



Enrich Your Holidays with a Book from the Maxwell Abbell Library

Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot & Simchat Torah

***Passing Life's Tests: Spiritual Reflections on the Trial of Abraham, the Binding of Isaac* by Rabbi
Bradley Shavit Artson (222.1)**

Rabbi Brad Artson, dean of the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies at American Jewish University, draws on generations of Jewish sages, philosophers and scholars to explore the biblical story of Abraham's sacrifice of his son, Isaac, read each year on Rosh Hashanah.

***Your Guide to the Jewish Holidays: From Shofar to Seder* by Matt Axelrod (240)**

Intended for readers with no prior knowledge about the Jewish holidays as well as those who know the basics but wants to understand them on a deeper level, this book takes a humorous, light-hearted look at the eleven most important Jewish holidays.

***Return: Daily Inspiration for the Days of Awe* by Erica Brown (240.2)**

Offers biblical or rabbinic themed essays, passages for textual study, and practical exercises of self-improvement that can empower Jews of all backgrounds to connect to the Days of Awe.

***Rosh Hashanah Readings* edited by Dov Peretz Elkins (240.2)**

A selection of readings, prayers, and insights renews the meaning of the High Holy Day themes, drawn from a variety of Jewish and non-Jewish sources. See also *Yom Kippur Readings*.

***The Days Between: Blessings, Poems, and Directions of the Heart for the Jewish High Holiday
Season* by Marcia Falk (217.1)**

Marcia Falk has captured the essence of our ten Holiest Days—a journey from reflection to renewal to resolve. Her exquisite poetry and prayer will speak to the contemporary seeker looking for language that opens the heart and soul.



***But Where Is the Lamb? Imagining the Story of Abraham and Isaac* by James Goodman
(222.1)**

A historical meditation on the compelling biblical story about God's command to Abraham to sacrifice his son evaluates its role in the sacred rituals of Judaism, Christianity and Islam while exploring various alternate interpretations of major events.

***Entering the High Holy Days* by Reuven Hammer (240.2)**

Provides historical background and interpretation of the ideas, practices, and liturgy and lends them contemporary relevance to today's Jews.

Rachel Kamin, Director, Joseph and Mae Gray Cultural & Learning Center
North Suburban Synagogue Beth El

847/432-8900 x242 or rkamin@nssbethel.org

***The Book of Genesis: A Biography* by Ronald Hendel (222.1)**

Explores the book's impact on religion, philosophy, science, politics, and literature, and explains how Genesis will continue to shape the world.

***All These Vows: Kol Nidre* edited by Rabbi Lawrence A. Hoffman (240.2)**

Examines the history of the *Kol Nidre* prayer, the most memorable prayer of the Jewish New Year—what it means, why we sing it, and the secret of its magical appeal.

***All the World: Universalism and Particularism and the High Holy Days* edited by Rabbi Lawrence A. Hoffman (240.2)**

Why be Jewish? A fascinating dialogue across denominations of the High Holy Days and their message of Jewish purpose beyond mere survival.



***The Closing of the Gates: N'ilah* edited by Rabbi Lawrence A. Hoffman (240.2)**

Includes introductory essays on the history, theology, and deeper meaning behind the N'ilah service along with short and accessible essays - by clergy and laypeople, scholars and artists, men and women across the generations and around the world - designed to unlock the mystery and depth of the occasion. This volume in the "Prayers of Awe" series, explores Judaism's timeless message of divine purpose and the ongoing search for meaning in a world of human frailty but also promise.

***Encountering God: God Merciful and Gracious: El rachum v'chanun* edited by Rabbi Lawrence A. Hoffman (240.2)**

The Thirteen Attributes of God is central to Jewish prayer, accompanying the liturgy for holidays generally, and framing the opening and closing services of the holiest day in the Jewish year, Yom Kippur, the "Day of Judgment" itself. In this volume in the "Prayers of Awe" Series, contributors chart the importance of these Thirteen Attributes of God.

***Naming God: Avinu Malkeinu-Our Father, Our King* by Rabbi Lawrence A. Hoffman (240.2)**

Almost forty contributors from all Jewish denominations and from around the world wrestle with *Avinu Malkeinu*, one of the oldest and most beloved prayers, and the linguistic and spiritual conundrum it presents, asking, "How do we name God altogether, without recourse to imagery that defies belief?"

***We Have Sinned: Sin and Confession in Judaism - - Ashamnu and Al Chet* edited by Lawrence A. Hoffman (240.2)**

This volume in the "Prayers of Awe" series turns to a varied and fascinating look at sin, confession and pardon in Judaism, as suggested by the centrality of these two prayers that people know so well but understand so little.

***Who by Fire, Who by Water--Un'taneh Tokef* edited by Rabbi Lawrence A. Hoffman (240.2)**

Contributors examine *Un'taneh Tokef*, the most controversial prayer of the Jewish New Year, what it means, who wrote it, and why we say it. They wrestle with the personal and community impact of its deeply moving imagery, probe its haunting message of human mortality, and reflect on its call for sanctity, transformation and renewal.

***Rejoice in Your Festivals: Penetrating Insights into Pesach, Shavuot and Sukkot* by Zvi Dov Kanotopsky (240)**

Containing thirty eight previously unpublished *derashot* of Rabbi Zvi Dov Kanotopsky, this book adds new dimensions to our understanding and enjoyment of the holidays.

***This Is Real and You Are Completely Unprepared* by Alan Lew (240.2)**

This guide to the Days of Awe draws on multiple sources to explain the purpose of the traditions.

***Repentance: The Meaning and Practice of Teshuvah* by Louis E. Newman (201)**

Combining personal reflections with profound scholarship, Dr. Louis E. Newman examines the way our society deals with moral failings and illustrates how the Jewish principles of *teshuvah* - truthfulness, responsibility and humility - are the key to rehabilitation and reconciliation, both divine and human.

***Preparing Your Heart for the High Holy Days* by Kerry M. Olitzky (240.2)**

This spiritual guided journal will help you prepare your heart and soul for the Jewish New Year.

***My Jewish Year: 18 Holidays, One Wondering Jew* by Abigail Pogrebin (240)**

Although she grew up following some holiday rituals, Pogrebin realized how little she knew about their foundational purpose and contemporary relevance. She wanted to understand what had kept these holidays alive and vibrant and chronicles her journey into the spiritual heart of Judaism in this captivating, educational, and inspiring memoir.

***High Holiday Stories* by Nancy Rips (240.2)**

Presents a collection of remembrances, by a variety of people of all ages and professions, of their varied Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur experiences.



***Ceremony & Celebration: Introduction to the Holidays* by Rabbi Jonathan Sacks (240)**

When did Rosh HaShana, the anniversary of creation, become a day of judgement? How does Yom Kippur unite the priest's atonement with the prophet's repentance? What makes Kohelet, read on Sukkot, the most joyful book in the Bible? Bringing together Rabbi Sacks's acclaimed introductions to the Koren Sacks Mahzorim, *Ceremony & Celebration* reveals the stunning interplay of biblical laws, rabbinic edicts, liturgical themes, communal rituals and profound religious meaning of each of the five central Jewish holidays.

Rachel Kamin, Director, Joseph and Mae Gray Cultural & Learning Center
North Suburban Synagogue Beth El

847/432-8900 x242 or rkamin@nssbethel.org

The Koren Sacks Rosh HaShana Mahzor with commentary by Rabbi Jonathan Sacks (217.1)

An invaluable introduction guides you through the themes of the day, a brilliant commentary blends insights from Tanakh and classical sources, an eloquent, contemporary translation makes the prayers accessible and meaningful, and a sophisticated design brings out the power and poetry of the text.

The Koren Sacks Yom Kippur Mahzor with commentary by Jonathan Sacks (217.1)

A companion to the *Koren Sacks Rosh Hashana Mahzor*, this Mahzor brings out the inner meaning of the Yom Kippur prayers by aligning the Hebrew and English texts, highlighting key words, and distinguishing poetry from prose.

The Gods are Broken! The Hidden Legacy of Abraham by Jeffrey K. Salkin (222.1)

The story of Abraham smashing his father's idols might be the most important Jewish story ever told and the key to how Jews define themselves. Rabbi Salkin conducts readers through the life and legacy of this powerful story and explains how it has shaped Jewish consciousness.

Celebrating the Jewish Year: The Fall Holidays by Paul Steinberg (240)

Offers prayers, sources, rituals, and stories to help understand and celebrate Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and Sukkot.

Change & Renewal: The Essence of the Jewish Holidays, Festivals and Days of Remembrance by Adin Steinsaltz (240)

With a unique combination of intellectual brilliance and accessibility, Rabbi Steinsaltz probes the meaning of Rosh HaShanah, Yom Kippur, and the other Jewish holidays. His insights provide whole new ways of understanding the holidays, appreciating their depth, and experiencing them to their fullest.

Beginning Anew: A Woman's Companion to the High Holy Days edited by Gail Twersky Reimer and Judith A. Kates (217)

In illuminating commentaries on the biblical texts read on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kipper, a number of contemporary female authors, scholars, theologians, and educators offer a fresh perspective on Jewish history, tradition, and religion.