

Rosh Hashanah
& Yom Kippur
at Ohel Leah Synagogue

5784/2023

*Ohel Leah
High Holidays
Guide*



*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 Friends,

The High Holidays will soon be here. Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are the highlight of our spiritual calendar. These are times for reflection and renewal; an opportunity to reconnect with our Jewish heritage and identity. I pray that each of us will play our part in making the High Holiday services meaningful and inspiring.

Please find enclosed the timetable for our High Holiday services and the booking form to reserve your seats. Please complete and return the form before September 8, 2023.

Rachel and I, together with our family, wish you a year of good health and great happiness.

כתיבה וחתימה טובה

Rabbi Asher C. Oser



Schedule of Main Synagogue Services

Featuring Cantor Yehiel Yoskovitch
Richard Shavei-Tzion, Evyatar Varman and Leora Niderberg

Rosh Hashanah 5784

Eve of Rosh Hashanah – Friday, September 15

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| Evening Service/Candle Lighting | 6:08 PM |
| Rosh Hashanah Dinner | 7:00 PM |

1st Day of Rosh Hashanah – Shabbat, September 16

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Morning Service | 8:30 AM |
| Children's Service | 10:30 AM |
| Kiddush | 1:00 PM Approx. |
| Afternoon Service following Kiddush | |
| Third Meal at Home | |
| Candle Lighting - from a pre-existing flame | 7:00 PM |
| Evening Service | 7:00 PM |
| Rosh Hashanah Dinner | 7:30 PM |

2nd Day of Rosh Hashanah – Sunday, September 17

| | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| Morning Service | 8:30 AM |
| The Sounding of Shofar | 10:15 AM Approx. |
| Children's Service | 10:30 AM |
| Kiddush | 1:00 PM Approx. |
| Afternoon Service following Kiddush | |
| Tashlich | 4:45 PM |
| Evening Service | 6:50 PM |
| Festival Ends | 6:58 PM |

Fast of Gedaliah – Monday, September 18

| | |
|---------------------------|---------|
| Fast Begins | 5:04 AM |
| Selichot | 6:00 AM |
| Morning Service | 7:00 AM |
| Afternoon/Evening Service | 6:10 PM |
| Fast Ends | 6:46 PM |

Yom Kippur 5784

Eve of Yom Kippur – Sunday, September 24

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| Afternoon Service | 3:00 PM |
| Candle Lighting/Fast Commences | 6:00 PM |
| Kol Nidre Evening Service | 6:15 PM |

Day of Yom Kippur – Monday, September 25

| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Morning Service | 9:00 AM |
| Yizkor | 11:00 AM Approx. |
| Afternoon Service | 4:00 PM |
| Neila Service | 5:20 PM |
| Fast Ends | 6:50 PM |

Children's Schedule

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| Playroom Open | 9:00-11:30 AM |
| Lunch (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 5784 at the JCC (King David Room)

Thursday, September 14

Shiur, Selichot and Hatarat Nedarim 11:30 PM

Eve of Rosh Hashanah – Friday, September 15

Mincha, Shiur and Arvit 6:00 PM

Candle Lighting 6:08 PM

1st Day of Rosh Hashanah – Shabbat, September 16

Sunrise Shacharit 5:00 AM

Second Shacharit 8:30 AM

Reading of Torah 10:30 AM Approx.

Mussaf 11:15 AM Approx.

Kiddush 1:00 PM Approx.

Mincha, Tashlich, Shiur and Tehillim 5:00 PM

Arvit 6:45 PM

Candle Lighting from a pre-existing flame 7:00 PM

2nd Day of Rosh Hashanah – Sunday, September 17

Shacharit 8:15 AM

Reading of Torah 10:15 AM Approx.

Eit Shaare Ratzon/Sounding of Shofar 11:15 AM Approx.

Mussaf 11:30 AM Approx.

Kiddush 1:00 PM Approx.

Mincha, Shiur and Tehillim 5:45 PM

Arvit 6:50 PM

Festival/Chag ends 6:58 PM

Yom Kippur 5784 at the JCC (Sabra Restaurant)

Saturday, September 23

Shiur, Final Selichot and Hatarat Nedarim 11:30 PM

Eve of Yom Kippur – Sunday, September 24

Mincha 1:30 PM

Candle Lighting/Fast begins 6:00 PM

Lekha Eli 6:00 PM

Kol Nidrei followed by Arvit 6:30 PM

Day of Yom Kippur – Monday, September 25

Shacharit 7:30 AM

Reading of the Torah 10:30 AM approx.

Mussaf 11:30 AM

Mincha 3:30 PM

Neila 5:45 PM approx.

Fast Ends 6:50 PM

Children's Schedule

Playroom Open 9:00-11:30 AM

Lunch (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

OLS HIGH HOLIDAY SERVICES 5784/2023 BOOKING FORM

Name: _____ Email Address: _____

OLS Member Non-OLS Member

Please reserve for me the following seats:

Askenazic Service Sephardic Service

| ROSH HASHANAH SERVICE | MALE | FEMALE |
|--|-------------|---------------|
| Rosh Hashanah Eve – Fri, September 15 | _____ | _____ |
| Day 1 Rosh Hashanah – Sat, September 16 | _____ | _____ |
| Day 2 Rosh Hashanah – Sun, September 17 | _____ | _____ |

| YOM KIPPUR SERVICE | MALE | FEMALE |
|---|-------------|---------------|
| Yom Kippur Eve – Sun, September 24 | _____ | _____ |
| Yom Kippur Day – Mon, September 25 | _____ | _____ |

The price for non-OLS members is HK\$1600 single, HK\$3000 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)

- Please debit my JCC autopay account No. _____
- Bank Transfer: HSBC A/C No. 002 247302 007. A/C Name: Ohel Leah Synagogue
- FPS: ID: 167525435
- PayMe: Please scan QR code

* Please inform OLS office after payment at OLS@OhelLeah.org.

- Please charge my American Express Card (Visa/Master Card not acceptable):



Cardholder Name: _____ HK\$ _____

Card No.: _____ Expiry Date: _____

Serial No.: _____ Signature _____

Kindly return this form to Ohel Leah Synagogue by **September 8, 2023**, 70 Robinson Road, Mid-Levels, Hong Kong. Email OLS@OhelLeah.org / Fax (852) 2548-4200.

(Form also available at www.OhelLeah.org)

OLS Rosh Hashanah 5784/2023 Meals Booking Form

1st Night Rosh Hashanah

Friday, September 15 – 7:00 pm
Jewish Community Centre
Hosted by Rabbi Asher & Rachel Oser

Cost for OLS Members:

RSVP on/before Sept. 12:

Adult HK\$500; Kid's Meal HK\$220

After Sept. 12:

Adult HK\$750; Kid's Meal HK\$330

Cost for Non-OLS Members:

RSVP on/before Sept. 12:

Adult HK\$1,000; Kid's Meal HK\$440

After Sept. 12:

Adult HK\$1,500; Kid's Meal HK\$660

2nd Night Rosh Hashanah

Saturday, September 16 – 7:30 pm
Jewish Community Centre
Hosted by Rabbi Aviel & Michal Javasky

Cost for OLS Members:

RSVP on/before Sept. 12:

Adult HK\$500; Kid's Meal HK\$220

After Sept. 12:

Adult HK\$750; Kid's Meal HK\$330

Cost for Non-OLS Members:

RSVP on/before Sept. 12:

Adult HK\$1,000; Kid's Meal HK\$440

After Sept. 12:

Adult HK\$1,500; Kid's Meal HK\$660

Name: _____ Tel No.: _____ Email: _____

1st Night Rosh Hashanah dinner on September 15

- Please reserve for me _____ adult's place(s).
- Please reserve for me _____ kid's meal(s).
- Special dietary requirements: _____

2nd Night Rosh Hashanah dinner on September 16

- Please reserve for me _____ adult's place(s).
- Please reserve for me _____ kid's meal(s).
- Special dietary requirements: _____

Total Amount: HK\$ _____

Payment Instructions (please select one of the following)

- Please debit my JCC autopay account No. _____
- Bank Transfer: HSBC A/C No. 002 247302 007. A/C Name: Ohel Leah Synagogue
- FPS: ID: 167525435
- PayMe: Please scan QR code

* Please inform OLS office after payment at OLS@OhelLeah.org.

- Please charge my American Express Card (Visa/Master Card not acceptable):



Cardholder Name: _____ HK\$ _____

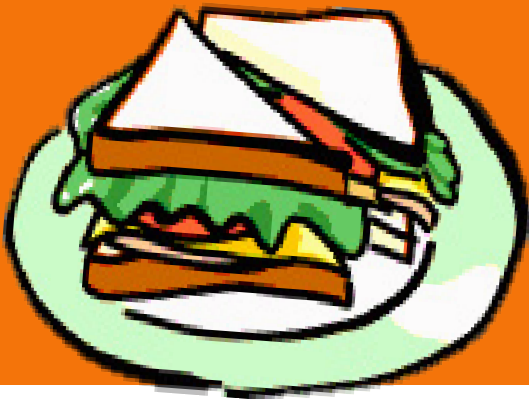
Card No.: _____ Expiry Date: _____

Serial No.: _____ Signature _____

Lunch for Children on Yom Kippur Day

Monday, September 25
12:00 noon
JCC L3 Elevator Lobby

RSVP by Sept 18:
OLS@OhelLeah.org



3 Choices:

- 1) Tuna Sandwich
- 2) Egg Sandwich
- 3) Parve Cream Cheese Sandwich

Served with fresh cut vegetables
and a bottle of water.

Cost per lunch:

OLS Members – HK\$70

Non-OLS Members – HK\$140

*** MUST ORDER IN ADVANCE**

Kids' Sandwich Lunch on Yom Kippur Day – Monday, September 25

Name: _____ Tel No.: _____ Email: _____

Please order for me _____ lunch set(s):

- 1) _____ Tuna Sandwich
- 2) _____ Egg Sandwich
- 3) _____ Parve Cream Cheese Sandwich

Total Amount: HK\$ _____

Payment Instructions (please select one of the following)

- Please debit my JCC autopay account No. _____
- Bank Transfer: HSBC A/C No. 002 247302 007. A/C Name: Ohel Leah Synagogue
- FPS: ID: 167525435
- PayMe: Please scan QR code

* Please inform OLS office after payment at OLS@OhelLeah.org.

- Please charge my American Express Card (Visa/Master Card not acceptable):



Cardholder Name: _____ HK\$ _____

Card No.: _____ Expiry Date: _____

Serial No.: _____ Signature _____

(Form also available at www.OhelLeah.org)

Sukkot 5784/2023 Arba'at Minim Order Form

Name: _____ Tel: _____ Email: _____

I would like to order:

- _____ Etrog and Lulav set(s). Cost per set is HK\$1,130.
- _____ Children's Chinuch set(s). Cost per set is HK\$550.

Total HK\$ _____

Payment Instructions (please select one of the following)

- Please debit my JCC autopay account No. _____
 - Bank Transfer:
HSBC A/C No. 002 247302 007 - A/C Name: Ohel Leah Synagogue
 - FPS: ID: 167525435
 - PayMe: Please scan QR code
- * Please inform OLS office after payment at OLS@OhelLeah.org.
- Please charge my American Express Card (Visa/Master Card not acceptable):
Cardholder Name: _____ HK\$ _____
Card No.: _____ Expiry Date: _____
Serial No.: _____ Signature _____

Please return this form by **September 18, 2023** to:
Ohel Leah Synagogue, 70 Robinson Road, Mid-Levels, Hong Kong;
Email OLS@OhelLeah.org; or Fax (852) 2548-4200.

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



Ohel Leah Synagogue

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

Dear Friends,

The Yizkor prayer will be recited on Yom Kippur (September 25) and on Shemini Atzeret (October 7).

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:

Make these High Holidays Meaningful



The Prayers and Songs of Rosh Hashanah
Wednesday, September 13
8:00 pm

The Prayers and Songs of Yom Kippur
Thursday, September 21
8:00 pm

JCC King David Room



Top Twenty Rosh HaShana/Yom Kippur Questions 5784/2023

1. When is Rosh HaShana?

This year Rosh HaShana begins on Friday night September 15th and continues until Sunday night September 17th.

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 Nedarim* 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 preexisting flame is always available, many have the custom to light a 26hr yearzeit candle at the beginning of Yom Tov.

Please note that this year the first day of Rosh HaShana coincides with Shabbat and no cooking can be done on that day.

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

It starts Sunday, September 24th at 6:00pm and ends on September 25th at 6:50pm

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? 6:00pm

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

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-mitzvo-tav, 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.