SIVAN

The Molad: Tuesday evening, 8:31 and 7 portions. The moon may be sanctified until Wednesday, the 15th, 2:53 p.m.¹

Rosh Chodesh is on Wednesday. During the first 12 days of the month, we do not recite Tachanun. Until the holiday of Shavuos, fasts should not be undertaken, except a fast for a disturbing dream and the fast of a groom and bride on their wedding day.

Sivan 4, Shabbos Parshas Bamidbar.
We do not recite the passage Av barachaim. In the Afternoon Service on Shabbos, and similarly on Monday and Thursday of the coming week, we conclude the Torah reading at Bamidbar 4:33.²

Tzidkas’cha is not recited in the Afternoon Service.
We recite the sixth chapter of Pirkei Avos following the Afternoon Service.

On Motzaei Shabbos, we do not say Vibi noam and V’atah kadosh.

Sivan 5, Sunday, Erev Shavuos.
(Some follow the custom to decorate synagogues and homes with flowers and boughs from trees, to add to the happiness of the festival, and to recall that on Shavuos judgment is rendered regarding the fruits of the trees.)

We light the candles and recite two blessings: L’hadlik ner shel Yom Tov and Shehecheyanu.

Sivan 6, Monday, the first day of Shavuos.
We recite the Afternoon Service for festivals.

For Kiddush, we say A’skinu and the blessings Yayin (wine), Kiddush, and Z’man (Shebecheyanu).

We stay awake the entire night and study Tikun Leil Shavuos.³ Shortly before dawn, it is customary to

¹. The times for sanctifying the moon are based on Jerusalem Standard Time.
². Following the Ashkenazi custom. (Some communities conclude at 4:37.)
³. See Likkutei Sichos, Vol. XXVIII, p. 315, for some corrections to the text of the Tikun.
immerse oneself in the mikvah.4

The laws pertaining to the morning blessings when a person has remained awake the entire night are outlined in the section for Hoshana Rabba.

In the Morning Service, we recite the full Hallel, a full Kaddish, the Song of the Day, and then the Mourner's Kaddish.

The Rebbe instituted the practice of gathering all children – even young infants – to listen to the reading of the Ten Commandments.5

Before opening the ark to take out the Torah scrolls, we recite the passage Atah bor'isa. When the ark is opened, after the passage Vay'bi binso'a, we recite the Thirteen Attributes of Mercy once, the request Ribbono sbel olam, the passage B'ruch Sb'mei, etc. We do not recite the hymn Akdamus.

Two Torah scrolls are then taken out. Five men are given ali'os for the Shavuos reading beginning Bachodesh hash'lishi (Sh'mos 19:1-20:23) from the first scroll, and a half-Kaddish is recited.

We read the Ten Commandments using the ta'am elyon, special cantillation notes.

While the Ten Commandments are being read, the congregation should stand and face the Torah.

The Maftir, a passage from Parshas Pinchas that describes the Mussaf offerings brought on Shavuos (Bamidbar 28:26-31), is read from the second scroll. Afterwards, the Haftorah (Y'chezkel 1:1-28, 3:12) is recited. Only a prominent and learned person should be honored with this reading, not a minor. (Some have the custom that when the congregation reads this Haftorah quietly along with the reader, they do so standing.)

The congregation recites Asbrei and Y'hall'lu, and the chazan recites a half-Kaddish.

The kohanim bless the congregation in the Mussaf Service.

We recite the Six Remembrances.

For Kiddush, we recite Asknu and the verse Eileh mo'adei, followed by the blessing on the wine.

---

4. See Shaar HaKavanos, by the students of the AriZal.
This day marks the yahrzeit of Rabbi Yisrael, the Baal Shem Tov. He passed away in 5520 (1760) and is interred in Mezhibuzh.

On Shavuos, it is forbidden to fast. This applies even to a person who had a disturbing dream.

It is customary to eat milchig foods in the morning of the first day of Shavuos.

Nolad and nechlav (an entity that comes into being, and milk that was milked from a cow on the first day of the festival) are forbidden on this day. They are, however, permitted on the following day.

Sivan 7, Tuesday, the second day of Shavuos.

We light the candles and recite two blessings: L’hadlik ner shel Yom Tov and Shehecheyanu.

We recite the Evening Service for festivals.

For Kiddush, we say A’kinu and the blessings Yayin (wine), Kiddush, and Z’amn (Shehecheyanu).

In the Morning Service, we recite the full Hallel, a full Kaddish, the Song of the Day, and then the Mourner’s Kaddish.

Before opening the ark to take out the Torah scrolls, we recite the passage Atah hor’eisa. When the ark is opened, after the passage Vay’hi binso’a, we recite the Thirteen Attributes of Mercy once, the request Ribbono shel olam, the passage B’rich Sh’mei etc.

Two Torah scrolls are taken out. Five men are given aliyos for the reading beginning Kol hab’chor (D’varim 15:19-16:17) from the first scroll, and a half-Kaddish is recited. The Maftir read on the previous day is read from the second scroll. Afterwards, the Haftorah (Chavakuk 2:20-3:19) is recited.

We then recite the Yizkor prayers, and pledges for tzedakah are made on behalf of the departed, for the Charities of Rabbi Meir Baal Haness. After Yizkor, Av harachamim is recited, then Asbrei and Y’hall’lu, and the chazan recites a half-Kaddish. The kohanim bless the congregation in the Mussaf Service.

We recite the Six Remembrances.

For Kiddush, we recite A’kinu and the verse Eileh mo’adei, followed by the blessing on the wine.

Sivan 8, Wednesday, Isru Chag.

In the Evening Service we add the prayer Atab bor’eisa, and the silent Sh’moneh Esreb is followed
by a full Kaddish, Aleinu, and the Mourner’s Kaddish.

_Havdalah_ is said over a cup of wine, without the spices and candle.

It is forbidden to fast on this day. This applies even to a groom and bride on their wedding day.

**Sivan 11, Shabbos Parshas Naso.**

We do not recite _Av harachamim_ in the **Morning Service**, nor the passage _Tzidkas'cha_ in the **Afternoon Service**.

The Rebbe would recite _Pirkei Avos_ throughout the summer Shabbosim.

We recite the first chapter of _Pirkei Avos_ following the Afternoon Service.

**Sivan 18, Shabbos Parshas B’haalos’cha.**

We recite the second chapter of _Pirkei Avos_ following the Afternoon Service.

**Sivan 25, Shabbos Parshas Sh’lach, Shabbos M’varchim.**

We bless the month of Tammuz, announcing Rosh Chodesh, which falls on the coming Thursday and Friday.

We do not recite the passage _Av barachamim._

We recite the third chapter of _Pirkei Avos_ following the Afternoon Service.

**Sivan 28, Thursday.**

This date marks the day on which The Rebbe and his wife, Rebbetzin Chaya Mushka, arrived in America in 5701 (1941), after fleeing Nazi-dominated Europe. It was established by The Rebbe as a festival and an auspicious day for spreading the wellsprings of Chassidus, and a day of thanksgiving on which _farbrengens_ are held.