

**Greater Manchester
Holocaust Memorial Day Service 2022:
One Day**

Thursday, January 27, 2022



ANDY BURNHAM
MAYOR OF
GREATER
MANCHESTER

WELCOME

Welcome from Rabbi Daniel Walker, Heaton Park
Hebrew Congregation

Address from Andy Burnham, Mayor of Greater Manchester

Address from Rabbi Daniel Walker, Heaton Park Hebrew
Congregation on the theme 'One Day'

SPEECH

Speech by Gisela Feldman, a survivor from The Holocaust

SPEECH

The Life and Legacy of Janusz Korczak by Jennifer Wong and
Ismail Malik from Falinge Park High School – A Beacon School
for Holocaust Education

READING

Refugee Blues by W. H. Auden

Read by Jill Brennan from Greater Manchester's Faith
and Belief Panel

*Say this city has ten million souls,
Some are living in mansions, some are living in holes:
Yet there's no place for us, my dear, yet there's no place for us.*

*Once we had a country and we thought it fair,
Look in the atlas and you'll find it there:
We cannot go there now, my dear, we cannot go there now.*

*In the village churchyard there grows an old yew,
Every spring it blossoms anew;
Old passports can't do that, my dear, old passports can't do that.*

*The consul banged the table and said:
'If you've got no passport, you're officially dead';
But we are still alive, my dear, but we are still alive.*

*Went to a committee; they offered me a chair;
Asked me politely to return next year:
But where shall we go today, my dear, but where shall
we go today?*

*Came to a public meeting; the speaker got up and said:
'If we let them in, they will steal our daily bread';
He was talking of you and me, my dear, he was talking of
you and me.*

*Thought I heard the thunder rumbling in the sky;
It was Hitler over Europe, saying: 'They must die';
We were in his mind, my dear, we were in his mind.*

*Saw a poodle in a jacket fastened with a pin,
Saw a door opened and a cat let in:
But they weren't German Jews, my dear, but they
weren't German Jews.*

*Went down the harbour and stood upon the quay,
Saw the fish swimming as if they were free:
Only ten feet away, my dear, only ten feet away.*

*Walked through a wood, saw the birds in the trees;
They had no politicians and sang at their ease:
They weren't the human race, my dear, they weren't
the human race.*

*Dreamed I saw a building with a thousand floors,
A thousand windows and a thousand doors;
Not one of them was ours, my dear, not one of them was ours.*

*Stood on a great plain in the falling snow;
Ten thousand soldiers marched to and fro:
Looking for you and me, my dear, looking for you and me.*



READING

An excerpt from 'The Diary of a Young Girl' by Anne Frank

Read by Tommy Kirkwood from the Greater Manchester Youth Combined Authority

"We're much too young to deal with these problems, but they keep thrusting themselves on us until, finally, we're forced to think up a solution, though most of the time our solutions crumble when faced with the facts. It's difficult in times like these: ideals, dreams and cherished hopes rise within us, only to be crushed by grim reality. It's a wonder I haven't abandoned all my ideals, they seem so absurd and impractical. Yet I cling to them because I still believe, in spite of everything, that people are truly good at heart.

It's utterly impossible for me to build my life on a foundation of chaos, suffering and death. I see the world being slowly transformed into a wilderness, I hear the approaching thunder that, one day, will destroy us too, I feel the suffering of millions. And yet, when I look up at the sky, I somehow feel that everything will change for the better, that this cruelty too will end, that peace and tranquillity will return once more. In the meantime, I must hold on to my ideals. Perhaps the day will come when I'll be able to realize them!"

– 15th July, 1944, 'The Diary of a Young Girl'



PRAYERS

A Prayer for Holocaust Memorial Day by the Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis, The Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby, and Senior Imam Qari Asim

Read by Revd Canon Dr David Holgate

Loving G-d, we come to you with heavy hearts, remembering the six million Jewish souls murdered during the Holocaust.

In the horrors of that history, when so many groups were targeted because of their identity, and in genocides which followed, we recognise destructive prejudices that drive people apart.

Forgive us when we give space to fear, negativity and hatred of others, simply because they are different from us.

In the light of G-d, we see everyone as equally precious manifestations of the Divine, and can know the courage to face the darkness.

Through our prayers and actions, help us to stand together with those who are suffering, so that light may banish all darkness, love will prevail over hate and good will triumph over evil.

Amen

El Male Rachamim

Sung by Cantor Charles Chait

O G-d, Who art full of compassion, who dwellest on high, grant perfect rest in Thy Divine Presence to all the souls of our holy and pure brethren whose blood was spilt by the murderers in Auschwitz, Belzec, Bergen Belsen, Dachau, Majdanek, Sobibor, Treblinka and other extermination camps in Europe; who were killed, strangled, burned and buried alive for the sanctification for Thy Name. For whose souls we now pray. May their resting place be in the Garden of Eden, may the Master of Mercy shelter them in the shadow of His wings for eternity; and may he bind their souls in the Bond of Live.

HASHEM is their heritage, and may they repose in peace in their resting places.

Now let us say: Amen

CANDLE LIGHTING

Gisela Feldman

Rabbi Daniel Walker, Heaton Park Hebrew Congregation

Lynne Morris, Unison

Mark Isaac Adlestone OBE DL, Jewish Representative Council

Sarah Cross, Greater Manchester's Disabled People's Panel

Carl Austin-Behan OBE DL, Greater Manchester's LGBTQ+ Adviser

Reverend Canon Jean Hurlston, Greater Manchester's Women and Girls Panel

to each light a candle in commemoration of the Holocaust.

Followed by a minute's silence.



The statement of commitment for Holocaust Memorial Day

Holocaust Memorial Day was established on 27 January 2000, when representatives from 46 countries around the world met in Stockholm to discuss Holocaust education, remembrance and research. At the end of this meeting, all attendees signed a declaration committing to preserving the memory of those who were murdered in the Holocaust.

The statement of commitment is read by

Andy Burnham, Mayor of Greater Manchester

Elizabeth Cameron, Greater Manchester's Race Equality Panel

Marissa Cohen, King David High School

Nidhi Sinha, Manchester Cathedral's Challenging Hate Forum

Dr Erinma Bell, We Stand Together

Ayesha Ambreen, Falinge Park High School

Fran Horwich, Association of Jewish Refugees

We recognise that the Holocaust shook the foundations of modern civilisation. Its unprecedented character and horror will always hold universal meaning.

We believe the Holocaust must have a permanent place in our nation's and community's collective memory. We honour the survivors still with us, and reaffirm our shared goals of mutual understanding and justice.

We must make sure that future generations understand the causes of the Holocaust and reflect upon its consequences.

We vow to remember the victims of Nazi persecution and of all genocides.

We value the sacrifices of those who have risked their lives to protect or rescue victims, as a touchstone of the human capacity for good in the face of evil.

We recognise that humanity is still scarred by the belief that race, religion, disability or sexuality make some people's lives worth less than others'. Genocide, anti-semitism, racism, xenophobia and discrimination still continue. We have a shared responsibility to fight these evils.

We pledge to strengthen our efforts to promote education and research about the Holocaust and other genocides. We will do our utmost to make sure that the lessons of such events are fully learnt.

We will continue to encourage Holocaust remembrance by organising an activity to commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day. We condemn the evils of prejudice, discrimination and racism. We value a free, respectful, and democratic society.

CLOSE OF CEREMONY

Never Shall I Forget by Elie Wiesel

Read by Sir Warren Smith KCVO KStJ JP, Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Greater Manchester

Never shall I forget that night, the first night in camp, that turned my life into one long night seven times sealed.

Never shall I forget that smoke.

Never shall I forget the small faces of the children whose bodies I saw transformed into smoke under a silent sky.

Never shall I forget those flames that consumed my faith for ever.

Never shall I forget the nocturnal silence that deprived me for all eternity of the desire to live.

Never shall I forget those moments that murdered my G-d and my soul and turned my dreams to ashes.

Never shall I forget those things, even were I condemned to live as long as G-d Himself.

Never.



With special thanks to
The Association of the
Jewish Refugees