SINAI
BROOKLINE

Blessings for Lighting the Chanukah Candles

[This year, the first night of Chanukah is Sunday night, December 14, 2025.]

A Quick "How To":



- Each night, light the number of candles that matches the number of the night of Chanukah (on the 1st night of Chanukah, light one candle; on the 2nd night, light two candles, etc.). The Shamash candle, which is used to light the others, is an extra candle that is not counted.
- Place your candles in the *Chanukkiyah* (menorah) from **right to left** (i.e., the same direction that Hebrew is read). The first night's single candle should be placed on the far right. With each new night, add a new candle to the left of the previous night's candles.
- Light the candles using the *Shamash* ("helper" candle), in its spot on the Menorah (usually set apart in some way from all the other candles) and light the candles from left to right. In other words, the night's newest candle is always lit first.
- Put your Chanukah candles in a window so that passersby can see the lights.
- On Shabbat, light the Chanukah candles before you light the Shabbat candles.

Say these two blessings every night:

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוָּנוּ לְהַדְלִיק נֵר שֶׁל חֲנֻכָּה.

Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu melekh ha'olam, asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav vitzivanu l'hadlik ner shel Chanukah!

We bless You, Adonai, Spirit of the universe, who gives us holiness with *mitzvot*, and commands us to light the Chanukah candles.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁעָשָׂה נִסִּים לַאֲבוֹתֵינוּ בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם בַּזְּמַן הַזֶּה.

Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu melekh ha'olam, she'asah nisim la'voteinu ba'yamim ha'hem ba'z'man hazeh.

We bless You, Adonai, Spirit of the universe, who performed miracles for our ancestors long ago at this sacred time of the year.

Recite this third blessing on the <u>first night only</u>:

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁהֶחֱיָנוּ וְקִיְּמָנוּ וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לַזְּמַן הַזֶּה.

Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu melekh ha'olam, she'hechiyanu v'kiyamanu v'higiyanu laz'man hazeh.

We bless You, Adonai, Spirit of the universe, who has given us life, sustained us and brought us to this moment!

Happy Chanukah!