

From: [Cliff Miller](#)
To: [Covid Archive](#)
Cc: [Arielle Miller-Timen](#); [Adinah Miller](#); [Zeke Timen](#); [Shirley](#); [Gordon Gladstone](#)
Subject: FW: NOT SO NORA'IM
Date: Thursday, October 15, 2020 2:47:19 PM

From: Ari Lucas <alucas@agudath.org>
Sent: Thursday, October 15, 2020 2:09 PM
To: Cliff Miller <CLMILLER@JTSA.EDU>
Subject: Re: NOT SO NORA'IM

And thank you for this note as well. Your support keeps us going!

On Sep 30, 2020, at 9:58 AM, Cliff Miller <CLMILLER@JTSA.EDU> wrote:

I want to thank each of our rabbis, our cantor, our Ed. Head, and our Baal Tefillah, together with the choir, director of operations and technical aide, and all who made this season of High Holy Days

happen for Congregation Agudath Israel. **It was magnificent.**

Incredible how we got to enjoy the Zamir chorale and our own choir and so many congregation participants, Torah readers, shelihe tsibbur, all coordinated and presented so beautifully. No one could have imagined it would be possible to be so together at a time when we felt so isolated. No one could have anticipated that we would feel so uplifted at a time full of reasons to feel depressed.

The video bringing us to the synagogue and showing a glimpse of favorite exterior and interior landmarks, with music appropriate for each iteration, achieved your fondest wishes. Timing was unbelievably punctual. Even choir members were moved each time we all saw the dedication of choir numbers to the memory of two recently departed members.

Who knew that our synagogue president is so articulate, so well-

spoken, so well-organized? A masterpiece of a presidential talk. And she can read Torah, as well?

A minor quibble, but we could all agree to correct this: Catholics have a confessional. It is a booth where a priest sits, and penitents sit in closets to the right or left and confess to the priest. A confessional is an architectural feature of a church. Jews have no confessional.

Jews have a short **confession**, Ashamnu, and Jews have a long **confession**, Ahl Het. Let's throw out the Catholic confessional, shall we?

Thank you, one and all, for a very satisfying observance of Yamim Nora'im

The likes of which we hope we will never see again.

Mo'adim le-simhah,

Rabbi Clifford Miller, your contented congregant