

B'reisheet: A Masterpiece of Our Making

If you haven't seen Christopher Nolan's adaptation of *The Odyssey*, you should. It's a masterpiece of cinema and storytelling, bringing to life the epic tale of homecoming and heroism more vividly than Homer himself could have imagined it.

Recurring as a theme throughout is what the film calls "Zeus's Law": treat everyone, no matter how high or lowly, with goodwill, generosity, and respect—because they might just be a god in disguise. Welcome a stranger who turned out to be Dionysus, the god of wine (an ideal Shabbat dinner guest), and you could be rewarded with divine favor; refuse a beggar who happened to be Zeus, and you risked incurring divine wrath. Others' welfare aside, it was in your mortal interest to be kind, gracious, and fair.

As Jews, we don't treat others with decency and dignity because they *might* be a god in disguise—but because they *are* God, in plain sight, and so are we. The Torah tells us as much in chapter one:

"And God created man in His image (B'tzelem Elohim), in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them." (Genesis 1:27)

Each of us has a part of God within us. We love our neighbor and the stranger not to win divine favor or to avoid divine punishment, but because to do otherwise would be to diminish the divinity in them and in ourselves.

May we use our eyes, ears, and hands as God would and only we can: to see the invisible, to hear the voiceless, to touch the brokenhearted—and to thereby make our God-given image into our own masterpiece.

Shabbat Shalom.  
Rabbi Moe Howard

SINAI TEMPLE CLERGY

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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 - Music Director  
Cantor Keith Miller - Cantorial Support & B'nai Mitzvah Mentor  
Roy Regev - Director of Media and Communications  
Christopher Princivalli - Audio Visual Tech  
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Jacob Gershbock

Sam Parsi, Sinai Temple President



SINAI TEMPLE



29 TISHREI 5787 | 10 OCTOBER 2026



PARASHAT B'REISHEET | בראשית  
THE B'NAI MITZVAH OF AUDREY EBRAHIMIAN AND JONAH PARTIAL  
MACHAR CHODESH | מחר חודש

We bless the new month of Cheshvan (tonight, tomorrow, and Monday)  
Torah reading begins: Genesis 2:4 (page 12)  
Maftir: Genesis 4:23-26 (page 29)  
Haftarah for Machar Chodesh: I Samuel 20:18-29 (page 1216)  
October 7th Shabbat Services

October 7th: A Shabbat of Remembrance and Song with Shanee Zamir

Today, **Saturday, October 10 at 9:00 AM**, we welcome **Shanee Zamir**, an internationally award-winning Israeli-American soprano, author, and Jewish community leader, who will join us with a full band in **Ziegler Sanctuary** for a meaningful service of remembrance and song marking October 7. Through music and storytelling, Shanee will share a message of resilience, hope, and choosing light in times of darkness. To stream the service live, visit <https://streaming.sinaitemple.org/visitors/live-streaming/>

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)



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.

MINCHA & KABBALAT SHABBAT  
in Kohn Chapel  
Every Friday at 5:45 PM  
Also available to watch on YouTube

TORAH AT THE TABLE  
in Blumenthal Library Classroom at 9:00 a.m.  
STARS SHABBAT  
in Gold Hall at 10:00 a.m.

SHABBAT SERVICES  
in Ziegler Sanctuary at 9:00 a.m.  
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.

TEMPLE EVENTS

Shabbat of Commemoration Lunch  
Today, Saturday, October 10 | 12:00 PM |  
Immediately following services  
Join us today for a meaningful Shabbat of Commemoration of October 7, sponsored by the Danielpour family. Hear from October 7 survivors and experience music inspired by that day, featuring Paralympic Champion **Moran Samuel**, who will share her story of resilience and hope. Stay after services for a Shabbat lunch with Moran Samuel at approximately 12:00 PM in Lower Traub. RSVP required.

Sinai Speaks: The Legal History of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict and its Relevance Today  
Tuesdays, October 13, 20 & 27, 2026 | 7:00 PM  
Explore the legal history of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict taught by Professor Steven E. Zipperstein, Director of the Nazarian Center, UCLA Younes and Soraya Nazarian Center for Israel Studies. The class will trace key events and legal developments from the Balfour Declaration through today.

Sinai Speaks: Mission in Captivity with Shoshan Haran  
Thursday, October 15, 2026 | 7:00 PM  
Hear the extraordinary story of Shoshan Haran, whose family was deeply impacted by the events of October 7. In this powerful conversation, she reflects on resilience, advocacy, and her unwavering commitment to bringing the hostages home, offering an inspiring message of hope in the face of unimaginable adversity.

Sinai Speaks: The Braided Prescription with Dr. Beth Ricanati and Rabbi Nicole Guzik  
Wednesday, October 21, 2026 | 7:00 PM | Online Only  
Join Rabbi Guzik and Dr. Beth Ricanati for challah-making and a conversation about how simple rituals can help us slow down, reconnect, and live with greater intention and purpose. Drawing on her forthcoming book, *The Braided Prescription*, Dr. Ricanati will share how small, meaningful practices can deepen our relationships and reduce stress.

Weekly Parsha Class  
Every Thursday | 8:30 AM  
Every Thursday for 30 minutes, a member of Sinai Temple's clergy will lead an in-depth exploration of the weekly Parsha, drawing out contemporary insights that can be applied to everyday life. This class is offered exclusively online.



SINAI TEMPLE  
Sinai Temple, 10400 Wilshire Blvd.,  
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Affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism



Miller Introduction to Judaism Program

Join the Miller Introduction to Judaism Program at Sinai Temple for an engaging, in-person learning experience open to everyone, regardless of background or prior Jewish knowledge. Classes meet Tuesdays, November 3 through March 16, from 6:30–8:30 PM, with weekly topics including Shabbat, Torah, prayer, holidays, Israel, and more.

**Individual \$360 | Couple \$540**  
**Additional family/friend:** \$180

Questions or interested? Contact Gabriel at [gprunty@sinaitemple.org](mailto:gprunty@sinaitemple.org) or 310-481-3200.

Rosh Hodesh Cheshvan: An Evening with Dr. Erika von Euw  
**Thursday, October 15, 2026 6:00 PM**  
Join us for dinner and a powerful evening of discovery with nationally recognized pharmaceutical developer, professor, and executive Dr. Erika von Euw, as she explains firsthand the journey of a drug's conception in the laboratory to its arrival in the marketplace.

Cost: **\$20 per person** which covers the cost of the meal.  
**Location released upon registration.**

Register with Jennifer Malvin at [songwrks@gmail.com](mailto:songwrks@gmail.com) by Monday, October 12, 2026.  
*Please note this is a women-only event.*

Team Sinai Temple: Sharsheret West Coast Dash  
Join Team Sinai Temple on **Sunday, October 25 at 8:00 AM** for Sharsheret's 5th Annual West Coast Dash, featuring a 5K, 10K, and Family Fun Race. Come together with our community to support Sharsheret and its incredible work improving the lives of those affected by breast and ovarian cancer. Register or donate and help Team Sinai Temple make a difference.

Register or donate: [runsignup.com/sinaitemple](https://runsignup.com/sinaitemple)  
*Family Fun Race begins at 9:15 AM.*



MOUNT SINAI  
MEMORIAL PARKS AND MORTUARIES  
323-469-6000 | <https://mountsinaiparks.org>



Torah on Tap  
Join Rabbi Avi Taff's learning circle for men in their 20s–40s for meaningful conversation, learning, and community. Sessions take place from 7:00-8:30 PM in a private home, with the address shared before each gathering.

**October 20, November 3, December 15, January 26, February 23, March 16, and April 6**

Membership required. RSVP required. For questions, contact Gabriel at [gprunty@sinaitemple.org](mailto:gprunty@sinaitemple.org) or 310-481-3200.

SINAI TEMPLE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL  
**Save the Date: Purim Carnival 2027**  
Get ready to unleash your inner superhero! **Purim Carnival 2027** is coming to Sinai Temple on **Sunday, March 14**, and this year's theme is **Superheroes**.

More details to come...mark your calendar now!

SINAI AKIBA ACADEMY  
**Save the Date: SAA Shabbat with Sinai Temple**  
Join us for SAA Shabbat with Sinai Temple on **October 31, 2026, and April 3, 2027**, led by **Rabbi Avi Taff**. Enjoy a spirited Shabbat experience bringing our school and temple communities together through services, singing in the sanctuary, and lunch together.



SINAI AKIBA  
ACADEMY  
Sinai Akiba Academy, 10400 Wilshire Blvd.,  
Los Angeles, CA 90024  
310-475-6401 | [www.sinaiakiba.org](http://www.sinaiakiba.org)



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



SINAI TEMPLE  
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