Outline and Guide to High Holidays 2020

This is meant to serve as an overview of the laws, prayers and customs for the high holidays. Please be in touch with your local Rabbi or synagogue if you wish to understand more. All the prayers are found in your Machzor.

Erev Rosh Hashana - 18th September

- We recite Selichot in the morning before Shacharit
- We recite Hatarat Nedarim (releasing of vows) in the morning after Shacharit
- Light candles before 5:31pm (*keep an existing flame to light from on 2nd night).

1st Night Rosh Hashana - 18th September

- Friday night service begins with Mizmor Shir (after lecha dodi)
- Rosh Hashanah Ma'ariv
- Kiddush followed by a meal. Custom to dip apple in honey.

1st Day Rosh Hashana - 19th September

- Rosh Hashana Shacharit for Day 1, including additions for the Sabbath
- Torah reading and Haftora for Day 1
- No Shofar
- Rosh Hashanah Mussaf for Day 1
- Kiddush followed by a meal.
- Rosh Hashana Mincha

2nd Night Rosh Hashana - 19th September

- Light candles from existing flame after 6:27pm
- Rosh Hashanah Ma'ariv
- Kiddush followed by a meal. Custom to eat new fruit and make She'he'chiyanu blessing

2nd Day Rosh Hashana - 20th September

- Rosh Hashana Shacharit for Day 2
- Torah reading and Haftora for Day 2
- Hear the Shofar
- Rosh Hashanah Mussaf for Day 2
- Kiddush followed by a meal.
- Rosh Hashana Mincha
- Tashlich ritual throwing away of sins at a body of water
- Festival end and Havdalah at 6:27pm

Erev Yom Kippur - 27th September

- We recite Selichot in the morning before Shacharit
- Customary to do Kapparot on Erev Yom Kippur
- Pre-Yom Kippur Mincha prayed earlier to allow for final meal before fast.
- Light candles before 5:37pm
- Fast begins 5:37pm
- Kol Nidrei prayer
- Maariv prayer followed by Yom Kippur Eve service

Yom Kippur - 28th September

- Yom Kippur Shacharit
- Torah reading and Haftora for Yom Kippur
- Yom Kippur Mussaf
- Yom Kippur Mincha in the afternoon
- Final prayer of Neilah
- Final Shofar blast
- Festival end and Havdalah at 6:33pm