



This year at **HOLY
BLOSSOM
TEMPLE**

Here is your renewal and information package
for the coming year, 5772 (2011-2012)

Membership Renewal
High Holy Day Information

Please take a moment to send in your renewal package now,
before your summer vacation. We must receive your ticket request
no later than Friday, September 2nd, 2011
to ensure timely delivery of your **High Holy Day tickets**.

2011-2012 Contribution Rates

Membership

Family

\$2,915 for a two-adult household with the eldest adult 35 years or older

Single-Adult Family

\$1,715 for a household with one adult 35 years or older

Young Adult

\$550 per person for adults between the age of 31 and 34 years

\$330 per person for adults between the age of 26 and 30 years

Family memberships include all children 25 years of age and younger.

Your statement for the coming year is enclosed. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your invoice, please call Loriellen Karam, our Director of Membership, at 416.789.3291, ext. 227.

If you are in need of assistance with your membership contribution as invoiced, please send a confidential request to our Dues Relief Committee, c/o lkaram@holyblossom.org

Payment Options

For your convenience, we offer four payment options:

- Cheque made payable to Holy Blossom Temple;
- Four equal installments by credit card (VISA or MasterCard);
- Eight equal installments by Pre-Authorized Automatic Back Account Debit; or
- Marketable securities (you will have to direct your investment broker to contact the Temple's investment manager to execute the transaction).

Tax Receipts

All Membership contributions and donations to the Annual Contribution Campaign are receipted for tax purposes. Tax receipts will be emailed in February 2012 for all eligible payments received between Jan. 1 and Dec. 31, 2011. For those who do not have an email address, a tax receipt will be mailed to your home.

Cover Image from: "Age of the Torah" stained glass window, Holy Blossom Sanctuary.
Photo – Paul Hellen

Image from: "Age of the Prophets" stained glass window, Holy Blossom Sanctuary.
Photo – Paul Hellen



Our Annual Campaign - What you need to know

It has been five years since our Temple restructured our membership dues system. You may recall that our prior system was a "fair share" graduated fee tied to family income.

With our current fee structure, everyone is treated equally. Upon request we confidentially assist those needing financial support.

Dues Shortfall

As part of the restructured dues system we also introduced an Annual Campaign. Its sole purpose is to compensate for the revenue shortfall that results from assisting members who request and demonstrate financial need and who want to continue to be part of our Reform synagogue community.

For example, at Holy Blossom 15% of our members are over the age of 80. But some of these long time members of our congregation can only afford to pay a nominal amount.

This creates a dues shortfall that needs to be made up elsewhere if Holy Blossom is to continue offering a full range of services to all our members.

Similarly we have had many new young families join our membership ranks over the past five years. However, for a young family with three young children the total cost for Religious School tuition and Temple dues is almost \$6,000.

This outlay is not possible for all. To ensure that young member families become an integral part of our

community, we provide financial assistance to those who need our help. But that increases our revenue shortfall.

And so we need to have an Annual Campaign to help make up the difference.

Enabling all to Participate

Every member of this generous congregation who has the financial capability is urged to make a contribution to the 2011 Annual Campaign.

It will mean that no Holy Blossom programs or services have to be cut back or eliminated. Just as importantly it will allow every member, regardless of their financial situation, to participate in the excellence of our worship services, our many and varied Jewish education opportunities, and all of our social action programs.

We hope you will support this year's Annual Campaign. The names of those contributing \$600 or more will be gratefully acknowledged on our 2011 Annual Contributions Campaign Donor wall, located in the lobby outside the Sanctuary.

To make your donation, please add your gift to your statement or contact Loriellen Karam at 416.789.3291 ext. 227 or lkaram@holyblossom.org

- Benefactor:** a gift of \$7,200 or more
- Patron:** a gift of \$3,600 or more
- Sponsor:** a gift of \$1,800 or more
- Leader:** a gift of \$1,200 or more
- Supporter:** a gift of \$600 or more

Every donation makes a difference, regardless of size. Thank you in advance for your commitment to support the efforts of Holy Blossom Temple's Annual Campaign and to making a difference in our community.

The Strength of Holy Blossom Temple

28,908 Number of student and teacher hours spent in our **Religious School** classrooms in 2010

8,400 Number of meals served during **Out of the Cold's** 20 week winter season

3,480 Total number who attended **Pre-School Tot Shabbat, Tot Shabbat, Hot-Shot Shabbat,** and **Little Blossoms** services and events in 2010

613 Total number of **Adult Learning** classes taught by the combined rabbinic staff in 2010

420 Cab trips provided to allow seniors to attend **Mondays at the Temple** throughout 2010

\$0 Contributions to the annual campaign that would be needed annually if all members were capable of paying the full amount of their Holy Blossom membership dues and Religious School tuitions

Voluntary Contributions to Our Temple Family

Brotherhood (\$36)

Holy Blossom Temple Brotherhood brings men together to participate in Jewish activities. Our programs include our Sunday morning Breakfast Club (open to men and women) with lectures and presentations of Jewish interest, our Brotherhood Study Group and our Brotherhood Photo Group. Our slo-pitch baseball team, the Holy B's, competes in the Inter Synagogue Baseball League. We present a copy of the Plaut Torah Commentary to all B'nei Mitzvah youth. Brotherhood also supports other activities in the Temple community. Visit our Website at www.hbtbrotherhood.ca.

Sisterhood (\$36)

Holy Blossom Temple Sisterhood strengthens our congregational family through friendship and study. We bring our diverse backgrounds, skills, ideas and viewpoints together so we may learn from one another and offer unique programs. Sisterhood dues help support congregational, Religious School and youth programs, Out of the Cold, Plaut Manor, Temple and Religious School libraries, scholarships for children to attend Camp George, Jewish study programs, topical programs for women in our community and other Temple initiatives. We present a copy of *The Torah: A Women's Commentary* to each graduate of the Adult B'nei Mitzvah class and a gift to each confirmand. The gift of a hand knitted sweater is presented to each baby named at Temple. For more information, please call 416.789.3291, ext. 514, visit our website at www.hbtsisterhood.ca or email sisterhood@holyblossom.org.

Voluntary Contributions to Our Reform Family

Union Reform Judaism (\$36)

The Union for Reform Judaism (URJ) provides vision and leadership to Reform Jews and congregations on spiritual, ethical, social justice and management issues. It provides support to Reform Jewish congregations and offers opportunities for individual growth and identity that few congregations could provide by themselves, such as camps and Israel programs for youth, study kallot, and North American Biennials and district gatherings. Holy Blossom Temple is a member congregation of the URJ and, as a member of Holy Blossom Temple, you automatically receive the benefits of this association, which includes a subscription to Reform Judaism magazine. We ask that you contribute \$36 towards the annual membership fees that we pay to the URJ.

World Union for Progressive Judaism (\$18)

The World Union for Progressive Judaism (WUPJ) is the voice of Reform Judaism around the world. Its current focus is on helping develop and sustain the Reform Movement in Israel, and in the countries of the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. The WUPJ also supports Jewish communities in Western Europe and Latin America. The funds raised will be used to support the work of Reform rabbis building strong congregations in Israel. For more information, please visit the website www.wupj.org.

ARZA Canada (\$36)

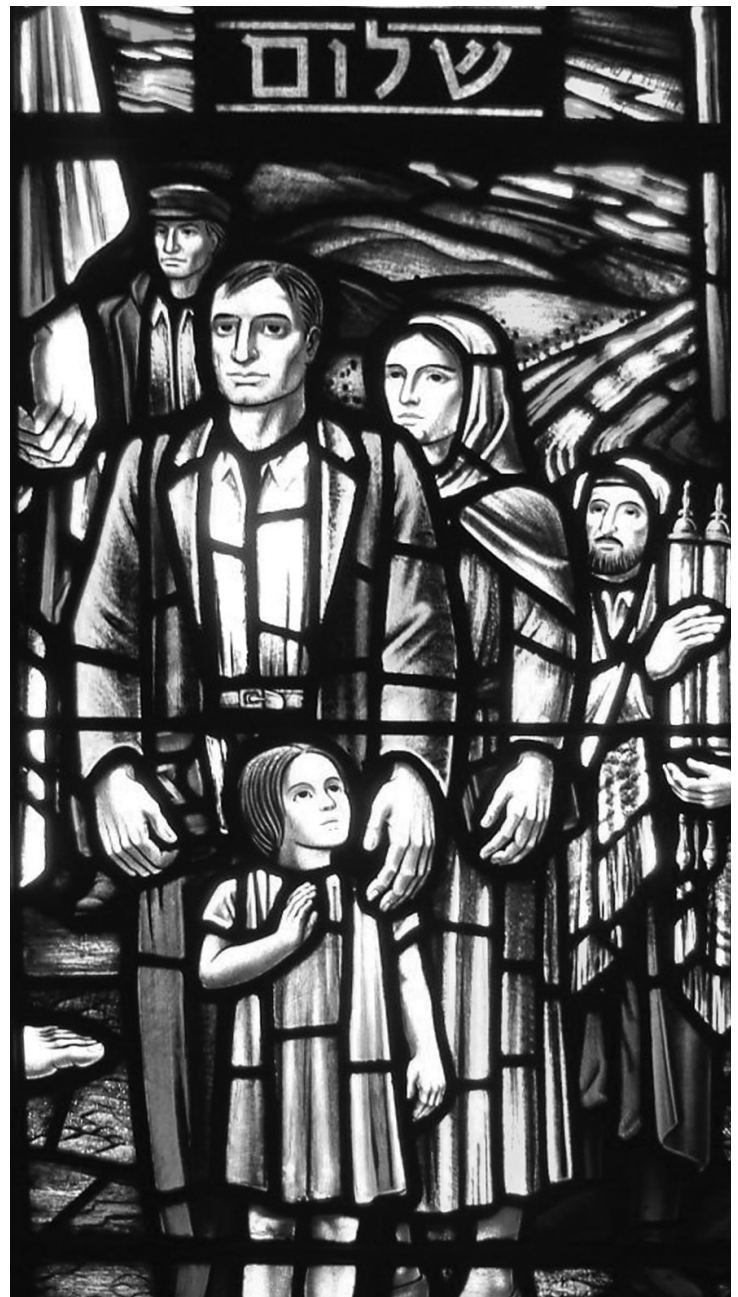
ARZA Canada is the Canadian Association of Reform Zionists. It is the principal voice for Israel on behalf of the Reform Movement in Canada. ARZA Canada connects the Canadian Reform Movement to the Israeli Reform Movement, educates Reform Jews about Israel, and initiates and supports Israel-focused educational activities throughout the Canadian Reform Movement. ARZA Canada's work is funded solely through membership dues. Your support is crucial to show our solidarity with the Israeli Reform Movement. For more information, please call 416.630.0375.

The Leo Baeck Day School (\$25)

The Leo Baeck Day School is the only Reform Jewish Day School in Canada. Choosing Leo Baeck means choosing a school that seeks to nurture and challenge each child, spiritually, intellectually, physically and artistically. Leo Baeck offers skills and values, depth and challenge, creativity and love of learning. Our children learn the value of friendships, traditions, trust and integrity. Students engage in community service projects and participate in sports events, music groups & celebrations. Your donation will help provide financial assistance for students whose families cannot afford full tuition and special Judaic programs. For more information please call 905.709.3636.

URJ Camp George (\$36)

URJ Camp George is one of 13 Union for Reform Judaism camps located throughout North America. Established in 1999 and located in a magnificent lakefront setting just south of Parry Sound, Camp George is the first and only camp of its kind in Canada. Camp George prides itself on fostering the development of Jewish identity through an immersive Jewish summer experience. Serving more than 500 Jewish youth each summer, Camp George provides an important informal Jewish educational experience to many Holy Blossom families. All money raised by Holy Blossom Temple congregants will go directly to the camp's fee assistance program. This year, 25% of all donations will be matched by a generous donor and invested as endowments, securing the future availability of funds for campers in need of financial assistance. For any questions or to learn how you can further support Camp George, please call 416.638.2635 ext. 225.



*Image from: "Age of the Patriarchs"
stained glass window, Holy Blossom
Sanctuary. Photo – Paul Hellen*



Reminder – School Registration

A separate School Registration package has been sent to all congregants with school-aged children. If you have not received your package, please call 416. 789.3291 ext. 237.

High Holy Days

Main Services

As always, seats are available in the Sanctuary and Philip Smith Congregational Hall on a first-come basis. If you have special needs, please refer to page 7.

Family Services

These Services are especially designed for those families with children between six and twelve year of age. While the congregational prayer book is used, the music is highly participatory. A sermon-in-story follows the Torah Service. The atmosphere is both welcoming and festive.

As in the past, due to the high demand for the Late Family Service on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur and to be fair to all our congregants with young children, you may choose to come to either the Late Family Service on Rosh Hashanah and the Early Family Service on Yom Kippur, or the Early Family Service on Rosh Hashanah and the Late Family Service on Yom Kippur. This will ensure a seat for everyone. Tickets will be allocated on a first-come, first serve basis.

Young Children's Services

These Services are especially designed for those families with children five years of age and younger who do not yet read. This Service includes songs, prayers, stories and movement. On Rosh Hashanah, a special treat is included to with our youngest congregants a sweet new year.

Tickets

High Holy Day tickets will be processed on a first-come, first-serve basis. Please return the completed Membership Renewal package to the Temple no later than Friday, September 2nd, 2011. Tickets will be required for all Services.

- **Ticket Requests**

To obtain your ticket(s), please complete the enclosed Ticket Request form and return it to the Temple as soon as possible. Children up to and including 25 years of age are included in family membership. Please be sure to include their names on your Ticket Request form.

- **Who's eligible**

To receive your tickets, you must be a member in good standing of Holy Blossom Temple. Your membership is in good standing, if, at the time of your request, your account is up to date. As in previous years, we are happy to accept post-dated payments, but all such payments must be received before your tickets can be released.

If you have any questions about your High Holy Day tickets, please call the High Holy Day ticket line, at 416.789.3291, ext. 256.

- **Guest Tickets**

Guest tickets may be purchased for immediate family members visiting from out of town. If you have a request that requires special consideration, you may forward your request to the Temple Office, attention Guest Ticket Committee. Guest tickets are \$350 each.

- **Reciprocal tickets**

If you will be out of town and wish to attend High Holy Day Services at another Reform (URJ) congregation, please call us at 416.789.3291, ext. 224, or send an e-mail to mlrusak@holyblossom.org, and we will arrange for complimentary tickets for you.

Take-a-Break Rooms

As in previous years, Take-a-Break Rooms will be available during all High Holy Day Services to provide you with a place to take your child to play or read if he or she becomes restless during a Service. Parents must remain with their children in this room to provide supervision.

Special Needs

If you require special consideration for seating or parking (for those with handicapped permits only) on the High Holy Days, please fill out the request form in your Membership Renewal package. Large-print prayer books and hearing devices are available in the Temple Office before each Service begins. We will do our best to accommodate all requests on a first-come, first serve basis. If you have any question, please call the Temple, at 416.789.3291, ext. 516.



*Image from: "Age of the Torah" stained glass window, Holy Blossom Sanctuary.
Photo – Paul Hellen*

Shanah Tovah cards

Holy Blossom Temple Foundation will again this year send New Year's cards on your behalf. For a donation of \$20, we would be happy to personalize and send your card (\$15 per card if you order more than six). You may also order a package of 10 cards to send on your own for \$100. Tax receipts will be issued. To order cards, please call the Foundation office, at 416.789.3291 ext. 265 or email kmoore@holyblossom.org by Thursday, September 1st, 2011.

Holy Blossom Temple Sisterhood Judaica Shop

See the display in the Temple foyer for great ideas for weddings, Rosh Hashanah, Bar/Bat Mitzvahs, Chanukah, Pesach, hostess gifts and much more. Shop hours: Monday to Friday 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Sunday 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Sisterhood members receive a 10% discount. For more information, call the Judaica Shop at 416.789.3291, ext. 234.