

Jewish **CALENDAR**

5786 - 2025/2026

LANDSCAPES
of Israel

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MAY

IYAR - SIVAN

SHABBAT

Shabbat Candles: Every Friday afternoon at sunset, millions of Jewish women and girls around the globe welcome in Shabbat with the kindling of the Shabbat candles. These candles create an aura of serenity and peace in our homes and infuse a sense of sacredness into our private spaces. The candles remind us of the unique power of the Jewish women in transforming the physical into a home for the Divine.

Challah: More than just a loaf of bread, a freshly baked challah loaf reminds us of the manna that fell in the desert. The aroma of challah fills a home with the unique scent of Shabbat, and one bite of challah contains the taste of this special holy day.

Pictured: Aerial view of the city of Netanya

THIS MONTH AT A GLANCE

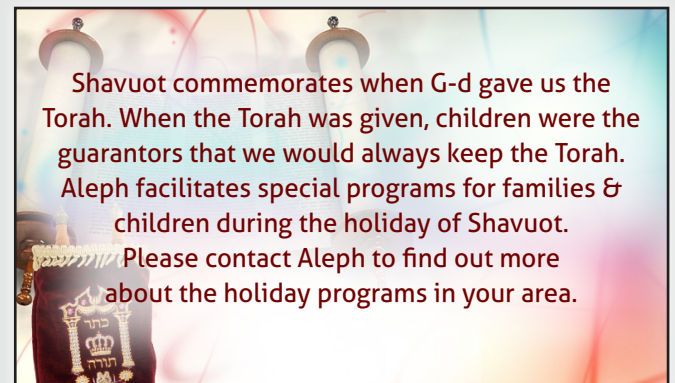
May 1	Friday	Pesach Sheini
May 5	Tuesday	Lag BaOmer
May 11-12	Mon.-Tue.	Chaplain's Conference
May 17	Sunday	Rosh Chodesh
May 25	Monday	Memorial Day
May 22-23	Fri.-Sat.	Shavous**

** Religious Work Proscription/Non-Working Day

JEWISH CHAPLAINS CONFERENCE

The full schedule and details for our 2026 Chaplaincy Training program & annual symposium are available online.

TO REGISTER & LEARN MORE:
WWW.ALEPHNE.ORG/CONFERENCE



Shavuot commemorates when G-d gave us the Torah. When the Torah was given, children were the guarantors that we would always keep the Torah. Aleph facilitates special programs for families & children during the holiday of Shavuot. Please contact Aleph to find out more about the holiday programs in your area.

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

ROSH HASHANAH

Please remind chaplains to put in an order for the upcoming holiday of Rosh Hashanah!

Forms can be found on AlephNE.org



Candle Lighting Times						
	Los Angeles	Miami	Jerusalem	Milwaukee	Greenfield Park	San Juan
5/1	7:19	7:34	6:39	7:35	7:38	6:28
5/8	7:25	7:38	6:44	7:43	7:46	6:31
5/15	7:30	7:42	6:49	7:50	7:53	6:33
5/21	7:35	7:45	6:53	7:57	7:59	6:36
5/22	7:35	7:45	6:54	7:58	8:00	6:36
5/29	7:40	7:49	6:58	8:04	8:06	6:39

To ensure that you continue to receive all Alephs' mailings and calendars, please email us or send a letter with your up-to-date address


1 14 Iyar
Pesach Sheini
Tonight Omer 30

2 15 Iyar
Tonight Omer 31
Avot 4

Emor

PESACH SHEINI

This marks the day when someone who was unable to participate in the Passover offering in the proper time would observe the mitzvah exactly 1 month later. This day represents a "second chance".

Candle Lighting: 7:57 PM 

Shabbat Ends: 9:01 PM

3 16 Iyar
Tonight Omer 32

4 17 Iyar
Tonight Omer 33

5 18 Iyar
Lag BaOmer
Tonight Omer 34


LAG B'OMER

Lag B'Omer celebrates the anniversary of the passing of the great sage and mystic Rabbi Shimon bar Yochai, author of the Zohar.

6 19 Iyar
Tonight Omer 35

7 20 Iyar
Tonight Omer 36

8 21 Iyar
Tonight Omer 37

Candle Lighting: 8:05 PM 

9 22 Iyar
Tonight Omer 38
Avot 5

Behar - Bechukotai

Shabbat Ends: 9:09 PM

10 23 Iyar
Tonight Omer 39
Mother's Day

11 24 Iyar
Tonight Omer 40

CHAPLAINS CONFERENCE


Our annual Jewish Chaplains Conference will be held on May 11th & 12th. One can register for the conference and learn more about the program on our website at www.AlephNE.org/conference

12 25 Iyar
Tonight Omer 41

13 26 Iyar
Tonight Omer 42

14 27 Iyar
Tonight Omer 43

15 28 Iyar
Tonight Omer 44

Candle Lighting: 8:11 PM 

16 29 Iyar
Tonight Omer 45
Blessing of the New Month
Avot 6

Bamidbar

Shabbat Ends: 9:17 PM

17 1 Sivan
Rosh Chodesh
Tonight Omer 46

18 2 Sivan
Tonight Omer 47

19 3 Sivan
Tonight Omer 48

20 4 Sivan
Tonight Omer 49


21 5 Sivan
Shavuot Eve
Eruv Tavshilin


22 6 Sivan
Shavuot

23 7 Sivan
Shavuot
Yizkor

SHAVUOT

Shavuot celebrates the completion of the 7-week Omer counting period between Passover and Shavuot. The Torah was given by G-d to the Jewish people on Mount Sinai on Shavuot more than 3,300 years ago. Every year on the holiday of Shavuot we renew our acceptance of G-d's gift, and G-d "re-gives" the Torah.

Candle Lighting: 8:17 PM 

Candle Lighting: 8:18 PM 

Shabbat & Holiday Ends: 9:25 PM

24 8 Sivan

31 15 Sivan


25 9 Sivan
Memorial Day

26 10 Sivan

27 11 Sivan

28 12 Sivan

29 13 Sivan

Candle Lighting: 8:24 PM 

30 14 Sivan
Avot 1

Naso

Shabbat Ends: 9:31 PM

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.