

Chanukah Customs & Practices

When: Chanukah begins on Wednesday, December 1st at night. The last candle is lit on Wednesday night, December 8th and the holiday ends at nightfall on Thursday, December 9th.

Work: is permitted on Chanukah (except for Shabbat). Women have a custom not to work for the first 30 minutes after the candles are lit.

Food: Holiday meals are not required, but we do have a custom to celebrate with special meals. Some people eat dairy on Chanukah, there is a custom to partake of latkes and jelly donuts. Children have a custom to play dreidel and other games related to Chanukah.

Special prayers: We add *al hanissim* in Grace after meals and the *amidah*. If one forgets, it need not be repeated. We recite *hallel* and a special Torah reading each morning. On the Shabbat that coincide with Chanukah we read from two Torah scrolls and a special *Haftarah* for Chanukah. Tuesday and Wednesday, December 7-8 is also Rosh Chodesh, and we will read from two Torah scrolls.

Candle lighting: We light one oil lamp or candle on the first night, adding an additional candle each night, until we light eight candles on the last night. It is customary to first light a *Shamash*, a helper candle, from which we light the rest. Candles should be large enough, or use sufficient oil, for the lights to burn for at least 30 minutes.

Placement: Our custom is to place the *chanukiah* by a window that faces the street. If not placed by the window, it should be placed by the main house door, opposite the *mezuzah*.

When do we light: Candles should be lit after nightfall (5:15 pm), except for Friday night (see below), or as soon thereafter as possible, but no later than dawn. In emergency situations candles may be lit earlier on condition that there is enough oil or large candles to remain lit until at least 5:45 pm. Please consult the rabbi.

How do we light: We place the first candle on the right side of the *chanukiah* as we face it, and add each new candle to its left. We light the *Shamash*, recite the two *b'rachot* (three on the first night) as found in the siddur, and kindle from left to right. The *Shamash* is placed in the *chanukiah* separated from the other candles. It is custom-

ary to recite *haneirot halalu* and sing *maoz tzur* following the lighting.

Shabbat and Chanukah: Friday night, December 3rd we light 3 candles (plus the *shamash*). Chanukah candles must be lit before Shabbat candles, before 4:14 pm. Enough oil or large candles must be used so that they remain lit until at least 5:46 pm. On Saturday night, December 4th we must light after Shabbat ends, no earlier than 5:14 pm. It is customary to recite *havdalah* at home before lighting the Chanukah candles.

Travelers: If you are on the road, you are still required to light Chanukah candles. Please consult the rabbi for details and how you can observe the mitzvah.



HAPPY CHANUKAH



Calendar of Events

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|---------------------------|-------------|
| First night of Chanukah | December 1 |
| InterSisterhood @ B D | December 7 |
| Kiddush Luncheon | December 11 |
| Shul Board Mtg. | December 16 |
| Fast of 10th of Tevet | December 17 |
| Kiddush Luncheon | January 8 |
| Sisterhood Afternoon mtg. | January 11 |
| Shul Board Mtg. | January 20 |
| Tu b'Shevat | January 20 |
| Ice Cream Kiddush | February 5 |
| Sisterhood Mtg. | February 9 |
| Kiddush Luncheon | February 12 |
| Shul Board Mtg. | February 17 |

High Holiday Thank You

The following list is from the announcements made by Rabbi Silber on Yom Kippur, with additions.

On behalf of Rabbi Adamit and myself, I thank you for the opportunity to serve you and the congregation. We hope that you have found it satisfactory and stimulating. Please do not hesitate to share with us any suggestions or requests that you have, and we will also graciously accept compliments.

Todah Rabbah to:

Moshe Shmaryahu for the beautiful *tefillot*

Aaron Alweis for arranging all the honors, excellent work as *gabbai*, expertly finding replacements for planned honors, and changing the ark curtains and torah covers

Dan Gold for making the seating arrangements

Meryl Sasnowitz for the Yizkor announcements

Shirley Lash for all the office work, preparing the documents necessary for the above, child care on the High Holidays, and for being as wonderful as she is, always willing to do anything we need, beyond the call of duty

Marcy and Gaby Yonaty for beautifying the shul for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur with the lovely flowers, in honor of their new granddaughter

The women of Sisterhood for supplying and/or presenting the kiddushim, children's lunch, break-the-fast, and the Yom Tov candles. The break the fast refreshments are sponsored by Moshe Shmaryahu in honor of Susan and Michael Wright, whose hospitality he greatly appreciates. Moshe also wishes to thank the *gabbaim* and the members of his choir, and Rabbi Adamit for all their help.

Cathy Velenchick for providing Yahrzeit candles for the holiday

Steve and Dora Feuer for polishing the silver Torah crowns

Dan Gold for checking the *eruv* each week, and to Dan

and Charles Manasse for the frequent last-minute repairs

Dan Gold and Samuel Ladenheim for blowing the shofar during the month of Elul after morning services

Gaby Yonaty, Dan Alweis and Charles Manasse for erecting the Sukkah

Gaby and our custodian, Mike, for putting the *schach* covering back on every time the wind blew it off

Paula and Charles Rubin who have donated the special Kichel for all of Sukkot in memory of their dear son, Steven

Meryl and Harold Sasnowitz for donating the candy bars distributed on Simchat Torah

Marcy and Gaby Yonaty for donating the apples for Simchat Torah

The Chevra Kadisha for sponsoring the Shmini Atzeret kiddush

Our Torah Tours Team who enlivened our celebration of Simchat Torah and Yeshiva University and its Center for the Jewish Future for making this possible

The Shabbat luncheon sponsors and speakers through the year

Judy Silber for all the time and effort she puts into the monthly Shabbat luncheons

The Shabbat Kiddush sponsors, enhancers and those who prepare, present and clean up every week

The donors and speakers at Seudah Shlishit

