

Celebrating the Word of God

Bereshit

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In the Beginning

In the beginning was the word. Every Shabbat the Bible is read, every Sunday, too. In Judaism and Christianity there are different interpretations. They amaze, sometimes they contradict one another and produce a polyphony of meaning. A common treasure!

#Jewish & Christian – Closer than you think



The Earth belongs to God, in all its fullness

Working

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Caring

In the Biblical story God places Eve and Adam in the Garden of Eden. The earth is entrusted to human beings. We are here to „work and to protect it“ as stewards, responsible for all creation. Environmental changes threaten the life of many species of our planet, including humans. Jews and Christians are called to work together: Shared responsibility!

#Jewish & Christian – Closer than you think



Liberated from slavery and death

Pesach

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Easter

During Pesach Jews celebrate the liberation from slavery in Egypt. On Easter, Christians celebrate the resurrection of Jesus from death. God liberates and redeems. Even today. Hallelujah!

#Jewish & Christian – Closer than you think



The joy of growing up

Bar/Bat Mitzvah

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Confirmation

Taking responsibility, becoming an adult. Filling old traditions with new life, celebrating faith, making a choice: in the synagogue with the Bar or Bat Mitzvah, in the church with Confirmation. A celebration for all generations!

#Jewish & Christian – Closer than you think



The spirit that inspires

Shavuot

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Pentecost

Shavuot celebrates the empowering spirit of Divine Revelation. Pentecost celebrates the spirit of God that inspires the weak and the meek. Orientation and inspiration: standing on a stable foundation. Forming and shaping, moving forward with courage!

#Jewish & Christian – Closer than you think



Called by name

Naming

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Baptism

Naming in Judaism: a sign of the covenant, a sign of belonging. For boys, it coincides with the circumcision on the 8th day. Baptism seals admission into the community with Jesus Christ and the Church: God's covenant unites the generations. To be a child of God! United eternally.

#Jewish & Christian – Closer than you think



Time-out

Shabbat

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Sunday

Shabbat and Sunday: A taste of God's kingdom,
the right to rest for people, animals and plants:
Moments of peace and happiness. No exploitation: Life
is not disposable. Good for the soul, good for the world!

#Jewish & Christian – Closer than you think



Connecting past and present

Tikkun

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Repair

On 9 Av Jews commemorate the destruction of the Jerusalem Temple. Christians in earlier times interpreted it as a judgement by God. Today, the churches affirm their solidarity with the Jewish people. Repair, tikkun is in focus. Caring for one another! God is here, searching for us: Where are you?

#Jewish & Christian – Closer than you think



Celebrating reconciliation

Teshuvah

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Repentance

After the Days of Repentance, Jews celebrate reconciliation with God and experience God's unconditional love on Yom Kippur. Christians seek reconciliation: praying, celebrating the Eucharist and turning to God during the 40 days of Lent. Through rituals of repentance, Jews and Christians celebrate God's mercy, and recommit themselves to living out their faiths in ways that help to transform our world. Beginning anew!

#Jewish & Christian – Closer than you think



The many gifts of nature

Sukkot

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Thanksgiving

On Sukkot Jews celebrate trust in God's care, even in the shaky booth, the sukkah. Christians give thanks for the harvest and reflect on their role in the preservation of creation. The earth is entrusted to all of us. Being grateful!

#Jewish & Christian – Closer than you think



Remembering for the Future

Zachor

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9 November

The biblical word „zachor“ means „remember“.
On 9 November, we remember the pogroms of 1938, we remember the danger of being indifferent. May the memory of injustice lead us to shape the future. A future without antisemitism, unjustified discrimination on the basis of ethnic origin, gender, age, religion, health condition, disability or sexual orientation. Remember human dignity!

#Jewish & Christian – Closer than you think



Wonder-full

Hanukkah

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Christmas

Each day during the eight days of Hanukkah an additional candle is lit. Light in the darkness recalls the miracle of light in the Temple of Jerusalem. During the dark season, Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus, who comes into the world as light. God shows himself in the miracles of life. Hope that is rekindled over and over!

#Jewish & Christian – Closer than you think



We drink to life

Purim

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Carnival

Purim is about turning things upside down and inside out: even the frightening experiences are turned into parody. During carnival, prevailing conditions are turned upside down until lent begins on Ash Wednesday. Here's to life - Lechaim and Cheers!

#Jewish & Christian – Closer than you think

