

Rosh Hashannah [Rosh Ha-shah-nah], the Jewish New Year

The first day of the High Holy Days, which marks the beginning of a ten-day period of penitence and spiritual renewal.

2011- September 29 & 30
2012- September 17 & 18
2013 - September 5 & 6
2014- September 25 & 26

Yom Kippur [Yom Kee-poor], the Day of Atonement

The tenth day of penitence. This most holy day in the Jewish year is marked by fasting and prayer, as the Jew seeks forgiveness from both God and man.

2011 – October 8
2012 - September 26
2013 - September 14
2014- October 4

Sukkot [Soo-kote], Feast of Booths [Tabernacles]

Commemorates the 40-year wandering of the Israelites in the desert on the way to the Promised Land; expresses thanksgiving for fall harvest. The Pilgrim Fathers used it as a model for the American observance of Thanksgiving.

2011 – October 13 & 14
2012 - October 1 & 2
2013 - September 19 & 20
2014- October 9 & 10

Shemini Atzeret [She-mee-nee Ah-Tzeh-ret]

Eighth Day of Solemn Assembly. A part of the Sukkot Festival

2011 – October 29
2012 - October 8
2013 - September 26
2014- October 16

Simhat Torah [Sim-chat Torah] The Rejoicing in Torah

Celebrates the conclusion of the public reading of the Pentateuch and its beginning anew, thus affirming that the study of God's word is an unending process. Concludes the Sukkot Festival.

2011 – October 21
2012 - October 9
2013 - September 27
2014- October 17

Hanukkah [Ha-noo-ka], Feast of Dedication [Feast of Lights]

Eight day festival celebrating the rededication of the Temple to the service of God [165 B.C.E.]. Commemorates the Maccabean victory over Antiochus who sought to suppress freedom of worship.

2011 – December 21-28
2012 - December 9 - 16
2013 - November 28 - December 5
2014- December 17-24

Purim [Poor-rim], Feast of Lots

Marks the salvation, through the intervention of Queen Esther, of the Jews of ancient Persia from Haman's plot to kill them all.

2012 - March 8

2013 - February 24

2014- March 16

2015- March 5

Pesach [Peh-sach], Passover

Celebrates Israel's deliverance from Egyptian bondage. During the eight-day festival, matzah [unleavened bread] is eaten.

2012 - April 1 - 14

Holy Days: April 7 & 8; April 13 & 14

2013 - March 26 - April 2

Holy Days: March 26 & 27; April 1 & 2

2014- April 15-22

Holy Days: April 15 & 16; April 21 & 22

2015- April 4-11

Holy Days: April 4 & 5; April 10 & 11

Shavuot [Sh-voo-ote], Feast of Weeks

Celebrates the covenant established at Sinai between God and Israel, and the revelation of the Ten Commandments.

2012 - May 27 & 28

2013 - May 15 & 16

2014- June 4 & 5

2015- May 24 & 25

Many thanks for your cooperation and understanding.

Sincerely yours,

Rabbi Scott L. Glass

SLG/jmg

P.S. You may be interested to know that you can find a calendar which includes Shinto, Buddhist, Muslim, Hindu, Bahai, Eastern Orthodox, Christian, Jewish and National Holidays at the following website:

http://www.adl.org/education/calendar_of_observances.asp