

To the families of Anash יחיו of the community at the EU – Brussels
And virtualcommunity@sichosonline.org

Reminders for First Days of *Sukkos* – 5778

[May not be posted on any internet website without prior consent from the author]

Experience has shown that it is best if both husband and wife review this each day thoroughly so that miscommunications and last-minute panics can be avoided, and Yom Tov can be truly celebrated joyfully.
Please post this on the refrigerator or another central location.

Wishing you a true Simchas Yom Tov, which we will celebrate in the Bais Hamikdosh Hashlishi

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A few days before Yom Tov:

1. **Sukkah:** Ensure that the *Sukkah* is properly prepared.
2. **Daled Minim:** ascertain that the father bought the *Daled Minim* (*Lulav, Esrog, Hadasim* and *Arovois*). Some buy a kosher set also for the children. [As this year there is a shortage, and perhaps you didn't manage to get an *Esrog*, make sure to arrange with someone that has *Daled Minim* that you can share it with him].
3. **Eiruv Chatzeiros prior to Yom Tov:** If it's necessary (example: a two-family house, apartment building etc.) ensure that you have an *Eiruv Chatzeiros* in place which allows to carry things from the house to the *Sukkah* on Shabbos. If you are unsure – check with the *Rov* BEFORE *Yomtov* and don't wait for the last minute. This year it needs to be arranged **prior to Yom Tov**.
4. **Netilas Yodayim:** Ensure that there is a place to wash for *Netilas Yodayim* near the *Sukkah*.
5. **Long-lasting candles** (like *Yohrzeit licht*) – If one does not have a gas fire lit for the duration of *Yom Tov*, buy 2 *Yohrzeit Licht* (or one *Licht* that lasts several days) that will last for a minimum of 26 hours each, in order to be able to light candles the second night of *Yom Tov* and Friday evening etc. Those who plan to have a gas fire lit and have hired help should anyway light a *Licht* as a precaution because sometimes the helper turns off the gas flame.... [at the same time you may as well buy these candles also for the last days].
6. **Honey:** Ensure that there is honey to be used for *Hamotzie*.
7. **Candles holders:** Those that use glass holders for their candles (that must be cleaned before each use) should make sure to have enough clean holders to last for **three** nights of *Yom Tov* and *Shabbos*.
8. **Carbon monoxide detector:** Those who have the gas on for a prolonged time during *YomTov* should ensure that they have proper ventilation and that they have a proper carbon monoxide alarm system in place. Make sure to test it a couple of days before *YomTov*.

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9. **Tzedaka:** We add in giving *Tzedaka*- especially to those who need necessities for *Yom Tov*, just like *Maos Chitim* for *Pesach*.

י"ג תשרי-Tuesday - *Yom Hahilula* of the Rebbe Maharash – *Lechatchila Ariber*.

* The Rebbe *farbrenge*d many times on this day in the evening.

Erev Sukkos- Wednesday

- Ensure that all matters listed above were taken care of.
- **Daled Minim:** On *Erev Yom Tov*, the father puts together his *Lulav*, if possible in the *Sukkah* (the Rebbe use to do it in the afternoon), and checks to see if anything else needs to be fixed in the *Sukkah*.
- **Tzedaka:** Prepare a triple amount of *Tzedaka* to be given before candle lighting for two days of *YomTov* and *Shabbos*.
- **Shabbos clock:** Make sure that the *Shabbos clock* is set for both days of *Yom Tov* and *Shabbos*.

Eruv Tavshilin:

DON'T FORGET TO MAKE AN EIRUV TAVSHILIN ON EREV YOM TOV!!

Take a whole *challah* (or *Matza*) and a “*kezayis*” of a cooked item like fish or meat. Hand this to someone (older than *Bar Mitzva*) who is NOT a member of the household, and do the procedure and say the *Nusach* that is written in the *Siddur*.

Put the *Eiruv* aside until *Shabbos* when it should be eaten (see below).

Reminder: The *Eiruv Tavshilin* is not only for cooking from *Yom Tov* to *Shabbos*, but also for lighting candles on Friday evening. Therefore, even those who are not cooking or eating at home, but are lighting candles at home Friday evening, should make an *Eiruv Tavshilin* and if possible, they should prepare (at least) water on a *Blech* or *Plata*. If they do not put anything on a *Blech* or *Plata* – they should make an *Eiruv* without the *Brocho*.

Eiruv Chatzeiros prior to Yom Tov:

As mentioned above, if it's necessary (example: a two-family house, apartment building etc.) ensure that you have an *Eiruv Chatzeiros* in place which allows to carry things from the house to the *Sukkah* on *Shabbos*. If you are unsure – check with the *Rov* BEFORE *Yomtov* and don't wait for the last minute. This year it needs to be arranged **prior to Yom Tov**.

First evening of *Yom Tov* – Wednesday evening

When *Yom Tov* begins:

1. If there will not be a gas fire lit throughout *Yom Tov*, light the long lasting candle.

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- Candle lighting time is 18 (or 23) minutes before *Shkiah* (check local calendar). If it is possible, the candles should be lit in the *Sukkah* (at least two of them). If one missed the proper time, they can light them later but only from a pre-existing fire.
- Those that are eating elsewhere should not forget to light candles!**
- Tzedaka is given for **three** days - two days of *Yom Tov* and *Shabbos*.
- The two *Brochois* said are: **1.** של יום טוב and **2.** שהחיינו.

Maariv:

- We begin from שיר המעלות.
- We say the *Amidah* for *Sholosh Regolim*.

Kiddush and the Seuda:

Ushpizin - guests: *Ushpizin* for tonight (and tomorrow, the first day of *Yom Tov*) are *Avraham Avinu* and the *Baal Shem Tov*. [Their commonality is that they both spread *Elokus* in the world].

- Similar to the first night of *Pesach*, we begin the meal after nightfall (check local calendar), and make sure to eat a *kezayis* before midnight (check local calendar).
- We eat in the *Sukkah*. Women are allowed, but not obligated, to eat in the *Sukkah* and they may say the *Bracha* לישב בסוכה.
- Boys who are not dependent on their mothers should eat in the *Sukkah*. (This is usually from age 6. If he is smart and mature, this can be even younger.) If the mother sees that the boy is eating in the house, she does not need to reprimand him.
- [Those who are *Yotzey Kiddush* from someone else (from their father, husband, host etc.), seemingly, should have in mind not to be *Yotzey* on his *Brocho* of לישב בסוכה, rather they say it themselves after they recite המוציא. This pertains to all the meals].
- Kiddush:** The order is: אתקינו then בורא פרי הגפן then קידוש and then we **look at the s'chach** and say לישב בסוכה, after which we say שהחיינו. (A woman who makes *Kiddush* does not say שהחיינו because she already said it at candle lighting).
- We dip the *Challah* in honey. (Salt is also placed on the table. Some *Chassidim* relate that the Rebbe would, during the meal, dip 3 pieces of *Challah* in salt.).
- In *Birchas Hamazon* we add:
 - ברוך... אשר (If one forgot but did not yet say "Boruch" of the next *Brocho*, then he says אשר... נתן. (as written in the *siddur*). However, if he already began the next *Bracha* by saying "Boruch" he returns to the beginning of *Birchas Hamazon*.)
 - We also add: *Harachaman* for *Yom Tov* and *Harachaman* for *Sukkos*.

Simchas Beis Hasho'eva

The *Simcha* and celebration of *Simchas Beis Hasho'eva* begins from the first night of *Sukkos*.

ט"ו תשרי Thursday – The First Day of Yom Tov

- We don't eat before *benching* on the *Lulav*, and healthier people don't taste or drink anything.
- In the morning we get up early [we go to the *Mikva*] in order to *bentch* on the *Lulav* and the מינים ד'. Preferably this should be done in the *Sukkah*, if not - we can *bentch* in the house.

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3. [I recall hearing that the Rebbe once said that after bentsching on the Lulav, one should eat some Mezonos and make a Leishev BaSukkah, (which can also be connected to the Netilas Lulav). Therefore, it's advisable to prepare this prior to Benching on the Lulav].
4. Stand facing מזרח, take the Lulav in your right hand, the spine of the Lulav facing you, and make the Brocho על נטילת לולב. Then take the Esrog in your left hand and say שהחיינו. At the end of the Brocho put them together and shake them to the six directions.
5. One, who is left-handed, takes the Lulav in his left hand and the Esrog in his right.
6. On the first two days of Sukkos, first the father makes the blessing on the Lulav. If he later gives it to his wife and children above Bar/Bas Mitzva, he has to say to them that he gives it "Matono Al Mnas Lehachzir" (-a gift with the condition that it be returned). To the children below Bar/Bas Mitzva (if they do not have a set of their own) he loans it to them for educational purposes.
7. Women shake the Lulav only once (and they do not do the "Naanuim" - shaking of the Lulav in 6 directions).

Davening

1. Arrange that the children should go to shul for Birchas Kohanim towards the end of Musaf.
2. After the Amidah for Sholosh Regolim we say the entire Hallel, Hoshanos [Krias Hatorah, Maftir] and Musaf of Sholosh Regolim.

Kidush and the meal

1. **Kiddush:** אתקינו then אלה מועדי then בורא פרי הגפן then (look to the S'chach and say) לישב בסוכה.
2. We dip the Challah into honey. (Salt is also placed on the table.)
3. In Birchas Hamozoin we add:
 - ברוך... אשר (If one forgot but did not yet say "Boruch" of the next Brocho, then he says אשר... ברוך... נתן...".) However, if he already began the next Brocho by saying "Boruch" he returns to the beginning of Birchas Hamozoin
 - We also add: Horachamon for Yom Tov and Horachamon for Sukkos.

During the Day

- * We go on Mivtzah Lulav to encourage as many Yidden as possible to do the Mitzvah.
- * One may not prepare on the first day of Yom Tov for the second day or evening of Yom Tov nor for Shabbos. All preparations must begin after nightfall (see local calendar).

Second night of Yom Tov – Thursday evening

- * After צאת הכוכבים (see local calendar) you can start all the preparations for the meal.

Maariv

- * We start from "Shir Hamaalos".
- * We daven the davening of Sholosh Regolim.

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Yom Tov Candle Lighting

- We light the *Yom Tov* candles after nightfall (see local calendar). Many women have the custom to light the candles right before *Kiddush*.
- **Only light from a pre-existing flame!**
- The two *Brochos* said are: 1. שהחיינו 2. של יום טוב.

Kiddush and the evening Seuda

Ushpizin: *Ushpizin* tonight (and tomorrow, the second day of *Yom Tov*) are *Yitzchok Avinu* and the *Mezritcher Maggid*. [Their commonality is that they both remained in their place of residence. *Yitzchok* did not leave *Eretz Yisroel* and the *Maggid* would not travel. Each Jew, as well, has their particular place for their *Neshama* to impact.]

* Make sure all the women and girls (especially the guests) lit candles. If there aren't enough candles, don't rely that they're going to light later, rather borrow candles from a neighbor, and they should light **before** *Kiddush*.

* **Kiddush:** The order for *Kiddush* is: יין, קידוש, זמן (שהחיינו), סוכה – יקז"ס

* We dip the *Challah* in honey. (Salt is also placed on the table).

* In *Birchas Hamozoin* we add:

- ברוך... אשר (If one forgot but did not yet say "*Boruch*" of the next *Brocho*, then he says אשר ... ברוך. However, if he already began the next *Brocho* by saying "*Boruch*" he returns to the beginning of *Birchas Hamozoin*.)

We also add:

- *Horachamon* for *Yom Tov*
- *Horachamon* for *Sukkos*.

Simchas Beis Hasho'eva

- We go to the celebration of *Simchas Beis Hasho'eva*.

Second Day of Yom Tov - Erev Shabbos Koidesh – ט"ז תשרי

נטילת לולב

1. We don't eat before *benching* on the *Lulav*, and healthier people don't taste or drink anything.
2. In the morning we get up early [we go to the *Mikva*] in order to *bentch* on the *Lulav* and the מינים ד'. Preferably this should be done in the *Sukkah*, if not - we can *bentch* in the house. [Prepare *Mezonos* like yesterday].
3. Stand facing מזרח, take the *Lulav* in your right hand, the spine of the *Lulav* facing you, and make the *Brocho* על נטילת לולב. Then take the *Esrog* in your left hand and put them together and shake them to the six directions. **Shehecheyonu is not recited.**
4. The rest of the laws are like yesterday.

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Davening and Kiddush

1. Arrange that the children should be able to go to *Birchas Kohanim* at the end of *Musaf*.
2. We say the *Amidah* for *Sholosh Regolim*.
3. After *Hallel* we say *Hoshaanos* of the second day [Krias Hatora and Haftora] and *Musaf* of *Sholosh Regolim*.
4. *Kiddush* is of *Yom Tov* and we add *Leishev BaSukkah*.
5. We dip the *Challah* in honey. (Salt is also placed on the table).
6. In *Birchas Hamozoin* we add:
 - ברוך... אשר (If one forgot but did not yet say "Boruch" of the next *Brocho*, then he says "אשר" of the next *Brocho*, then he says "אשר" . However, if he already began the next *Brocho* by saying "Boruch" he returns to the beginning of *Birchas Hamozoin*.)
 - We also add: *Horachamon* for *Yom Tov* and *Horachamon* for *Sukkos*.

During the Day

- * We go on *Mivtzah Lulav*.

Preparations for *Shabbos*:

- * Those who made an *Eiruv Tavshilin* should prepare all the food for *Shabbos* as early in the day as possible so that it is fully cooked and there is still time to eat the food before *Shabbos* begins. This includes the *Cholent*.
- * Put the *Lulav* and *Daled Minim* in a safe place that they will not be moved on *Shabbos* (as most are *Muktzah*).

Mincha:

- * In *Mincha*, הודו is not said, but פתח אליהו וידיד נפש are said.

Candle Lighting:

- * Candles should be lit **18 (or 23) minutes before sunset** like every Friday (check local calendar).
- * Candles must be lit from a pre-existing flame.
- * We say only one *Brocho*: להדליק נר של שבת קודש.
- * Those that are not eating at home should make sure to light candles at home 18 (or 23) minutes before sunset or to go to their hosts home early enough to light candles 18 (or 23) minutes before Sunset. [Those who are unsure where they should light, should contact the *Rov*].

Friday Night – First night of Chol Hamoed

Maariv:

- * *Maariv* begins from מזמור לדוד.
- * In לכה דודי ה' we say בשמחה ובצהלה.
- * The *Amidah* is that of *Shabbos* and יעלה ויבא is added. (If one forgot יעלה ויבא or is unsure if he said it, then, if he remembered before he said "ה" of "המחזיר שכינתו" then he goes back to יעלה ויבא. If he remembered after he started the next *Brocho* and he didn't start *Modim* he says it right there (and does not need to go back to

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(ותחזינה). If he remembered before he took his feet apart – he goes back to *Retzei*. However if he finished the *Amidah* and split his feet – he needs to *Daven* the *Amidah* again).

Kiddush and the meal:

Ushpizin: *Ushpizin* tonight (and tomorrow-the first day of *Chol Hamoed*) are *Yaakov Avinu* and the Alter Rebbe [The commonality between them is: Both have 2 names; and both reflect *Torah* (בעל ; יושב אוהלים; יעקב איש תם יושב אוהלים; בעל) (התניא והשו"ע)]

1. It is a *minhag* to use the *Challah* of the *Eiruv Tavshilin* as *לחם משנה* but it is not eaten until tomorrow.
2. *שלוש עליכם, כי מלאכיו, אשת חיל, אתקינו* are all said quietly.
3. *Kiddush* is that of *Shabbos*, and *לישב בסוכה* is added at the end.
4. Some have the *Minhag* to eat the cooked item of the *Eiruv Tavshilin* in this meal and some eat it tomorrow.
5. During *Bentching* we add *יעלה ויבוא* and *רצה*. [If you forgot and you already started the next *Bracha* you don't have to go back]. We also add: *הרחמן הוא יקים לנו את סוכת דוד הנופלת* and *הרחמן הוא ינחילנו ליום שכולו שבת*.

First day of Chol Hamoed - Shabbos.

1. We do not make a *bracha* on the *Lulav*.
2. *Shacharis*, is like on a regular *Shabbos*, however, we add *Yaale Veyovo* [If forgot – see Friday night above], complete *Hallel*, [*Hoshaanos* are not recited]. *Krias Hatorah* and *Musaf* of *Sholosh Regolim*.

Kiddush and the Meal:

1. It is a *minhag* to use the *Eiruv Tavshilin* as *לחם משנה*. (There are those that keep it to eat at *Seuda Shlishis*).
2. *לישב בסוכה* and *בורא פרי הגפן* and *על כן* is said quietly. Then say out loud *וינח ביום השביעי* until *מזמור לדוד*.
3. During *Bentching* we add *יעלה ויבוא* and *רצה*. [If you forgot and you already started the next *Bracha* you don't have to go back] and we add *הרחמן הוא יקים לנו את סוכת דוד הנופלת* and *הרחמן הוא ינחילנו ליום שכולו שבת*.

Mincha

* *Mincha* is like a regular *Shabbos*, and we read the *Torah*, however *Yaale Veyovo* is added. *Tzidkoscho* is not recited.

Motzo'ei Shabbos – Chol Hamoed

Maariv

* In *Maariv* we add *אתה חוננתנו* and *יעלה ויבוא*. [if one forgot *יעלה ויבוא* (or is unsure) see Friday night above].

* *Vihi Noam* and *Veato Kodoish*: are not recited.

* *Havdala*: Is recited in the *Sukkah*. We say *בורא פרי הגפן* then *בשמים* then *נר* then *המבדיל* then *לישב בסוכה*. We say *לך ויתן לך* but it is recited quietly.

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Ushpizin: *Ushpizin* tonight (and tomorrow-the second day of *chol hamoed*) are Moshe Rabbeinu and the Mittlerer Rebbe [The commonality between them is: הרהרבה בתורה]

Second Day of *Chol Hamoed* – Sunday- י"ח תשרי

1. We bentsh "על נטילת לולב" (and **no** "*shehecheyanu*") on the ד' מינים in the morning. All the details are like the second day of *Yomtov*.
1. During *Davening* we add "יעלה ויבוא", (if forgot – see above in Friday night), *Hallel*, *Hoshaanos* (ליום ג' וד') and *Mussaf*.
2. During the day the father (and the older boys) should drink a *Kos* of wine for *Simchas Yom Tov*.
3. During *Bentshing* we add "יעלה ויבוא". [If you forgot in *bentshing* and you already started the next *Bracha* you don't have to go back] and we also add הנופלת דוד סוכת לנו את יקים לננו את סוכת דוד הנופלת.
4. We go on *Mivtzah Lulav*.

Ushpizin: *Ushpizin* tonight and tomorrow are *Aharon Hakohen* and the *Tzemach Tzedek*. [Their commonality is *Ahavas Yisrael* and *Achdus Yisrael*.]

Third Day of *Chol Hamoed* – Monday- י"ט תשרי

2. We bentsh "על נטילת לולב" (and **no** "*shehecheyanu*") on the ד' מינים in the morning, All the details are like the second day of *Yomtov*.
1. During *Davening* we add "יעלה ויבוא" (if forgot – see above in Friday night), *Hallel*, *Hoshaanos* (ליום ה') and *Mussaf*.
2. During *Bentshing* we add "יעלה ויבוא". [if you forgot and you already started the next *Bracha* you don't have to go back], and we add הנופלת דוד סוכת לנו את יקים לננו את סוכת דוד הנופלת.
3. During the day the father (and the older boys) should drink a *Kos* of wine for *Simchas Yom Tov*.
4. We go on *Mivtzah Lulav*.

Ushpizin: *Ushpizin* tonight and tomorrow are *Yosef* and the *Rebbe Maharash*. [Their commonality is *אריבער לכתחילה*]

The Fourth Day of *Chol Hamoed* – Tuesday- כ' תשרי

1. We bentsh "על נטילת לולב" (and **no** "*shehecheyanu*") on the ד' מינים in the morning. All the details are like the second day of *Yomtov*.
2. During *Davening* we add "יעלה ויבוא", *Halel*, *Hoshaanos* (ליום ו') and *Mussaf*.
3. During the day the father (and the older boys) should drink a *Kos* of wine for *Simchas Yom Tov*.
4. During *Bentshing* we add "יעלה ויבוא". [If you forgot and you already started the next *Bracha* you don't have to go back], and הנופלת דוד סוכת לנו את יקים לננו את סוכת דוד הנופלת.
5. We go on *Mivtzah Lulav*.

Preparations for the last Days of *Sukkos*:

1. **Arovois:** Buy *arovois* for *Hoshaanos* for all the members of the household (even infants).
2. **Kreplach:** Prepare *Kreplach* for *Hoshaana Rabbah*.

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3. **Long-lasting candles** – If one does not have a gas fire lit for the duration of *Yom Tov*, buy 2 long lasting candles like a *Yahrtzeit Licht* (or one candle that lasts several days), that will last for a minimum of 26 hours each, in order to be able to light candles the second night of *Yom Tov* (*Simchas Torah*) and Friday evening. Those who plan to have a gas fire lit and have hired help should anyway light a *Licht* as a precaution because sometimes the helper turns off the gas flame....
4. **Carbon monoxide detector:** Those who have the gas on for a prolonged time should ensure that they have proper ventilation and that they have a proper carbon monoxide alarm system in place.
5. **Honey:** Ensure that there is honey to be used for *Hamotzie* on *Hoshana Rabba*.
6. **Glass holders:** Those that use glass holders for their candles (that must be cleaned before each use) should make sure to have enough clean holders to last for both nights of *Yom Tov* and *Shabbos*.

Ushpizin: *Ushpizin* for tonight and tomorrow are *Dovid Hamelech* and the Rebbe Rashab. [Their commonality is *Sfiras Hamalchus*: Dovid **Hamelech** and the Rebbe Rashab was born in the year **א"תת"א**].

- To be continued -

May we merit to see the *Simchas Bais Hashoeiva* in the *Bais Hamikdosh Hashlishi!!!! A Gutten Yom Tov!*

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