

# Emor: Of Weeks and Days

Today marks the thirtieth day of the Omer, the forty-nine day period between the holidays of Passover and Shavuot—or, should I say, the seven-week period? The Torah itself seems undecided:

“From the day after the sabbath, on which you bring the sheaf of elevation offering, you shall count off seven complete weeks. Count until the day after the seventh week—fifty days; then you shall bring an offering of new grain to GOD.” (Leviticus 23:15–16)

So, which is it? Do we count by days until forty-nine, or by weeks until seven? Like any rabbinic compromise, the answer is both: first we count by days (*today is day thirty*), and then by weeks (*which is four weeks and two days*).

Behind this peculiarity of Jewish law is a profound insight into the dual nature of Jewish time. One perspective is, as Shammai taught: from the first day of the week, one should prepare for Shabbat; “begin with the end in mind,” to quote Stephen Covey. The other approach is, as Hillel said: “Blessed be the Lord day by day.” Each day is an opportunity to be lived anew.

Shammai represents what Rabbi Jonathan Sacks calls *prophetic* time, of purpose and progress. Hillel represents *priestly* time, of presence and precept. To live Jewishly is to be conscious of both simultaneously—*aggadah* (narrative) and *halachah* (law), history and eternity, “the word of God for this time, and the word of God for all time.”

May we count the weeks to Shavuot, commemorating the gift of the Torah, with anticipation, and may we count the days with appreciation for the gift that is each one.

Shabbat Shalom.  
Rabbi Moe Howard



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Affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

## SINAI TEMPLE CLERGY

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- Rabbi David Wolpe
- Max Webb Emeritus Rabbi
- Moe Howard  
Rabbinic Intern

### Special thanks to the staff and lay leaders who make Shabbat services exceptional:

- Jessica Green - Executive Director
- Jay Harwitt - Ritual Director
- Benjamin Fingerhut - Musical Director
- Cantor Keith Miller - Cantorial Support & B’nai Mitzvah Mentor
- Roy Regev - Director of Media and Communications
- Christopher Princivalli - Audio Visual Tech
- Natalia Rojas - Communications Manager
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- Judy Begin - Temple Administrator
- Sharona Rachmani
- Mansour Eslamboly
- Michael Silberstein
- Ebby Tabariai
- Michael Nazarian
- David Matloob
- Faith Gershbock
- Jacob Gershbock

Mehrzad Roshan, Sinai Temple President



## MISSION STATEMENT

Sinai Temple is dedicated to providing a welcoming and caring community for its members, devoted to Jewish learning and support for Israel and the Jewish people, and committed to improving ourselves and the world through a growing relationship with God from generation to generation. We are committed to the principles and values of Conservative Judaism and we welcome Jews of all backgrounds and affiliations to observe life cycle events, and pursue our mission through prayer, rituals, learning, music and the other gifts God has given us.

## SHABBAT CHILDCARE

- Ages Potty Trained - 5 Years Old  
9:45 AM | Room 114
- Ages 6 - 10 Years Old  
9:45 AM | Youth Lounge

## MINCHA & KABBALAT SHABBAT

in Kohn Chapel  
Every Friday at 5:45 PM  
Also available to watch on [YouTube](#)

## DAILY MINYAN

in Kohn Chapel  
Monday–Friday at 7:30 a.m.  
Sunday morning at 8:30 am  
Sunday-Friday evenings at 5:45 pm  
Saturday evenings 9:00 p.m. (online only)  
Please consult the website for holiday locations and times.



SINAI TEMPLE

15 IYAR 5786 | 2 MAY 2026



PARASHAT EMOR | אמור  
Torah reading begins: Leviticus 21:1 (page 717)  
Maftir: Leviticus 22:13-16 (page 721)  
Haftarah: Ezekiel 44:15-31 (page 735)  
“Brokenness” - Sermon by Rabbi David Wolpe

## SHABBAT SERVICE

in Ziegler Sanctuary at 9:00 a.m.

Also available to watch on [YouTube](#)

## TORAH AT THE TABLE

in Blumenthal Library Classroom at 9:00 a.m.

## TORAH IN THE ROUND

in Kohn Chapel at 9:30 a.m.  
The Bat Mitzvah of Goldie Rose Reiss

Honor or remember someone special with a meaningful gift to Sinai Temple. Scan this QR code to make a contribution in their name and create a lasting tribute.



Find us on YouTube at [www.youtube.com/@SinaiTemplePresents](http://www.youtube.com/@SinaiTemplePresents)



## A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT MEHRZAD ROSHAN

On Tuesday, April 28, the Board of Directors of Sinai Temple elected its next president.

We are pleased to announce that Sam Parsi will assume this role beginning July 1, serving a two-year term.

Sam, along with his parents, joined Sinai Temple over 35 years ago.

He and his wife, Shirin, were married in 2001, and their children, Leyla (20) and Eli (18), attended Sinai Akiba Academy and celebrated their B'nai Mitzvah at Sinai Temple. Eli was a part of the Beren Scholar Program.

Prior to joining the Temple's Board of Directors in 2019, Sam served on the SAA Board.

During his time on the Temple Board, he has served in various capacities, most recently as Vice President of Administration for the past four years.

We look forward to Sam's leadership and vision as he guides our community into the next chapter of growth and connection.

## TEMPLE EVENTS

Mitzvah Day & Beyond at Sinai Temple

This Sunday, May 3, 2026 | 10:00 AM

Join Sinai Temple for a day of giving back and community connection, featuring hands-on service projects supporting organizations in Los Angeles and Israel alongside a STARS Religious School student-led Israeli-style shuk.

All proceeds benefit Israel & STARS!

Personal Safety and Violence Prevention

This Wednesday, May 6, 2026 | 7:00 PM

Join us for an important and empowering evening with safety expert Barb Jordan, who will share practical tools for situational awareness, personal safety, and violence prevention. This free program is open to adults 18+ and will provide real-world strategies to help you stay aware, prepared, and confident in everyday situations.

Etgarim: Stories of Resilience and Hope

Saturday, May 9, 2026 | 12:00 PM

Join us for an inspiring conversation with Etgarim, an organization that empowers individuals with physical and emotional challenges through adaptive sports and community. Through the personal journeys of Oran Almog, David Idelson, and Nir Hacohen, hear powerful stories of resilience, recovery, and leadership.

Sinai Speaks: Music After October 7th with Jake Gillis

Wednesday, May 13, 2026 | 7:00 PM

Join us for a cultural deep-dive into the songs helping Israelis process grief, express unity, and rediscover hope.

Feit Family Live Generations Shabbat

Saturday, May 16, 2026 | 10:45 AM

Come join us for services at 10:45 AM and a special Shabbat lunch at 12:00 PM where we bring together all generations for a delicious meal and meaningful conversations. Please bring a photo album to share during lunch as we reminisce and connect through cherished memories.

Tikkun Leil Shavuot

Thursday, May 21, 2026 | 7:00 PM

Join us for an inspiring evening where Sinai Temple learners will come together to reflect, share, and grow through Jewish learning. Sinai Temple clergy will be teaching throughout the evening, sharing their favorite line of text from one of the Five Books. We will conclude the evening together over cheesecake.

## Sinai Temple Sisterhood

Join Sinai Temple Sisterhood for a meaningful opportunity to connect, learn, and celebrate together.

On **Tuesday, May 5**, join **Sisterhood Book Group** as we come together for a thoughtful discussion of *Spinning Silver* by Naomi Novik.

This event offers a warm and welcoming space to build community and engage with one another.

For more information or registration, please visit [sinaitemple.org/community/sisterhood/](https://sinaitemple.org/community/sisterhood/).

## A Sisterhood Shabbat Celebration

Please join us on **Saturday, May 9** for a meaningful Shabbat service led entirely by Sisterhood and the women of our community. Taking place over Mother's Day Weekend, we encourage everyone to bring their mothers, daughters, sisters, and friends for connection, bonding, and blessings. A luncheon will follow the service.

Please refer to the flyers outside the sanctuary and on the Sinai Temple website for more information.

Scan the QR below.



## Sinai Temple 2026 Annual Gala: An Evening Honoring Mehrzad Roshan

Join Sinai Temple on May 17th for the 2026 Annual Gala, an elegant evening honoring Mehrzad Roshan with a special legacy award presented to Dr. Arnold and Gloria Lushing Gilberg, celebrating the community's continued vision and leadership.

Guests will enjoy a memorable night while supporting Sinai Temple's mission. Sponsorship opportunities, digital journal tributes, and individual dinner tickets are available. Please contact Jackie Ahdout at [jahdout@sinaitemple.org](mailto:jahdout@sinaitemple.org) or (310) 481-3225.

This event is expected to sell out quickly, and reservations are confirmed upon receipt of payment.

**Reservation Deadline: Friday, May 8, 2026**

To RSVP, please visit <https://www.sinaitemple.org/> or call (310) 481-3225.

## SHABBAT KIDDUSH IS SPONSORED BY

Marmar Michelle Toumari in honor of Mother's Day

## WANT TO PLAN AN EVENT?

Host your next event at Sinai Temple, where exquisite catering meets a stunning setting to create unforgettable experiences.

Let our expert caterers transform your special occasion into a celebration filled with flavor, elegance, and impeccable service.

For more information, please contact Judy Begin at [jbegin@sinaitemple.org](mailto:jbegin@sinaitemple.org) or 310-481-3222.

## SPONSOR AN ONEG SHABBAT



Honor a simcha or yahrzeit by sponsoring an oneg! Your sponsorship will be featured in the Shabbat bulletin and announced from the bimah on Shabbat.

To sponsor, contact Judy Begin at [jbegin@sinaitemple.org](mailto:jbegin@sinaitemple.org) or 310-481-3222.



Scan the QR code to RSVP and to learn about more events.

For more information contact Amanda Harrison at [aharrison@sinaitemple.org](mailto:aharrison@sinaitemple.org) or 310-481-3246