



# MARCH

## ADAR - NISSAN

### PURIM

The most joyous holiday of the year, Purim, commemorates the salvation of the Jewish people from the complete annihilation decreed by the wicked Haman. Queen Esther, a young Jewish heroine, sought out King Achashverosh and begged him to intervene. Every year, we read the story to remind us of this great miracle. We celebrate in many ways, including a great feast, food gift baskets to our friends, and charity to the poor.

*Pictured: Dead Sea Shore*

### THIS MONTH AT A GLANCE

Mar. 2	Monday	Fast of Esther (Fast Day)
Mar. 3	Tuesday	Purim
Mar. 4	Wednesday	Shushan Purim
Mar. 8	Sunday	DST Begins
Mar. 19	Thursday	Rosh Chodesh

\*\* Religious Work Proscription/Non-Working Day

Aleph offers advocacy assistance to inmates who need help with medical, religious, or discrimination issues.

Please write to us via letter or email us at [info@alephne.org](mailto:info@alephne.org).

### REMIND CHAPLAINS TO FILL OUT PASSOVER ORDER FORM!

Every year, we ship more than 20 tons of Matzoh, grape juice, macaroons, gefilte fish, horseradish & other Passover items!

Don't be left out! Make sure your chaplain fills out and sends in an order form at [alephne.org/programs](http://alephne.org/programs), Holiday Programs, Passover and Matzah needs!



# MARCH 2026

ADAR - NISSAN 5786

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

<p><b>1</b> 12 Adar</p> <p><b>FAST OF ESTHER</b></p> <p>A fast is observed by all adults in commemoration of the three-day fast called at Esther's behest. Arrange for sack dinners from your Chaplain!</p>	<p><b>2</b> 13 Adar Fast of Esther 5:27 AM - 6:40 PM</p>	<p><b>3</b> 14 Adar Purim</p> <p><b>PURIM</b></p> <p>Customary observances include reading of the Megillah, which recounts the story of the Purim miracle; giving to the poor; sending gifts of food to friends; the Purim feast; and reciting the Al Hanissim prayer.</p>	<p><b>4</b> 15 Adar Shushan Purim</p>	<p><b>5</b> 16 Adar</p>	<p><b>6</b> 17 Adar</p> <p>Candle Lighting: 5:59 PM </p>	<p><b>7</b> 18 Adar</p> <p>Ki Tisa Parah</p> <p>Shabbat Ends: 6:58 PM</p>																																				
<p><b>8</b> 19 Adar DST Begins</p>	<p><b>9</b> 20 Adar</p>	<p><b>10</b> 21 Adar</p>	<p><b>11</b> 22 Adar</p>	<p><b>12</b> 23 Adar</p>	<p><b>13</b> 24 Adar</p> <p>Candle Lighting: 7:06 PM </p>	<p><b>14</b> 25 Adar Blessing of the New Month</p> <p>Vayakhel - Pekudei Hachodesh</p> <p>Shabbat Ends: 8:06 PM</p>																																				
<p><b>15</b> 26 Adar</p>	<p><b>16</b> 27 Adar</p>	<p><b>17</b> 28 Adar</p>	<p><b>18</b> 29 Adar</p>	<p><b>19</b> 1 Nissan Rosh Chodesh</p>	<p><b>20</b> 2 Nissan</p> <p>Candle Lighting: 7:14 PM </p>	<p><b>21</b> 3 Nissan</p> <p>Vayikra</p> <p>Shabbat Ends: 8:13 PM</p>																																				
<p><b>22</b> 4 Nissan</p>	<p><b>23</b> 5 Nissan</p>	<p><b>24</b> 6 Nissan</p>	<p><b>25</b> 7 Nissan</p>	<p><b>26</b> 8 Nissan</p>	<p><b>27</b> 9 Nissan</p> <p>Candle Lighting: 7:21 PM </p>	<p><b>28</b> 10 Nissan Shabbat HaGadol</p> <p>Tzav</p> <p>Shabbat Ends: 8:21 PM</p>																																				
<p><b>29</b> 11 Nissan</p>	<p><b>30</b> 12 Nissan</p>	<p><b>31</b> 13 Nissan</p>	<p>Shabbat &amp; Jewish holidays start at Sundown.</p> <p>The times listed might not be accurate for your location. Please check the Candle Lighting times for your area at <a href="http://www.AlephNE.org/CandleLighting">www.AlephNE.org/CandleLighting</a></p>			<p><b>KIDDUSH PROGRAM</b></p> <p>Kiddush on Shabbat is an important Jewish ritual practiced weekly. We provide grape juice and matzah for institutions with Jewish inmates who wish to practice their faith. Please contact our office to sign up.</p> 	<p><b>Candle Lighting Times</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Los Angeles</th> <th>Miami</th> <th>Jerusalem</th> <th>Milwaukee</th> <th>Greenfield Park</th> <th>San Juan</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>3/6</td> <td>5:36</td> <td>6:07</td> <td>5:01</td> <td>5:29</td> <td>5:36</td> <td>6:14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3/13</td> <td>6:42</td> <td>7:11</td> <td>5:06</td> <td>6:38</td> <td>6:44</td> <td>6:16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3/20</td> <td>6:47</td> <td>7:14</td> <td>5:11</td> <td>6:46</td> <td>6:52</td> <td>6:18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3/27</td> <td>6:53</td> <td>7:17</td> <td>6:15</td> <td>6:54</td> <td>7:00</td> <td>6:19</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Shabbat ends on Saturday approximately 65 min. after listed times.</p>		Los Angeles	Miami	Jerusalem	Milwaukee	Greenfield Park	San Juan	3/6	5:36	6:07	5:01	5:29	5:36	6:14	3/13	6:42	7:11	5:06	6:38	6:44	6:16	3/20	6:47	7:14	5:11	6:46	6:52	6:18	3/27	6:53	7:17	6:15	6:54	7:00	6:19
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Molad: Wednesday, 3/18 at 4:34 (13 chelek) PM

# Jewish Holy Days

## According to the Gregorian Calendar

### YEAR 2026-2029

Holy Day	Hebrew Date	Work	2026	2027	2028	2029
		Permitted				
Fast of 10th of Tevet	Tevet 10		Dec. 30-25	Dec. 20-26	Jan. 9	Dec. 16
15th of Shevat	Shevat 15		Feb. 2	Jan. 23	Feb. 12	Jan. 31
Fast of Esther	Adar 13		Mar. 2	Mar. 22	Mar. 9	Feb. 28
Purim	Adar 14		Mar. 3	Mar. 23	Mar. 12	Feb. 29
Fast of Firstborn	Nissan 14		Apr. 1	Apr. 21	Apr. 10	Mar. 30
Passover {First 2 Days}	Nissan 15-16	No	Apr. 2-3	Apr. 22-23	Apr. 11-12	Mar. 31 - Apr. 1
Passover {Intermediate Days}	Nissan 17-20		Apr. 4-7	Apr. 24-27	Apr. 13-16	Apr. 2-5
Passover {Last 2 Days}	Nissan 20-21	No	Apr. 8-9	Apr. 28-29	Apr. 17-18	Apr. 6-7
Lag B'Omer	Iyar 18		May 5	May 25	May 14	May 3
Shavuot	Sivan 6-7	No	May 22-23	June 11-12	May 31 - June 1	May 20-21
Fast of 17th of Tamuz	Tammuz 17		Jul. 2	Jul. 22	Jul. 11	Jul. 1
Fast of 9th of Av	Av 9		Jul. 23	Aug. 12	Aug. 1	Jul. 21
Rosh Hashana	Tishrei 1-2	No	Sept. 12-13	Oct. 2-3	Sept. 21-22	Sept. 10-11
Fast of Gedaliah	Tishrei 3		Sept. 14	Oct. 4	Sept. 24	Sept. 12
Yom Kippur	Tishrei 9-10	No	Sept. 21	Oct. 11	Sept. 30	Sept. 19
Sukkot {First 2 Days}	Tishrei 15-16	No	Sept. 26-27	Oct. 16-17	Oct. 5-6	Sept. 24-25
Sukkot {Intermediate Days}	Tishrei 17-21		Sept. 28-Oct. 2	Oct. 18-22	Oct. 7-11	Sept. 26-30
Shemini Atzeret	Tishrei 22	No	Oct. 3	Oct. 23	Oct. 12	Oct. 1
Simchat Torah	Tishrei 23	No	Oct. 4	Oct. 24	Oct. 13	Oct. 2
Chanukah	Kislev 25, Tevet 2/3		Dec. 5-12	Dec. 25 - Jan 1	Dec. 13-20	Dec. 2-9

# Candle Lighting Guide



Photo © Project 470, ShabbatCandles.com

## HOW TO LIGHT SHABBAT CANDLES

**1. HOW TO:** It starts with one light. Add a candle for your spouse, and if you're a mother, one for each child. A girl over the age of three may (with help from Mom) light her own candle.

Before kindling the candles (exact time is mentioned in the bottom of each calendar box), we think of those less fortunate and put a coin in a charity box.

**2. LIGHT A CANDLE.** After the candles are lit, the woman stretches her hands out towards the candles, and moves them inwards in a circular motion – ushering in a special guest, the Shabbat Queen – three times. After the third time, the woman covers her eyes with her hands and recites the following blessing:

**3. THE BLESSING:** Baruch a-ta A-do-nay E-lo-hei-nu me-lech ha-o-lam a-she-ri ki-dee-sha-nu bi-mitz-vo-tav vi-tzi-va-noo li-had-leek ner shel Sha-bat Ko-desh.

TRANSLATION: Blessed are you, L-rd our G-d, King of the universe, who has sanctified us with His commandments, and commanded us to kindle the light of the Holy Shabbat.

**4. SAY A PRAYER.** The moments immediately after reciting the blessing, while the woman's eyes are still covered, are an extremely auspicious time for her to offer a private prayer for anything her heart desires. It is customary to use this special time to appeal to G-d for children who will glow with the radiance of the Torah, and that He light up the world with the light of the Redemption.

## JEWISH HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Candles are lit to honor the Jewish Festivals, on which different blessings are recited. For the appropriate blessing use the third column of the chart. On the onset of the Holiday light a 48 hour candle to assist in lighting the holiday candles the next night.

DATE	HOLIDAY	CANDLE LIGHTING BLESSING
Sep 22	Rosh Hashana Begins (Sunset)	***1 & 4
Sep 23	Rosh Hashana Day 1	**1 & 4
Sep 24	Rosh Hashana Day 2	
Oct. 1	Yom Kippur Begins (Sunset)	*2 & 4
Oct. 2	Yom Kippur	
Oct. 6	Sukkot Begins (Sunset)	***3 & 4
Oct. 7	Sukkot Day 1	**3 & 4
Oct. 8	Sukkot Day 2	
Oct. 13	Shemini Atzeret Begins (Sunset)	***3 & 4
Oct. 14	Shemini Atzeret	**3 & 4
Oct. 15	Simchat Torah	
Dec. 14	Chanukah Begins (Sunset)	
Dec. 22	Chanukah Ends (Nightfall)	
March 2	Purim Begins (Sunset)	
March 3	Purim Day	
April 1	Pesach Begins (Sunset)	***3 & 4
April 2	Pesach Day 1	**3 & 4
April 3	Pesach Day 2	
April 7	Final Days of Pesach Begin (Sunset)	***3
April 8	Pesach Day 7	**3
April 9	Pesach Day 8	
May 21	Shavuot Begins (Sunset)	***3 & 4
May 22	Shavuot Day 1	****3 & 4
May 23	Shavuot Day 2	

\* Do not light after sunset

\*\* Light after the time indicated from a pre-lit flame

\*\*\* If lighting after sunset, light from a pre-lit flame

\*\*\*\* Light before the time indicated from a pre-lit flame

- 1 Bo-ruch A-toh A-do-noi E-lo-hei-nu Me-lech Ho-olom A-she-ri Ki-deshanu Be-mitz-vo-tav Vi-tzvi-vo-nu Le-had-lik Ner Shel [Fridays add: Sha-bat vi-she] Yom Ha-zi-karon
- 2 Bo-ruch A-toh A-do-noi E-lo-hei-nu Me-lech Ho-olom A-she-ri Ki-deshanu Be-mitz-vo-tav Vi-tzvi-vo-nu Le-had-lik Ner Shel [Fridays add: Sha-bat vi-she] Yom Ha-Ki-pu-rim
- 3 Bo-ruch A-toh A-do-noi E-lo-hei-nu Me-lech Ho-olom A-she-ri Ki-deshanu Be-mitz-vo-tav Vi-tzvi-vo-nu Le-had-lik Ner Shel [Fridays add: Sha-bat vi-she] Yom Yom Tov
- 4 Ba-ruch A-tah A-do-noi E-loi-hei-nu Me-lech ha-o-lam she-he-chee-ya-nu v'ki-yi-ma-nu vi-hi-gi-ya-nu liz-man ha-zeh.