 AM-12:00 PM



Schedule of Sephardic Services Featuring Hazzan Jonathan Melloul and Rabbi Hananel Sahar

Rosh Hashanah 5783 at the JCC (King David Room)

Saturday, September 24	
Saturday Night Atarat Nedarim and Selichot	11:45 PM
Eve of Rosh Hashanah – Sunday, September 25	
Candle Lighting/Mincha followed by Arvit	5:58 PM
1st Day of Rosh Hashanah – Monday, September 26	
Sunrise Shacharit	5:15 AM
Second Shacharit	8:15 AM
Reading of Torah	9:45 AM Approx.
Eit Shaare Ratzon/Sounding of Shofar	11:00 AM Approx.
Mussaf	11:15 AM Approx.
Kiddush	12:30 PM Approx.
Mincha followed by Tashlich and Shiur	5:10 PM
Arvit/Candle Lighting from a pre-existing flame	6:49 PM
2nd Day of Rosh Hashanah – Tuesday, September 27	
Shacharit	8:15 AM
Reading of Torah	9:30 AM Approx.
Eit Shaare Ratzon/Sounding of Shofar	10:45 AM Approx.
Mussaf	11:00 AM Approx.
Kiddush (Cake and Grape Juice)	12:30 PM Approx.
Mincha	5:30 PM
Arvit	6:40 PM
Festival/Chag ends	6:48 PM

Yom Kippur 5783 at the JCC (Sabra Restaurant)

Monday, October 3	
Selichot	6:00 AM
Hatarat Nedarim (3rd opportunity)	12:00 AM
Followed by last Selichot before Yom Kippur	
Eve of Yom Kippur – Tuesday, October 4	
Mincha	1:30 PM
Candle Lighting/Fast begins	5:50 PM
Lekha Eli	6:00 PM
Kol Nidrei followed by Arvit	6:30 PM
Day of Yom Kippur – Wednesday, October 5	
Shacharit	8:00 AM
Reading of the Torah	10:00 AM approx.
Mussaf	12:00 PM
Mincha	3:30 PM
Neila	5:30 PM
Fast Ends	6:40 PM
Children's Schedule	
Playroom Open	9:00-11:30 AM
Lunch Outside (Booking in Advance)	12:00 PM
5-11 Year Olds:	
Games in Garden Room	10:00-11:00 AM
Tefilla	11:00-11:30 AM
Games in Garden Room	11:30 AM-12:00 PM

(Form also available at www.OhelLeah.org)

OLS HIGH HOLIDAY SERVICES 5783/2022 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 – Sun, September 25

Day 1 Rosh Hashanah – Mon, September 26

Day 2 Rosh Hashanah – Tues, September 27

YOM KIPPUR SERVICE

MALE

FEMALE

Yom Kippur Eve – Tues, October 4

Yom Kippur Day – Wed, October 5

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 **September 20, 2022**, 70 Robinson Road, Mid-Levels, Hong Kong. Email OLS@OhelLeah.org / Fax (852) 2548-4200.

Rosh Hashanah Meals

1st Night Rosh Hashanah

Sunday, September 25

6:45 pm

at the Jewish Community Centre

2nd Night Rosh Hashanah

Monday, September 26

7:20 pm

at the Jewish Community Centre

For reservation for Rosh Hashanah dinners at the JCC
please click the following link or scan the QR code:

<https://outlook.office365.com/owa/calendar/JewishCommunityCentre@jcc.org.hk/bookings/s/D-6872N4Mk2hUrOCgMFrXQ2>



(Form also available at www.OhelLeah.org)

Sukkot 5783/2022 Arba'at Minim Order Form

Name: _____ Tel: _____ Email: _____

I would like to order:

- _____ Etrog and Lulav set(s). Cost per set is HK\$980.
- _____ Children's Chinuch set(s). Cost per set is HK\$480.

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 **September 20, 2022** 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 (October 5) and on Shemini Atzeret (October 17).

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 5783/2022

1. When is Rosh HaShana?

This year Rosh HaShana begins on Sunday night September 25th and continues until Tuesday night September 27th.

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 yahrzeit candle at the beginning of Yom Tov.

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

It starts Tuesday, October 4th at 5:50pm and ends on October 5th at 6:40pm

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? 5:50pm

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.

Security Volunteers Needed

OLS members can contribute to the community in many ways and one way to serve your community is by volunteering for security.

No prior skills or knowledge is necessary, volunteers will be invited to attend basic training, join training activities throughout the year and get a chance to learn Krav Maga. The role is mainly to assist the commercial guards by performing basic security actions during services and other community events. The volunteer roster is flexible, meeting the volunteer's availability. The bigger the team the less frequently you will be called to serve.

We especially will need help during the High Holidays, as a large number of attendees is expected.

If you feel you might be interested, or have any questions, please contact OLS@OhelLeah.org.