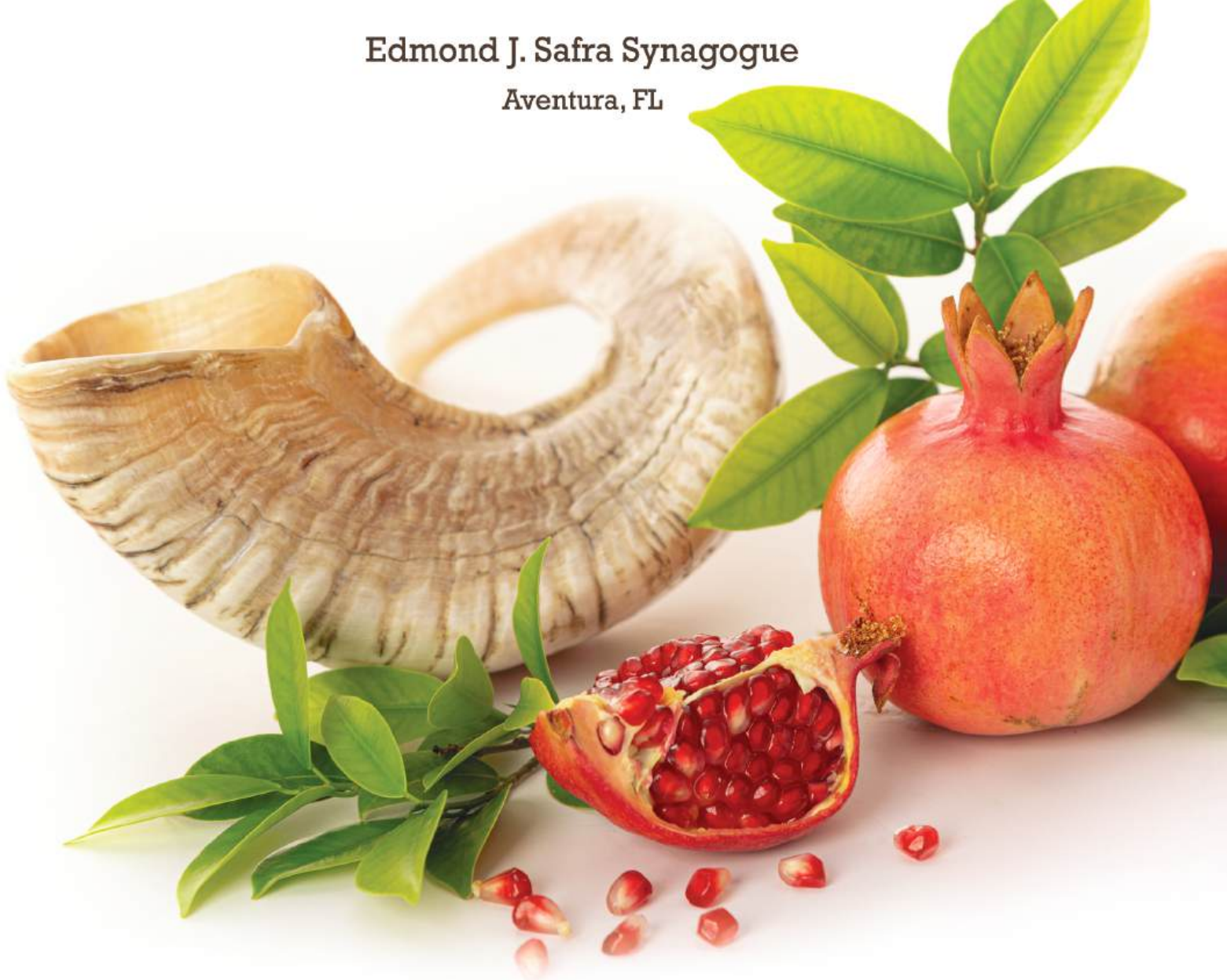


Edmond J. Safra Synagogue

Aventura, FL



TISHRE GUIDE

5787 - 2026

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear Members and Congregants of the Edmond J. Safra Synagogue,

As the High Holidays approach, it is my privilege and pleasure to wish you all blessings for the upcoming New Year!

As we complete our renovation project, with Hashem's help the Synagogue is busier than ever. A highlight of this past year has been our expansion of Torah learning opportunities for our diverse congregants. With the help of our Kollel Rabbis, we have added a busy nightly learning program, legal holiday lectures and a special Elul learning program for this month leading up to the High Holidays. We were also blessed to have several of our Kollel Rabbis receive Rabbinic Ordination (semicha) in a ceremony celebrated by our community. Looking forward to the new year, with the blessing and imprimatur of the Chief Rabbinate of Israel, we are working to establish a Sephardic Bet Din under our Rabbi's leadership that will adjudicate monetary disputes and be involved in addressing multiple halachic matters that affect Jewish life.

Under the auspices of Rabbi Galimidi, we continue to expand our programming for all segments of our community. Our community continues to have multiple minyanim, daily classes, a bustling bet midrash, nightly programming for teens and young children, ladies learning programs, Hesed projects, Bikur Holim, and much more. These wonderful developments have all been made possible because of the dedication and commitment of our Rabbis, Hazaneem, teachers, Mesadereem, board members, volunteers, shul staff and generous supporters. We look forward to these programs continuing to thrive and inspire us this coming New Year.

On behalf of our Board of Directors, I wish you all a healthy and happy New Year. May it be Hashem's will that the upcoming year be filled with blessings, prosperity, good health and peace for our entire community and Nation.

Tizku le'Shanim Rabbot,

Ivon Braka, Co-President Ely R. Levy, Co-President David Zonana, Vice President

A MESSAGE FROM OUR RABBI

Dear Kahal Kadosh,

As the summer comes to an end and we prepare for the Yamim Noraim, our hearts naturally turn toward reflection, gratitude and prayer. Yet, we also reflect on a year marked by challenge and uncertainty. Events in Eretz Yisrael and around the world, the troubling rise in antisemitism, economic pressures, and continued political uncertainty have affected us all.

Even in difficult times, Hashem has blessed us with what matters most: our families, our health, our vibrant Kahal, our synagogues as centers of Torah and Tefillah, and our enduring connection to Him. For these blessings, we are deeply grateful.

Baruch Hashem, our community continues to grow and flourish through a wide range of programs and opportunities for every age and stage of life, including:

- Multiple Shabbat and daily Minyanim
- Daily Torah classes, Ladies' classes, lectures and programs for all ages
- Hazzanut and Bakashot classes
- Youth and Teen programs
- Bikur Holim outreach and acts of Hessed

Our Ladies' Tehillim group remains steadfast in its dedication. Thousands of chapters of Tehillim have been recited in prayer for the safety of our soldiers, the protection of Israel and the security of Jewish communities throughout the world. Our Kahal has also continued to show extraordinary Hessed, caring for one another and helping those in need.

Our Ezra Franco Sephardic Kollel continues to excel. The Kollel Scholars have achieved outstanding results in examinations both here and in Israel, and many are advancing toward leadership roles in the Rabbinates, including service in Sephardic congregations. Together, our Synagogue and Kollel now offer close to 120 weekly classes and programs, reaching every segment of our community and reflecting the deep thirst for Torah, connection, and community within our Kahal Kadosh.

We were especially proud to celebrate our recent Second Kollel Semicha Ceremony, honoring nine Rabbinical Scholars of the Ezra Franco Sephardic Kollel. We extend warm congratulations to the graduates and heartfelt appreciation to the generous sponsors whose support made this distinguished event possible and continues to strengthen the Kollel's programs throughout the year.

We are also proud of the inauguration of Bet Din "Bet Yosef" of South Florida. Established with the support and encouragement of Gedolei Yisrael and the Chief Rabbinates of Israel, this initiative enables our Synagogue to help coordinate essential Bet Din services for Sephardic communities throughout South Florida. More than twenty congregations have already joined this important effort. Through cooperation and unity, we pray that it will bring tremendous Beracha and Kiddush Hashem to our entire community.

Our commitment to the next generation remains strong. Ohr HaTorah Yeshiva High School is celebrating its sixth year, and our Middle School is celebrating its second year. Together, the schools now have 160 students, helping shape the future of our community through Torah, strong values and academic excellence. To accommodate this growth, we recently leased an additional building adjacent to the High School's existing location for the Middle School, giving students and faculty the space they need to continue strengthening our educational programs.

None of these accomplishments happen on their own. We are deeply grateful to our Rabbinical Staff, Hazzanim, Kollel Scholars, educators, volunteers, office staff, and entire Board of Directors for the time, care, and dedication they give to our Kahal.

We extend special thanks to our Co-Presidents, Mr. Ely Levy and Mr. Ivor Braka, and to our Vice President, Mr. David Zonana, for their extraordinary leadership and tireless devotion. We also offer a heartfelt Hazak u'Baruch to everyone who contributed to the beautiful renovation of our Synagogue and building.

As we enter the New Year, we are reminded of the words we recite on the first night of Rosh Hashanah: "Tahel Shana u'Birkoteha" — may the New Year begin with its blessings.

With heartfelt gratitude to Hashem and appreciation for each member of our Kahal, we wish you and your families a Shana Tova u'Metuka, filled with Beracha, good health, peace, success and much Simcha.

Tizku le'Shanim Rabbot!

Rabbi & Mrs. Yosef Galimidi



ROSH HASHANAH

THIS YEAR ROSH HASHANAH BEGINS FRIDAY NIGHT, SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

Rosh Hashanah is the day on which G-d completed the creation of the world by creating Adam, the first man. Adam proclaimed the Al-mighty as King of the Universe. He called upon all creatures, "Come, let us worship, bow down and kneel before G-d, our Maker." Each Rosh Hashanah, we too proclaim the Kingship of G-d and reaffirm our commitment to serve Him. Just as on the original Rosh Hashanah G-d created the world for the first time, so each Rosh Hashanah, He reconsiders and reevaluates the quality of our relationship with Him and creates our world anew.



THIS YEAR SHOFAR ONLY ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

INSCRIBED IN THE BOOK OF LIFE



On the first evening of Rosh Hashanah, after services, we exchange the traditional blessing, "May you be inscribed and sealed for a good year." Our Sages explain that on Rosh Hashanah we all stand in judgment before G-d, "like a flock of sheep before the shepherd." If we are worthy, we are inscribed in the Book of Life. Ten days later, on Yom Kippur, the Book is sealed. Through repentance, prayer and charity, we can sweeten the decree and merit G-d's blessings for health, wellbeing and prosperity for the coming year.

POINTS TO PONDER...

EVENTS THAT OCCURED ON ROSH HASHANAH

- Adam and Hava were created on this day
- Abraham, Yitzhak and Yaacob were born on this date (according to Rabbi Eliezer)
- A'kedat Yitzchak occurred
- Sarah and Rahel Imenu were granted children
- Yosef HaTzadik was freed from the Egyptian prison
- The slavery in Mitzrayim ceased and the redemption began
- Hana conceived the Prophet Shemuel



SPECIAL FOODS FOR ROSH HASHANAH

It is customary to do the following "Seder" on both nights of Rosh Hashana:

KIDDUSH: Special Yom Tov Kiddush

HAMOSI: We dip the bread in salt and honey or sugar.

APPLE DIPPED IN HONEY: תפוח בדבש - May we have a Sweet Year...

(It is appropriate to make a Beracha and eat some fruit on which we say Ha'adama, such as banana, and have in mind all the vegetables to be eaten during the special Seder of Rosh Hashanah.)

LEEK: כרתי May our enemies be decimated...

SWISS CHARD or LEAF BEET: סלקא May our enemies be removed...

DATES: (Ha'ess) תמר May our enemies cease to exist...

SQUASH / PUMPKIN: קרא May H-shem tear up the negative edict of our judgment, and may our merits be declared before You...

LUBIA / BLACK EYED PEAS: רזניא May our merits increase like the Rub'ya...

POMEGRANATE: רמון May our merits be plentiful as the seeds of the pomegranate...

HEAD OF LAMB or FISH: דג/ראש כבש May we be the head and not the tail...



If you make the Seder before Hamosi, you must say all the appropriate Berachot. We taste some of each item and we say the corresponding Yehi Ratzon ("May it be your will...")

**PLEASE REFER TO YOUR MAHZOR FOR THE PROPER PROCEDURE
AS THERE ARE MANY DIFFERENT CUSTOMS REGARDING THIS "SEDER"**



THE SHOFAR

On Rosh Hashanah this year, we must hear the sounds of the Shofar (at least the first 30 of the 101 prescribed blasts). Because this year's Rosh Hashanah first day occurs on Shabbat, the Shofar will be blown only on Sunday, September 13th, the 2nd day of Rosh Hashanah. The blowing of the Shofar, the oldest and most soulful of wind instruments, has many meanings:



- It proclaims the Coronation of G-d as King of the Universe.
- It awakens us to repent and return to G-d.
- It reminds us of the Shofar heard at Mount Sinai.
- It represents the simple, crying out of the soul.
- It evokes the call of the Great Shofar that G-d will sound with the coming of Mashiah, who will lead us out of exile and into our Holy Land, speedily, in our days. Amen.

TASHLICH

On the first day of Rosh Hashanah following the afternoon prayer, we visit a body of water or pond containing live fish and recite the Tashlich prayers in which we "cast away" our sins. As fish depend upon water, so do we depend upon G-d's Providence. The same way a fish's eyes never close, so too G-d's unceasing watchfulness over us never stops.



MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN ARE ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE



**AT ALL TIMES AVOID GETTING ANGRY
ESPECIALLY ON ROSH HASHANAH
AS WE ARE BEING JUDGED ON THIS DAY!**



TEN DAYS OF TESHUBA

The first ten days of Tishre are an auspicious time to rectify our shortcomings and draw closer to G-d. They are therefore known as the "Ten Days of Teshuba." Teshuba, frequently translated as repentance, actually means returning. Judaism emphasizes that our essential nature, the Divine spark of the soul, is good. True repentance is best achieved not through harsh self-condemnation, but through the realization that our deepest desire is to do good, in accordance with the Will of G-d.

THE FAST OF GEDALIAH

THIS YEAR THE FAST OF GEDALIAH IS ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2026

The Fast begins at 5:57 am and ends at 7:47 pm. This fast day commemorates the tragic assassination of the Jewish leader, Gedaliah, during the Babylonian exile.



HOW TO OBSERVE THE FAST DAY

1. Men (13 & up) and women (12 & up) must fast from dawn until nightfall. One is allowed to eat before dawn, provided that he made a condition the night before stating that if he woke up early enough, he would eat prior to the fast day. If one is not able to fast due to health reasons, one must ask the Rabbi.
2. Tzedaka should be given equal to the amount of the cost of the three meals not being eaten. This is to stress that we are not fasting in order to save money.
3. Extra prayers are recited.

SHABBAT SHUBA

The seven days between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are an opportunity to do Teshuba for each of the seven days of the week i.e., on the Monday, we can make amends for whatever wrongs we may have done on all the Mondays of the previous year, etc. "Shabbat Shuba," is so referred after the Prophetic reading for that day, "Return, O Israel..."

FOR KAPPAROT PLEASE REFER TO THE LAST PAGE OF THE GUIDE.
FOR ANY HALACHA QUESTION ABOUT YOM KIPPUR
PLEASE CONTACT THE RABBI AT 305-931-4313
OR EMAIL: RABBI@EJSFL.COM

EREB YOM KIPPUR

THIS YEAR YOM KIPPUR BEGINS ON SUNDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

Kaparot, which one may fulfill with money or live chickens, should preferably be done the night before Yom Kippur. Before the fast starts, we eat a festive meal to demonstrate our faith and confidence in G-d's mercy. Men should go to the Mikveh. Another beautiful custom for this day is that parents bless their children with the Birkat Cohanim, "May G-d bless you and guard you... May G-d shine His countenance upon you and be gracious to you... May G-d turn His face toward you, and grant you peace." Women light candles (see schedule for candle lighting times).

Yom Kippur atones for sins against G-d, but not for wrongdoings between man and man. It is therefore important, on the day before Yom Kippur, to apologize and seek forgiveness from friends, relatives and acquaintances, to heal any ill feelings which may have arisen.

WHAT IS YOM KIPPUR?

AN ETERNAL BOND

Though these Days of Awe are solemn, they are not sad. In fact, Yom Kippur is considered one of the happiest days of the year, for on Yom Kippur we receive one of G-d's most sublime gift: His forgiveness. When one person forgives another, it is because of a deep sense of friendship



and love that reverses the effect of whatever wrong was done. Similarly, G-d's forgiveness is an expression of His eternal, unconditional love. Though we may have transgressed His will, our essence - our soul - remains G-dly, and pure.

Yom Kippur, the holiest day of the year, is the time when G-d reveals His true essence of mercy to the Jewish People as a whole. The more we demonstrate unity by acting with love and friendship amongst ourselves, the more G-d's love will be revealed to us.

FOR YOM KIPPUR TIMES KINDLY REFER TO THE SCHEDULE.

FIVE PROHIBITIONS

In addition to the prohibition of work, as on the Shabbat, there are five activities prohibited on Yom Kippur:

1. Eating and drinking
2. Anointing with perfumes or lotions
3. Marital relations
4. Washing (for pleasure)
5. Wearing leather shoes



YOM KIPPUR SERVICE

A DAY OF PRAYER

On Yom Kippur we are freed from all material concerns and can devote the day to prayer. We begin the evening service with the chanting of Kal Nidrei, which absolves us of any vows we may make in the coming year. During each main prayer throughout Yom Kippur we recite the Viduy (confession), enumerating all the sins we may have committed and asking for G-d's forgiveness.

One of the most moving parts of the Yom Kippur prayers is the recounting of the Service of the Cohen Gadol - the High Priest. On this holiest day of the year, the holiest man in the world would enter the holiest place on earth - the Kodosh HaKodashim in the Temple in Jerusalem - to pray on behalf of his people.

The final prayer of the day, as our judgment for the coming year is being sealed, is called Neila'h. Neila'h is the only service of the entire year during which the doors of the Ark remain open from beginning to end. This signifies that the gates of prayer in heaven are wide open to us at this time. Neila'h culminates with the Shema Yisrael and other verses said in unison and the final blowing of the Shofar.

SUKKOT

THIS YEAR SUKKOT BEGINS ON FRIDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 25, 2026

Immediately following the awesome days of Rosh Hashanah through Yom Kippur, we prepare for the joyous exuberance of Sukkot - the "Season of our Rejoicing." After leaving Egypt, during the forty years of wandering in the wilderness, the Jewish people were surrounded by protective Clouds of Glory. In commemoration, and to enhance our awareness of G-d's all-embracing love and protection, we are commanded, "In Sukkot (booths) you shall dwell, seven days" (Leviticus 23:42).



A UNIQUE MISVAH

Eating festive meals and spending time in the outdoor Sukkah is a delightful and unique religious experience. Some have the custom of decorating the Sukkah with elaborate ornaments; others prefer to preserve its unadorned simplicity. But whatever one's style, the Sukkah is the only Misvah in which we are completely surrounded, from head to toe, by the Misvah itself -- enveloped, as it were, by the Divine Presence.



THE SUKKAH



During the entire seven days of the Festival, all meals are eaten in the Sukkah, unless it rains. When partaking of a meal containing at least two ounces of bread, we say the blessing "Le-shev Ba-Suk-kah."

Synagogue's Sukkot meals program will be forthcoming.

THE FOUR SPECIES

*Please remember to order your Lulab Set –
See back of this guide for more information.*

Another special mitzvah of Sukkot is the shaking of the Four Species. Each of the Four Species symbolizes a different part of the body.

Etrog (citron) – Heart

Lulab (palm branch) – Spine

Two Arabot (willow branches) – Lips

Three Hadassim (myrtle branches) – Eyes



We shake the Four Species during the daytime each day of Sukkot (EXCEPT SHABBAT). We hold the Lulab, Hadassim, and Arabot in the right hand (with the Lulab's spine facing you), and say the appropriate blessing(s). We then take the Etrog in the left hand, the point, or "pitom," facing up, and bring it together with the other species to shake.

One explanation, among many, is that each of the four items represents a different type of Jew. The fact that the Mitzvah requires all four species symbolizes our oneness as a People - we all need one another. The Four Species are waved in all directions signifying that G-d is everywhere.



HOL HAMO'ED

INTERMEDIATE DAYS OF SUKKOT

The third through the seventh days of Sukkot are called Hol Hamo'ed, the intermediate days. Only very necessary work should be done. Throughout the seven days of the Festival, we continue our celebration in the Sukkah, with much joy. Just as the seven solemn days between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are served to make amends for each week of the previous year, so too will the seven joyous days of Sukkot will bring us happiness in all the weeks of the year to come.

**No Tefilin on Hol Hamo'ed, complete Hallel, Sefer Torah & Musaf.
No haircuts or shaving.**

HOSHA'ANA RABBAH

The seventh day of Sukkot is called Hosha'ana Rabbah. It is customary to stay awake the night before and recite portions of Torah and Tehillim after midnight. Part of the morning prayers includes circling the Tebah (platform) seven times, Lulav and Etrog in hand. Then we recite special prayers, called Hosha'anot. At the culmination of the Hosha'anot, we beat five willow branches on the floor. This symbolically sweetens G-d's Judgment.



SHEMINI ATZERET & SIMCHAT TORAH

THIS YEAR SHEMINI ATZERET AND SIMCHAT TORAH ARE ON OCTOBER 3rd & 4th, 2026

The Talmud teaches us that on the day of Shemini Atzeret we begin praying for rain. Before Musaf, we recite a special prayer, requesting that the rain should bring us blessings, peace, plenty of food and a healthy life. From this day forward, starting with the Tefilah of Musaf, we say "Mashib Haru'ah U'morid Hageshem" (Who causes the wind to blow and the rain to fall). Our sages explain this verse as follows: *Mashib Haru'ah* - when a Jew returns and does *Teshuba*, *Morid Hageshem* - H-shem reciprocates by sending financial blessings.

Simhat Simhat Torah is the pinnacle of a month filled with holiness. We have stood in awe before the King of the Universe on Rosh Hashana. Our wrongdoings have been forgiven by His mercy on Yom Kippur. We united as brothers under the Sukkah to fulfill Hashem's beautiful commandments. Now, we rejoice with His Torah. We take the sacred scrolls in our arms and dance together like brothers. During the dancing, the scroll remains in its cover, for this is not a time for study. The joy of Simhat Torah is far greater than any delight we may derive from intellectual understanding.

On the evening of Simhat Torah, we make seven Hakafot (circles) around the Tebah, singing and dancing with the Torah scrolls. On the morning of Simhat Torah, the final portion of the Torah is read, completing the annual cycle. Then, we immediately start reading Beresheet. Thus, the weekly Torah cycle begins again, the eternal force that has bound us together and sustained us for more than 3,300 years.

It is a custom for all men to receive an Aliyah to the Torah on Simhat Torah.





DEAR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

In the name of the Rabbis, Hazzanim, Mesaderim and Board Members
of the Edmond J. Safrá Synagogue,
We would like to extend to the entire
Kahal Kadosh and Families

Our most sincere wishes for a very happy, healthy and sweet year!
May everyone be written in the Book of Life and be blessed with health and success!



Executive Committee Members
Rabbi Yosef Galimidi & Family
Hazzan David Tsaliah & Family
Rabbi Moshe Adjmi & Family
Rabbi Mordechai Buzaglo & Family



WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO EXTEND A BIG THANK YOU TO

All the Mesadrim and Assistants
Morah Orly (Teen & Young Girls)
The Ladies of Bikur Holim & Sisterhood
The Bitachon Team
All the Morim of the Kollel Learning Program
All the Faculty and Students of the Kollel
Jaime Mizrahi and all the young
Hazzanim of the Teen Minyan
The Office and Maintenance Staff
And all the people who dedicated their time, efforts
and resources for the continued growth of the Kahal!

MAY H-SHEM BLESS US WITH LOVE, HARMONY AND SUCCESS.

TIZKU LE'SHANIM RABBOT!



KAPPAROT

סדר כפרות עם כסף

When using money for Kapparot it is the custom to give money in multiples of "18" (the numeric value of the word חַי, life) per person, in any form of currency (example: \$18, \$36, \$54); but no less than the cost of a chicken.

The following prayer should be recited entirely through. While holding the money in hand, waving it in a circle each time you read the word **זה** in bold red. Repeat the paragraph twice more, for a total of three (3) recitations. Finally, place the money in the tzedakah box.

This is my exchange,
this is my substitute;
this is my expiation.

This money shall go to charity, and
I will go on to a good life and peace.

זֶה חַלִּיפָתִי.
זֶה תַּמּוּרָתִי, זֶה כַּפָּרָתִי.
זֶה הַכֶּסֶף יֵלֵךְ לְצֶדֶקָה, וְאֲנִי אֵלֵךְ
לְחַיִּים טוֹבִים אֲרוּכִים וּלְשָׁלוֹם:

Zeh Halifati, **Zeh** Temurati, **Zeh** Kaparti

Zeh kesef ye'lech li'tzedakah, va'ani e'le'ch l'chai'im tov'im aruch'im ul'shalom.

For those who would like, Rabbi Galimidi would be happy to say the special prayer for you. Please provide us with the names of your loved ones in Hebrew with their **mother's names**.

This Form will be sent by email, on MyShul, our website and can be found in the Attie Lobby.

All Kapparot will be processed online only.

Names must be received by Motzai Shabbat, September 19, 2026 by 11:30 PM.

Etrog & Lulab

ORDER INFORMATION



Orders and payments for Lulab and Etrog will be taken online ONLY.

The form will be sent via email and will also be accessible on our website & the MyShul app.

For more accuracy, please note in the description the type and how many you will need.

Orders must be received no later than September 17, 2026 by 12:00 pm, noon.

PICK UP HOURS

Wed - Thurs
September 23 & 24
7:30 AM - 10:30 AM

Thurs
September 24
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Friday
September 25
7:00 AM - 10:00 AM

We will not be responsible for any orders after Friday, September 25th at 10:00 AM

PRICE LIST

Standard set \$52.00

Deluxe set \$75.00

Premium set \$101.00