

HOLY BLOSSOM TEMPLE'S  
Guide to the

# *High Holy Days & Fall Festivals*

2020/5781





## Holy Blossom Temple's Guide to the High Holy Days and Fall Festivals, 5781

The Days of Awe will look and feel different than any year past. We will miss gathering together in person, but we are blessed to have new technology to build a bridge from our spiritual home on 1950 Bathurst to all of our individual homes across the city and beyond.

This guide is your resource for getting the most out of this High Holy Day season. As we move through the Hebrew month of Elul (the month prior to Rosh Hashanah), we encourage you to take time to gather suggested ritual items, mark your personal calendars to take full advantage of the many offerings we have created for the congregation, make sure you have what you need in the way of technology to get connected, and consider how to truly transform your home into a sanctuary – a *mikdash me'at*.

### How To Prepare for The High Holy Days at home

You won't have to figure out where to park or where to sit this year, but there are a number of practical ways you can prepare to ensure a meaningful and uplifting experience.

When the Israelites were shut out from The Temple in Jerusalem they lamented, "Where will we pray?" The Sages explained that each home would become a *Mikdash Me'at*, a small sanctuary of its own. Here are some suggestions for how you might create a sacred space within your home for the purpose of High Holy Day prayers.

1. Clear the clutter from your usual workspace and lay down a tablecloth or special scarf beneath your laptop. Better yet, connect your computer to your TV so you aren't crowding around a small monitor and the sights and sounds of the High Holy Days become a focal point in your home.
2. Choose a comfortable chair and make it special with a pillow.

3. **Collect the ritual objects you will need.** Tallit, kippah, candlesticks, Kiddush cup, apples and honey. Are there family heirlooms that you want to have nearby? A grandmother's honey dish or a shofar from a trip to Israel, for example. Or perhaps you'd like to purchase something new for yourself or to give as a gift. The Holy Blossom Temple Judaica Shop has beautiful items to enhance any home. If you'd like to schedule a time to shop virtually, please contact.... (Jill Kamin needs to clarify whether or not we can make such an offer.)
4. **Surround yourself with photos of the people you love.** Pictures of the living who are scattered across the city or the globe. And pictures of those who have gone from this lifetime and whose memories grace your holy days. Place a Yahrzeit Candle next to those photos, so you can light it on the eve of Yom Kippur. (The Temple Brotherhood has Yahrzeit Candles available for you to pick up from the Temple if you'd like.)
5. **Machzor, High Holy Day Prayerbook.** All of the liturgy will be shown on the screen in real time, so it will be easy for you to follow along in Hebrew and in English. If, however, you'd like a Machzor to hold in your hands, you can arrange to pick up a borrowed copy by writing to Abigail Carpenter Winch, our Director of Membership and Community Engagement at [awinch@holyblossom.org](mailto:awinch@holyblossom.org).
6. **Transliterations,** for those who don't yet read Hebrew, transliterations of central High Holy Day prayers will be available on [www.holyblossom.org/hhd](http://www.holyblossom.org/hhd)
7. **When New Year's Cards begin to arrive** [www.holyblossom.org/donate-2/send-a-card/](http://www.holyblossom.org/donate-2/send-a-card/), you may wish to place them around your prayer space. Or print out this blessing and set it nearby.

בְּזָה הַשַּׁעַר לֹא יָבֹא צָרָה  
 בְּזָאת הַדִּירָה לֹא תָבֹא צָרָה  
 בְּזָאת הַדְּלֵת לֹא תָבֹא בְּהֵלָה  
 בְּזָאת הַמַּחְלָקָה לֹא תָבֹא מַחְלוּ קָת  
 בְּזָה הַמָּקוֹם תִּהְיֶה בְּרָכָה וְשָׁלוֹם

Let no sorrow come through this gate.  
 Let no trouble come into this dwelling.  
 Let no fear come through this door.  
 Let no conflict enter this space.  
 Let there be blessing and peace in this place.

8. **Dress for the occasion.** Dress the kids for the occasion, too. Jewish custom is to wear something new to greet the new year. After six months of yoga pants and house shoes, you may find that dressing in shul-clothes is a meaningful ritual for uplift and dignity. If it is your practice to wear a tallit and kippah, do so. These are tangible reminders that it is time to concentrate on developing your spiritual self.
9. **This year the electronic link is your High Holy Day ticket.** Try a practice run well in advance, so you feel confident with the technology. Ask a relative or friend to help you. We also have congregant-volunteers who are happy to walk you through it.
10. **Remember to turn off your email and other programs that can distract and interrupt**

your well-deserved prayerful respite from the daily demands. Remember that you can PHONE IN to hear the services, if you wish to keep it simple.

11. **Take time just as you would if we were in-person.** You deserve the quiet reflection these holy days provide, so clear your calendar of work obligations for the High Holy Days. It is very tempting to check in on work emails, meetings, and phone calls when you are sitting at home looking at your computer. But for these special days, reserve your computer and your headspace for prayer.
12. **We know it's awkward and strange to sing through a computer screen.** It's a strange experience for Rabbis and Cantors, too. Try anyway. Join in the melodies. Join in reading the prayers of the Machzor. Be prepared before *Mi Shebayrach LaCholim* to say aloud the names of loved ones who are in need of healing and before Kaddish the names of loved ones you are remembering. Stand and be seated at the usual times. Once you begin, you may even find yourself less inhibited to really sing out at home. During moments of silence craft your own spontaneous prayers.
13. **Be open.** Sitting in the sanctuary for High Holy Day services last year, no one could have imagined that this would be the way we would usher in 5781. Take advantage of these unusual circumstances to experience something new. No doubt, this year will look and feel different. This new year provides unique opportunities to cultivate flexibility, curiosity, creativity, and above all, gratitude.

## A Note for Parents of Young Children

Families with children 12 and younger, collect your "HBT High Holy Day Family Activity Package" from Holy Blossom Temple at any of these times:

- Tuesday, September 8 from 10:00 am-3:00 pm
- Thursday, September 10 from 10:00 am-3:00 pm
- Sunday, September 13 from 10:00 am-3:00 pm
- Tuesday, September 15 from 10:00 am-3:00 pm
- Thursday, September 17 from 10:00 am-3:00 pm

You know your child(ren) best. We have created interactive, musical adventures in worship and community for the High Holy Days, and know that your home will be a place for special memories.

Try the full family service, and come back for the Young Readers (6-9) and Little Blossoms (0-5) experiences. Bake challah, eat apples and honey, and let your child(ren) observe you wearing your tallit, with an open heart and open prayer book. The High Holy Day Pack includes ideas for your home breakout space with activities the child(ren) in your house can do during services. Nature walks are encouraged.





1. I understand all High Holy Day services will be online this year. How will we be able to connect with one another?

All Main Sanctuary Services will be livestreamed. Congregants can greet one another in the Comments Section throughout the service. All other services will be on Zoom. Congregants will be able to see one another and greet one another in the Chat Box.

In addition, there are a number of other meaningful ways to see and hear one another through the High Holy Days. Read on to find out how.

2. How do we keep track of all the different links for services and programs?

There will be a few ways to access these links:

- On the Holy Blossom website (on our HHD landing page & virtual offerings calendar)
- If you registered for a specific service or program, you will receive a confirmation email that will include the link to that service directly in your inbox.

3. Can non-members access services?

Throughout the rest of the year our services are open to the world. (In fact, 27 countries have joined us since lockdown began.) However, most High Holy Day services are intended for specifically Holy Blossom Temple members. In order to give a taste of Holy Blossom, there are some exceptions:

- Our four amazing Children's Services are open to anyone, although registration is required.
- Second Day Rosh Hashanah Services: one for Adults and one for Families with children are open to everyone and no registration is required.

4. I'd like to bring a guest with me for the High Holy Day services. Is this possible?

Yes. Please contact Abigail Carpenter-Winch at [awinch@holyblossom.org](mailto:awinch@holyblossom.org) to arrange guest tickets.

5. Will there be a choir?

Yes! We have 8 choir members joining us, physically distanced throughout the sanctuary and wearing singer's masks.

6. Will the sound be good?

Yes! We are working with a professional production team and the sound will be excellent, as well as the high definition picture.

7. Are the services Livestreamed or we be seen in lots of little squares on the screen?

Our adult services are Livestreamed and you will not be seen. All family services, children's services, Teen and YAD services are all on Zoom, so you can see one another in many squares on the screen.

8. Can non-members access the High Holy Day study sessions?

All Study Sessions are initially only for our congregation and their registered guests. After each holy day, recordings of the sessions can be enjoyed by anyone who visits our website.

9. What if I can't access the livestream? Is there someone I can call for help?

If you would like someone to call you in the thirty minutes before services begin and help you access the website, please email [help@holyblossom.org](mailto:help@holyblossom.org) or call 647.424.4575 and indicate that you would like this assistance. On the evening of, if you are having difficulties, this tech support number is also on your High Holy Day tickets for easy reference.

10. I don't use a computer or my loved one doesn't have a device with internet capabilities. Can we keep it simple and phone in to hear the services?

Yes! If you would like to request the call in information for services, please reach out to 416.789.3291 ext. 232 before the holiday.

11. I'm new to Holy Blossom. Can someone guide me in how to make the most of the High Holy Days at Holy Blossom?

Absolutely! It is our pleasure to welcome you! Our new member Navigators are long-time congregants who can help guide and mentor you. Please reach out to Abigail Carpenter-Winch at [awinch@holyblossom.org](mailto:awinch@holyblossom.org)

12. I belong to another Reform (Union of Reform Judaism) congregation and I'd like to join Holy Blossom for the High Holy Days. Is this possible?

Yes. All URJ congregations provide reciprocal tickets for one another's members. Contact Lindsay Mockler at [lmockler@holyblossom.org](mailto:lmockler@holyblossom.org) to make arrangements.

13. I understand the Hebrew and English prayers will be on the bottom of the screen throughout the service, but I'd also appreciate a Machzor to have at home with me. Can this be arranged?

Yes! Hard copy machzorim (High Holyday prayerbooks) will be available for pick up at the Temple on:

- Tuesday, Sept. 8th from 10:00 am-3:00 pm
- Thursday, Sept. 10th from 10:00 am-3:00 pm
- Sunday, Sept. 13th from 10:00 am-3:00 pm
- Tuesday, Sept. 15th from 10:00 am-3:00 pm
- Thursday, Sept. 17th from 10:00 am-3:00 pm

14. I'd like to improve my Hebrew reading. Perhaps I'll join Dalia Alaluf's Hebrew Reading Workshop, but until then, are transliterations available for the High Holy Days?

Yes! For those who don't yet read Hebrew, transliterations of central High Holy Day prayers will be available on [www.holyblossom.org/hhd](http://www.holyblossom.org/hhd)

15. I wish I could send a L'Shanah Tovah greeting to my fellow congregants. How can I do this?

It's easy! Order your cards online here: [www.holyblossom.org/donate-2/send-a-card/](http://www.holyblossom.org/donate-2/send-a-card/) or if you need assistance, or would like to place your tribute card order by phone or email, please contact Randi Rose at 416.789.3291 ext. 227 or email [rrose@holyblossom.org](mailto:rrose@holyblossom.org).

16. Between services I'd like to be able to listen to High Holy Day Music. Do you have any recommendations?

Yes. Our Cantors and Rabbis have created a playlist with you in mind. Enjoy!

17. This all sounds so wonderful. How can I help?

Thank you! Holy Blossom is strengthened by each volunteer. Please reach out to [volunteer@holyblossom.org](mailto:volunteer@holyblossom.org).

18. I look forward to a meaningful High Holy Day season. I'd like to express my gratitude with a donation. What's the best way to do that?

Thank you for your generosity. Every contribution strengthens our congregation and our community. Your gift will be acknowledged in the Temple bulletin. Tax receipts will be issued for gifts of \$20.00 or more. Click here to donate online: <https://cloud4good.tfaforms.net/382823>



HOLY BLOSSOM TEMPLE  
*High Holy Days 5781*

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12**

Canada-Wide Selichot Service ..... 9:00 pm

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13**

Kever Avot ..... 12:30 pm  
*Holy Blossom Memorial Park, Brimley Road*

**Rosh Hashanah**

**FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 18, 2020**

Erev Rosh Hashanah  
 Adult Service ..... 6:00 pm  
 Family Service ..... 6:00 pm  
 Zoom Dining Rooms & Rosh Hashanah Seder .... 7:30 pm  
 Adult Service ..... 8:00 pm

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2020**

First Day Rosh Hashanah  
 Adult Service ..... 9:15 am  
 Family Service ..... 10:00 am  
 Multiple Study Sessions ..... 1:30 pm  
 Young Readers (age 6-8) ..... 2:30 pm  
 Little Blossoms (age 5 & under) ..... 3:30 pm

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2020**

Second Day Rosh Hashanah  
 Family Service ..... 9:15 am  
 Adult Service ..... 10:00 am  
 Tashlich, *Marilyn Bell Park* ..... 3:30 pm

**Yom Kippur**

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2020**

Kol Nidre  
 Family Service ..... 6:30 pm  
 Adult Service ..... 7:30 pm  
 Teen Service ..... 7:30 pm  
 Adult Service ..... 8:30 pm

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2020**

Yom Kippur Morning Services  
 Family Service ..... 9:15 am  
 Adult Service ..... 10:00 am  
 YAD (Young Adult Division) Service ..... 10:00 am

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2020**

Yom Kippur Afternoon Services  
 Multiple Study Sessions ..... 1:30 pm  
 Young Readers (age 6-8) ..... 1:30 pm  
 Little Blossoms (age 5 & under) ..... 2:30 pm  
 Mincha/Martyrology Service ..... 3:30 pm  
 Yizkor ..... 5:15 pm (approx.)  
 Neilah ..... 6:15 pm (approx.)  
 Zoom Dining Rooms for Break-the-Fast .... 7:30 pm

*\* all services are online unless otherwise noted*

# Elul Spiritual Preparations

## A Private Shehechyanu

A Private Shehechyanu is an initiative that invites congregants to sign up for a 10-minute private visit to the Main Sanctuary throughout the month of Elul (beginning Monday, August 24 through Thursday, September 17). You must sign up in advance; available time slots run on the half-hour from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm, and last no more than 10 minutes. Please register in advance online at [www.holyblossom.org](http://www.holyblossom.org).

## The Shofar Project with the Institute for Jewish Spirituality

The Shofar Project is a free program open to people of all backgrounds who want to make this a year of continued awakening, responsiveness, renewal, and transformation. It takes place during the Hebrew month of Elul, the month preceding the Jewish High Holy Days, a traditional period for intensive spiritual reflection, introspection, and moral accounting (August 20-September 18, 2020). Please register online at [www.jewishspirituality.org/](http://www.jewishspirituality.org/)

## Hear the Shofar at our Weekday Morning Minyan

Join our congregation over Zoom, please visit [www.holyblossom.org](http://www.holyblossom.org) for the links.

## Shabbat Morning Torah Study with Rabbi Splansky

Together we'll study the weekly Torah portion, its corresponding commentaries, both ancient and modern, and discover their eternal relevance. Experienced students are valued for their accumulations of knowledge, newcomers for their fresh insight. please visit [www.holyblossom.org](http://www.holyblossom.org) for the links.

## Yom Tov Catering and Gifts

Bring a little Holy Blossom into your home and into the homes of families that are dear to you. All orders must be submitted by Thursday, September 10th at 4:00 pm and will be ready for “physically distanced” pick up at Holy Blossom’s Ava Road parking lot on Tuesday, September 15 & Thursday, September 17.



# Enriching the High Holy Day Season

## Selichot | Saturday, September 12, 9:00 pm

Join the CCRJ (Canadian Council of Reform Judaism) for an evening of study with Rabbi Professor Larry Hoffman and meaningful prayer with Rabbis and Cantors from Reform congregations across the country.

## Kever Avot | Sunday, September 13, 12:30 pm

Join us at our Kever Avot Services as we visit the graves of our loved ones and pray together, honouring the memory of those who have passed. Our Clergy will be leading a service of reflection, renewal, and remembrance. If you are unable to join us in person, you can join the Kever Avot Service via [Zoom](#).

## High Holy Day Reader

We will provide a collection of readings on the themes of the Days of Awe are provided to complement and enhance your personal reflection and prayers. These texts and poetry are available for download on [www.holyblossom.org/hhd](http://www.holyblossom.org/hhd).

## Virtual Atrium

For thirty minutes before and after each Adult Service, gather in our Virtual Atrium to meet and greet one another.

## Zoom Dining Rooms

Rosh Hashanah Dining Rooms | Friday, September 18, 7:30 pm

Rosh Hashanah Seder | Friday, September 18, 7:30 pm

## Tashlich | Sunday, September 20, 3:00 pm

We'll meet at Marilyn Bell Park and walk to the lakefront for this brief and meaningful ceremony. BYOB. Bring your own breadcrumbs.

## Shabbat Shuva | Saturday, September 26, 10:30 am

Holy Blossom Temple is honoured to welcome Rabbi Sharon Sobel to address the congregation.



# Rosh Hashanah Afternoon Study Sessions

Saturday, September 19, 1:30 – 2:45 pm

GOOD BOOKS, GOOD COMPANY

with Cynthia Good

\* THE REFORM JEWISH THOUGHT OF EUGENE BOROWITZ

with Rabbi Dr. Rachel Sabath Beit-Halachmi

WHO SHALL LIVE AND WHO SHALL DIE? THE CANADIAN  
CONTROVERSY OF MEDICALLY ASSISTED DEATH

with Dr. Harvey Schipper

OUR ROAD TO REFORM

with Past President Sheila Smolkin, Katie Goodman, and the Holy Blossom  
Archives Committee

\*\* RACISM AND ANTI-RACISM IN CANADA WITH HOLY  
BLOSSOM'S NEIGHBOURHOOD ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

with City Councillor Josh Matlow, MPP Jill Andrew, and Member of  
Parliament Minister Carolyn Bennett. *Moderated by Rabbi Yael Splansky.*

CONTEMPLATIVE MUSIC FOR THE DAYS OF AWE

with Local and International Artists

# Yom Kippur Afternoon Study Sessions

Monday, September 28, 1:30 – 2:45 pm

REDEMPTION ON THE STREET: INSIGHTS FROM THE NEWLY  
TRANSLATED POEMS OF TORONTO STREETCAR CONDUCTOR,  
SHIMON NEPOM

with Miriam Borden and Professor Adam Sol

## \*THE GREAT ORGAN CAPER: MUSIC AND REFORM AT HOLY BLOSSOM TEMPLE

with **Susan Cohen and Michael Cole**, together with the HBT Archives Committee

## THE CONVENT AND THE CHURCH, PATMOS AND THOMAS MERTON: HOW THE CATHOLICS BROUGHT ME TO BELIEVE IN GOD, A ST. LOUIS AND GREEK ISLANDS STORY

with **Rabbi John Moscovitz**

## \*\*HILLEL'S THREE QUESTIONS: SOME UPDATED REFLECTIONS

with **Bob Rae**, Canada's Ambassador to the United Nations

## THE WOLFSBERG MACHZOR OF 1944

with **Rabbi Bill Tepper**

## CONTEMPLATIVE MUSIC FOR THE DAYS OF AWE

with **Local and International Artists**

\* *To kick off our year-long celebration of Holy Blossom's Centennial Anniversary as a Reform congregation.*

\*\* *These sessions will be Livestreamed. All other sessions will be on Zoom.*

### *Accessing the study sessions online*

The study sessions that are not being livestreamed, will be held through Zoom. If you are new to Zoom (or want to refine your skills), please read these instructions and helpful tips!

#### Download and install Zoom on your computer, smartphone or tablet prior to joining a meeting

- Go to [zoom.us](https://zoom.us)
- Click on "Sign Up – It's Free" at the upper right, *OR*
- Go to the "Resources" tab at the upper right and click on "Download Zoom Client"
- Follow the instructions

*Note: if you click on a link to join a Zoom, and do not have Zoom installed, you will be prompted to download the app before you can join the study session.*

#### Join a Zoom Meeting

A few minutes before your Zoom is scheduled to begin, click on the Zoom link you were given. For more information and to view some tutorial videos please visit:

<https://holyblossom.org/2020/03/zoom-instructions/>

# On the Horizon

## HINTS & HIGHLIGHTS FOR FALL PROGRAMMING

**YEAH's Online Iron Chef: Applefest! | Sunday, September 13, 1:30 pm**

Everyone in grades 3-5 is invited to join us online for an apple baking extravaganza!

**COVID-19's Gendered Economic Impact:**

**Time to Re-Imagine Care Work | Monday, September 14, 8:00 pm**

Featuring Katherine Scott, Fay Faraday and Maggie Wentz.

**Anti-Racism Reading and Discussion Group | Tuesday, September 29, 7:00 pm**

The goal of this group is educate ourselves on the lived experiences of Black Canadians and People of Colour in Canada (including Black Jews and Jews of Colour) and to critically examine our own conditioned biases and beliefs. We will discuss and reflect on books, articles, presentations, and current events, beginning with Desmond Cole's book *The Skin We're In: A Year of Black Resistance and Power* (Doubleday Canada, 2020). The first meeting we will discuss up to page 50, and in this meeting we will collaboratively determine the fall meeting schedule. All are welcome.

**JewCrew, HABSTY and HBTeens Sukkah Sort! | Sunday, October 4, 2:00 pm**

Join us in and around the HBT sukkah to help sort and wrap gift packages for the Krinkle Project: a project that donates gift bags to children of all ages living in shelters and group homes across the GTA. \*social distancing will be followed.

**One State or Two - the Israel Palestine Conflict | Tuesdays, October 6 & 13, 7:00 pm**

With Professor Howard Adelman, Peter Beinart shifted from a traditional two-state position for resolving the Israel-Palestine conflict to a one-state solution. Over two evenings, we will explore in detail the implications of both positions and why neither is workable.

**Contemporary Jewish Fiction, Cynthia Good | Thursdays, October 8-29, 10:30 am**

We will look at the following: *Lear's Shadow* by Claire Holden Rothman, *House on Endless Waters* by Emuna Elon, *These Are the Names* by Tommy Wieringa

**The Rav and the Boss: Two Uncommon Teachers | Thursdays, October 8-November 12, 7:00 pm**

With Rabbi John Moscovitz, Rabbi Joseph Soloveitchik and Bruce Springsteen on Freedom and Dignity, Responsibility and Renewal.

**Tot Shabbat Services | resumes October 16, 5:00 pm**

Join Cantor Rosen and Dr. Mark Weinstock help us visit on Zoom and being to gather around our Shabbat tables.

### Family Services | resumes Saturday, October 17, 10:30 am

With an approximately 11:00 am Zoom Gali Gali experience for our little ones on our Youth and Family Engagement Facebook Page and on Zoom.

### Join us for our new Melton Line-up! | Tuesdays, beginning October 20, 7:30 pm

Jewish Medical Ethics in the 21st Century, Dr. Yoel Abells

Within the field of ethics, one of the most challenging frontiers is medical ethics. While contemporary medical knowledge preserves life, modern advances have raised moral and ethical dilemmas related to the sanctity and dignity of life—issues whose scope was unimaginable a generation ago. Jewish Medical Ethics explores Jewish approaches to a number of 21st century ethical issues, including human cloning, surrogate motherhood, genetic identity, assisted suicide, and genetic manipulation.

### Sights, Flavours, and Stories: A Virtual Israel Trip | October 26-30, 4:00-6:00 pm

Join us from the comfort of your home as we embark on a virtual tour of Israel. Experience off the beaten track sights, flavours and places that you have never seen before. Meet our guide Ishai from Fig Travel who will travel with us on the ground in Israel at a later date. Receive a gift of Israel wine and products to enjoy as you are participating in our journey. Meet artisans and business owners from interesting start-ups and farms. Join us as we explore Israel in a unique way!

### Melton Core Course Year 2 | Tuesdays, October 27, 7:30 pm

Open to all who are interested, in particular to those who have completed Core Course Year 1.

Crossroads of Jewish History and The Ethics of Jewish Living, Rabbi Yael Splansky & Rabbi Zachary Goodman. In Year Two of the two year program, we will study, “Crossroads of Jewish History” which merges the concepts of history and memory in order to better understand how each has shaped Judaism today. The second course is, “The Ethics of Jewish Living” which brings in Jewish teachings to shed light on contemporary issues. This class will explore the ancient and modern rabbis and scholars approaches to conducting our lives in the communal and private spheres.

### YAD's Hike & Chill | Sunday, November 1

Join our 20s and 30s group for a physically distanced outing! Come sunshine or snowfall, we will take a short hike/long walk on an urban trail and spend some time together outdoors. For more details, please reach out to Rabbi Goodman ([zgoodman@holyblossom.org](mailto:zgoodman@holyblossom.org)).

### Unconscious Bias | Wednesday, November 4, 8:00 pm

Unconscious biases are the underlying attitudes and stereotypes that people unconsciously attribute to another person or group of people. Such biases are automatic, unintentional, deeply ingrained, universal and able to influence behaviour. Featuring Donna Ince, Senior Vice-President of RSA Canada.

### Addiction: Let's Talk About It | Monday, November 30, 8:00 pm

Featuring Dr. Leslie Buckley and Randy Eckler, an individual with lived experience



# 100 Years Reform

## A CELEBRATION OF HOLY BLOSSOM TEMPLE'S CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY AS A REFORM CONGREGATION

Toronto's first synagogue, Holy Blossom Temple was founded in 1856 as a British Orthodox congregation. In 1920, after years of growth and debate, Holy Blossom affiliated with the Reform Movement and welcomed its first Reform Rabbi in time for Rosh Hashanah, 5681.

From that day forward, Holy Blossom has been a flagship congregation of the Reform Movement, striking a dynamic tension between innovation and tradition, providing leadership and legacy, pursuing rigorous and relevant expressions of spirituality, life-long learning, and acts of righteousness and justice in every era.

This year we will celebrate "100 Years Reform" with leading figures of the International Reform Movement. We'll learn about the evolution of Reform Judaism from its roots in mid-19th century Germany to today's vision for Jewish life that is values-driven and future-facing.

### *Just a few of the many highlights:*

**Saturday, September 19, 1:30 pm** | Rabbi Dr. Rachel Sabath Beit Halachmi: "The Reform Jewish Thought of Eugene Borowitz" Rosh HaShanah Afternoon Study Session

**Saturday, October 31, 2020, 10:30 am** | Rabbi Hara Person, Chief Executive of the Central Conference of American Rabbis "Rabbinic Leadership: Inspiration and Innovation" (Shabbat Morning Sermon)

**Sunday, November 29, 9:30 am** | Rabbi Rick Jacobs, President of the Union for Reform Judaism, "Today's Reform Judaism," *followed by HBT's Annual General Meeting.*

**Saturday, December 12, 2020, 10:30 am** | Rabbi Jonah Pesner, Director of the Religious Action Center in Washington D.C. –"Social Justice, a Pillar of Reform Judaism" (Shabbat Morning Sermon)

# Fall Festivals 5781

## SUKKOT

Erev Yom Tov & Kabbalat Shabbat

Friday, October 2, 2020 6:00 pm

Yom Tov & Shabbat Morning Service

Saturday, October 3, 2020, 10:00 am

### Drive-in Sukkah

From the evening of Friday, October 2 through the afternoon of Friday, October 9

Healthy and safe, all are welcome to the Dewbourne Ave. Parking lot for a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

No registration required, unless you'd like to reserve the Temple's sukkah for your bubble to share a meal or sleep over under the full moon and stars! *Holy Blossom Temple gratefully acknowledges the sponsorship of Matthew Sapera Fine Homes.*

## SHEMINI ATZERET

Erev Yom Tov and Kabbalat Shabbat

Friday October 9, 2020, 6:00 pm

Yom Tov and Shabbat Morning Service

Saturday, October 10, 2020, 10:00 am

## SIMCHAT TORAH & CONSECRATION

Erev Simchat Torah

Saturday, October 10, 2020, 7:00 pm

Simchat Torah Service, Consecration, and Parade

Sunday, October 11, 2020

9:00 am Shacharit Service

9:30 am Hakafot like we'd never seen before!

A Simchat Torah float, carrying our beautiful Torah Scrolls, will make its way through your neighbourhoods, stopping from time to time for bubble horas! Flags will wave and music will play!

## CONSECRATION

To celebrate the beginning of their Torah learning, all Grade 1 students will receive a mini-Torah of their own when the Simchat Torah Parade comes rolling through their neighbourhoods. A memory that will last a lifetime!

