

THE DRUM

KEEPING YOU IN STEP WITH THE BEAT OF OUR COMMUNITY



31 DEC - 1 JAN | 28 TEVET 5782

פ' וארא (מברכין)

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FROM THE RABBINIC TEAM: I AM GOD



Our parashah opens with God explaining to Moshe that he intends to take the Israelites out of Egypt in an extraordinary display of divine might, known to us as the plagues.

God's opening first words to Moshe are 'I am the Lord'. For Rashi, this refers not to God's existence (which is assumed by the nature of the communication), but to God's reliability to deliver on His promises. However, this reading requires some ingenuity, as the text appears to be saying something more existential. Seforno grapples with this: *I am the Lord: the One Who maintains the entire universe all alone. I have not only called it into existence, but I also maintain it, and there is no other prime cause which exercises any independent influence on any part of My universe.*

According to Seforno's approach, God explains to Moshe that He not only brought the world into existence (which Moshe already knew), but since He also maintains it independently of any other force, He has the capacity and licence to alter the way it operates. As such, this phrase is the perfect introduction to the parashah. God has already provided Moshe with the ethical justification for the plagues (payback for the Egyptians' mistreatment of His 'firstborn' Israel) and now He offers Moshe a theological context for everything that will unfold in the following few chapters.

RABBI DR HARVEY BELOVSKI

שבת שלום

Candles: 3.11pm - 3.46pm
Minchah & Kabbalat Shabbat: 3.50pm

Shabbat morning: 9.15am

Minchah: 3.45pm, followed by Rabbi Belovski's shiur;
Ma'ariv when Shabbat ends: 4.56pm

WEEKDAY SERVICES

שחרית

Sun @ 8.30am; Mon @ 8.15am (Rosh Chodesh)
Tue, Wed & Fri @ 7.25am; Thu @ 7.15am

מנחה & מעריב

Sun - Thu @ 3.45pm

Mazal Tov!

COMING SOON

Happy Birthday!

· ASHER QUINT · ETHAN JACOBSON
· ELLE GAYNOR · ADINA LEVY
· ELISHEVA CHOUMON

LEARN WITH US

FRIDAY NIGHT 31ST DECEMBER - NO SESSION

Donald's Gemara Sanhedrin Chavurah

SHABBAT 1ST JANUARY - FOLLOWING MINCHAH AT 3.45PM

RHB's series: The Journey of Avraham and Sarah: A Look with Classical Commentaries

IN RECESS UNTIL 10TH JAN

Adrian Jacobs Shiur Gemara Shiur on Tractate Shabbat
Delivered by Zoom

Coming soon

WINTER PROGRAMME

Rabbi Julian Sinclair on Shemittah today
Rabbanit Ramie on the Parashah
Rabbi Belovski In Conversation 2

Youth and Children

OUR YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMES RUN EVERY SHABBAT MORNING:

- **YOUTH** (Y7 plus), upstairs in the nursery, **10:30am**
- **PRE-YOUTH** (Y5 & Y6), outside under the Rimon shelter
- **CHILDREN** (Reception-Y4), Rimon hall
- **TODDLERS** (Pre-school), Rimon reception playground

All starting at 10.45am

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON YOUTH
ACTIVITIES, PLEASE CONTACT OUR YOUTH
DIRECTORS, TOVA AND SHIRA:
YOUTH@GGSHUL.ORG.UK

AWFUL KIDS' JOKES

- The genie asked, "What's your first wish?" Steve answered, "I wish I was rich!" The genie continued, "What's your second wish?" "A long life," said Rich.
- I just saw a real idiot at the gym. He put a water bottle in the Pringles holder on the treadmill.
- I was once attacked by a gang of mime artists... They did unspeakable things to me.

USEFUL CONTACTS

OFFICE: 020 8455 2460; office@ggshul.org.uk

TWITTER: @ggshul

RABBI: 020 8458 8824 · rabbi@ggshul.org.uk ·
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RABBI SAM FROMSON:

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HADASSAH FROMSON:

07415 219079 · hadassah@ggshul.org.uk

CARE LINE: 07415 006072

GEMACH FUND: gemach@ggshul.org.uk

Shul office hours: Monday, Wednesday & Thursday
9.30am - 3.00pm; Tuesday 9.30am - 1pm

GGSh Executive

Our community is run by volunteers – do get in touch and get involved. Our Women's Officers are available for support on saying kaddish and observing yahrzeits and our Gabbaim can answer any questions on services.

Chair: Joel Clark, chair@ggshul.org.uk

Financial Representative: Adam Berlin, adam@ggshul.org.uk

Women's Officers: Victoria White, victoria@ggshul.org.uk;

Caroline Levey, caroline@ggshul.org.uk

Gabbaim: Moishe Engel, moishe@ggshul.org.uk;

Gabriel Vaisbrot, gabriel@ggshul.org.uk

Check out our brand new website

WWW.GOLDERSGREENSHUL.ORG.UK

MEMBERS AND NON-MEMBERS ARE WARMLY INVITED TO ATTEND ALL OF OUR ONLINE EVENTS,
REGARDLESS OF LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE