The Molad: Sunday morning, 12:26 and 14 portions. The moon may be sanctified until Sunday, the 13th, 6:48 p.m.\(^1\) The summer solstice: Tuesday, the 15th, 7:30 p.m.

**The first day of Rosh Chodesh is on Monday.**

**The second day of Rosh Chodesh is on Tuesday.**

Tammuz 3, Thursday. This day marks the 26th [Hilula] of The Rebbe, the leader of our generation, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson, in 5754 (1994).

The special practices associated with this day are outlined by The Rebbe in *Sefer HaMimagim*, pp. 165-168.

**Tammuz 5, Shabbos Parshas Korach.**
We recite the fourth chapter of *Pirkei Avos* following the Afternoon Service.

*Chag HaGenlab – Tammuz 12-13.*
**Tammuz 12, Shabbos Parshas Chukas-Balak.** For the *Haftorah* we read the passage *V’hayah she’eris Yaakov* ([Micah 5:6-6:8]).

We do not recite the passage *Av harachamim* in the *Morning Service*, nor the passage *Tzidkas’cha* in the *Afternoon Service*.

We recite the fifth chapter of *Pirkei Avos* following the Afternoon Service.

This day marks the 140th birthday of the Previous Rebbe, Rabbi Yosef Yitzchak Schneersohn, in 5640 (1880).

**On this day,** in 5687 (1927), he was informed that he would be released from exile (after having been imprisoned for his efforts to spread Jewish observance throughout Communist Russia, and released from prison on Tammuz 3).\(^2\)

**Tammuz 13, Sunday.**
On this day, he was formally released by the Soviet

---

1. The times for sanctifying the moon are based on Jerusalem Standard Time. One should therefore calculate the time for sanctifying the moon according to his location.

These two days have been accepted by world Jewry as days of rejoicing, and by Chabad Chassidim in particular as days of thanksgiving, celebration, and dedication to the Rebbe’s purposes and values. *Tachtanun* is not recited on both these days.

(On Tammuz 12, 5576, the *Shulchan Aruch* of the Alter Rebbe was sent to press for the first time.)

**Tammuz 15, Tuesday.**

This day marks the *yahrzeit* of Rabbi Chaim ibn Attar, the saintly author of the *Or HaChayim*. He passed away in 5503 (1743), and is interred on the Mount of Olives.

**Tammuz 17, Thursday.**

The fast commemorating the breaching of the walls of Jerusalem before the destruction of the Second Temple. See the laws governing a commemorative communal fast in the section describing the Fast of Gedalia (Tishrei 3).

After the *Sh’moneh Esreh*, towards the end of the *Tachtanun* supplications, before *Shomer Yisrael*, we recite *S’lichos*, *Shomer Yisrael*, and the long *Avinu Malkeinu*, and then the *chazan* recites a half-*Kaddish*.

A person who is not fasting should not be called up to the Torah. In the Morning Service, however, if he is given an *aliyah*, he should accept it. In the Afternoon Service, he may accept the *aliyah* only if refusing it will cause him embarrassment and/or compromise the honor of the Torah.

Since this fast was ordained because of the destruction of *Eretz Yisrael*, it is appropriate to give *tzedakah* to support the Jewish community of *Eretz Yisrael* on this day.

In the three weeks between this fast and the fast of Tishah B’Av, several customs reflecting a state of mourning are observed:

a) We do not hold weddings. It is however, permitted to make engagements even on Tishah B’Av itself; it is permitted to hold an engagement party without dancing until Rosh Chodesh Av.

b) We do not cut our hair. Cutting nails in honor of Shabbos is permitted even on the Friday before Shabbos Chazon.

c) We do not recite the blessing *Shehecheyanu* on
new fruits or new garments, even on Shabbos.

Since these three weeks are associated with the destruction of the Temple, The Rebbe instructed that they be dedicated to the study of the Temple’s structure.3

Among the sources to be studied are the concluding chapters (i.e., from chapter 40 onward) of the Book of Yechezkel, the tractate of Middos, and Hilchos Beis HaB’chirah from the Rambam’s Mishneh Torah.4

On this day we complete the annual cycle of Rambam’s Mishneh Torah, as ordained by The Rebbe, three chapters per day, for the 39th time, and one chapter per day, for the 13th time.

**Tammuz 19, Shabbos Parshas Pinchas.**
We read the Haftorah beginning Divrei Yirmeyahu (Yirmeyahu 1:1-2:3).
We recite the sixth chapter of Pirkei Avos following the Afternoon Service.

**Tammuz 26, Shabbos Parshas Matos-Masei, Shabbos M’varchim.**
We read the Haftorah beginning Shim’u d’var A-donai, concluding with the verses Im tashuv... u’vo yis’hallalu (Yirmeyahu 2:4-28, 4:1-2).
We bless the month of Menachem Av, announcing Rosh Chodesh, which falls on the coming Wednesday.
We do not recite the passage Av barachamim.
We recite the first chapter of Pirkei Avos following the Afternoon Service.

---

3. See Sichos Bein HaMetzarim 5736.
4. See publisher’s foreword to Kuntres Hakolel Hilchos Beis HaB’chirah for additional instructions of The Rebbe with regards to these days.