

In the name of Allah, the most Compassionate, the ever Merciful



IONA
REPENTANCE
REVITALIZATION OF FAITH
RENEWAL OF COVENANT

IONA MASJID

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

September 2021 | Muharram - Safar 1443

Volume 15, No 9

Image: Prophet Muhammad's (SAW) first revelation was in the cave of Hira' on the Mount of Light (Jabal an-Nur)

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From His Glorious Book

“And do not make mischief in the land after it had been set in order: that will be best for you, if you have Faith.”

[Al-Araf, 7:85]

From the Tradition of Prophet Muhammad (SAW)

On the authority of Abu Hurayrah (r.a) from the Prophet (SAW) who said: “Allah (SWT) said: Spend (on charity), O son of Adam, and I shall spend on you.”

[Hadith Qudsi, al-Bukhari & Muslim]

IONA’s 15th Annual Sirah Conference | Sunday, October 9th, 2021

In Person 2:00 PM

Please RSVP by texting at:
248-462-6244

SUNDAY SCHOOL for 2021/2022
IS RETURNING SEPTEMBER 12TH

SEE PAGE 2

PRESCHOOL PROGRAM for 2021/2022 is back Starting
Tuesday, September 14th

SEE PAGE 2

IONA Center

encourages you to continue supporting the Center during the pandemic by donating to the Masjid Budget



New Dawn Academy
A STEM
Charter School
Opening Fall 2021

SEE PAGE 6

Join us **Live** for both Virtual Friday Sermons 12:10 & 1:30 PM





Mustapha Elturk
Ameer

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Director of Operations
IONA Masjid &
Learning Center

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Iqbal Surti

Sunday School

IONA is pleased to resume the Sunday School for 2021/2022 school year.

2021 - 2022 SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday school begins on **September 12, 2021** and ends on **June 5, 2022**. We are accepting students ages 5 to 13 (limited space available).

Tuition and Fees:

\$400 per child per year plus \$50 non-refundable registration fee.

\$650 for two siblings plus \$50 non-refundable registration fee.

\$900 for three siblings plus \$50 non-refundable registration fee.

School hours are from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Subjects Taught: Qur'an, Arabic, and Islamic Studies (Hadith, Sirah, etc.)

Dress code: Proper Islamic dress is required for both boys and girls. Girls must wear a navy Jilbab and a white scarf and boys must wear navy pants (blue jeans allowed) and white shirts or T-shirts. No shorts allowed.

To apply, please visit ionamasjid.org and click on Education tab and follow the link to Sunday School.

For more information, please contact the principal, Sr. Souad, at **248-872-2169**.

We are BACK

IONA is pleased to announce its **PRESCHOOL PROGRAM** for 2021/2022

The preschool program is a weekly program, Tuesday through Thursday, and will begin on Tuesday, September 14, 2021, in sha Allah. The tuition per child is \$200 per month.

Sr. Souad Soubra, the Sunday and Summer School Principal, has designed a wonderful program for preschoolers. The curriculum includes Personal Development, Literacy Skills, Numbers and Math, and Art in addition to learning Islamic manners, dua's, Memorizing Qur'an, and Arabic.

The preschool is the first step to schooling and our goal is to build confidence in the students, get them acquainted with the educational environment, teach them good manners, and help them develop the concepts of sharing and charity. Students will receive a certificate at the end of the year marking their first memorable school year.

Children ages 3 to 5 from all cultures are welcome. The preschool program is from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM, Tuesday through Thursday, and the tuition per child is \$200 with a discount for siblings. For more information, please contact Sr. Souad at 248-872-2169. The school will, in sha Allah, start on Tuesday, September 14, 2021 and end on Thursday, May 26, 2022. IONA is committed to helping the community with their educational needs. Let us help you develop your child right from the start.

REGISTER ONLINE at IONAMASJID.ORG

September 2021						
Muharram - Safar 1443						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
			24	25	26	27
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
28	29	30	1st	2	3	4
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
26	27	28	29	30		
19	20	21	22	23		

IONA Islamic Bookstore

Qurans, Classic and Contemporary Islamic Books, CD's, DVD's, Children's Books and Educational Materials/Games, and more...

Titles in English, Urdu, and Arabic

New Business Hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday - 12 pm to 7 pm

Friday - 1 pm to 7 pm

Sunday - 2 pm to 6 pm

(Closed on Wednesdays and Saturdays)

Located at

IONA Center, 28630 Ryan Rd., Warren

586-558-6900

ionabookstore.com

bookstore@ionaonline.org





The Mosque - An Islamic Institution

We praise and thank Allah (SWT) for guiding us to Islam. Had it not been for His guidance, we would never have been guided. What could be a better place to glorify Allah, praise Him, thank Him, and remember Him other than in His house—the mosque (masjid). *“In houses which Allah has permitted to be built and in which His name is remembered, there are men who proclaim His glory morning and evening.”* (al-Nur, 24:36) It is only with the express permission of Allah (SWT) that any mosque is built.

The mosque plays a crucial role in the lives of Muslims. It is the heartbeat of the Muslim community. Without the mosque, the Muslim community is as good as dead. The mosque in reality is an institution that produces God conscious believers who lead their lives in compliance with the teachings of the Qur’an and the Sunnah.

A mosque built on the basis of piety (taqwa), solely for the purpose of worshipping and Allah (SWT) and for serving humanity (ibadah), will be blessed. The hypocrites among the Muslims in Medina built a mosque with the intention to create mischief and harm the true believers. It became known as Masjid al-Dirār (مسجد الضرار) (the mosque of harm). The sole intention behind building the mosque was to damage the cause of Islam and to cause harm to the Muslims. Allah (SWT) informed the Prophet (SAW) about their covert operation and evil designs. *“Then there are those who built a mosque—in an attempt to cause harm, disbelief, and disunity among the believers—as an outpost for those who fought God and His Messenger before: they swear, ‘Our intentions were nothing but good,’ but God bears witness that they are liars.”* (al-Taubah, 9:107) At the same time, Allah (SWT) forbade the Prophet (SAW) to pray in that mosque. *“Do not ever stand in it. A mosque founded on taqwa from the first day has a greater right for you to stand in it. In it there are men who love to purify themselves. Allah loves those who purify themselves.”* (al-Taubah, 9:108) A mosque where one does not find peace and tranquility rather finds

mischief, dissention, and wickedness is not a mosque built on taqwa.

We are constantly exposed to so many polluting thoughts and ideas that corrupt the minds and hearts of people—atheism, agnosticism, secularism, communism, capitalism, socialism, and the list goes on. All these man-made ideologies do affect the psyche, thinking, attitude, and behavior of people.

A mosque is a place where Muslims purify their thoughts and ideas through praying, reciting the Book of Allah, and participating in various programs tailored to meet the religious, intellectual, ethical, and moral needs of Muslims. The Prophet’s Mosque at Medina was established as a masjid cum Islamic Center, and catered to the worshipping as well as the learning needs of the believers. Many great companions of the Prophet (SAW) including the four righteous caliphs were graduates of this school. They shaped the world. The Prophet (SAW) not only led them in prayers but was their mentor (murabbi) in the true sense of the word, purifying their thoughts and actions and imparting wisdom to them; not only of the metaphysical world and the spiritual realm, but also of the temporal life. While imparting divine legislation, he (SAW) explained to them why we are Muslims, and why we do the things we do. *“It is He who raised a messenger, among the lettered people, to recite His revelations to them, to make them grow spiritually and teach them the Book, and earlier they had indeed been in manifest error.”* (al-Jumu’ah, 62:2)

Indeed, to have such an institution in the shape of a masjid is a favor (fadl) from Allah (SWT). *“Such is God’s favor. He grants it to whoever He will. God has endless bounty and knowledge.”* (al-Ma’idah, 5:54) It is in the masjid where believers engage themselves in numerous activities just to seek the pleasure of Allah (SWT). They offer their five daily prayers; purify their souls; break their fast and offer their tarawih prayers during Ramadan; collect zakah and sadaqah;



“In houses which Allah has permitted to be built and in which His name is remembered, there are men who proclaim His glory morning and evening.”

(al-Nur, 24:36)



Continues on page 6



Repentance

Revitalization of Faith

Renewal of Covenant

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Reflecting Upon the Hijrah (Migration) and Our Islamic New Year

Growing up, my family never "celebrated" the Islamic New Year per se, but my parents always reminded us when Muharram (the first month in the Islamic calendar) was beginning. Because my siblings and I were children of the '80s (yep, we're old!) – predating Islamic schools, Sunday Schools, Islamic curriculum and the million lectures, videos and articles that are out there for us to seek knowledge – we gained our religious knowledge from our parents.

So, yearly they would remind us of the Hijrah, or migration, of the Prophet Muhammad (saw) from Makkah to Madinah, and how our calendar stemmed from that. We were told what year it was, and then it would be life as usual after that.

Now I'm the parent, and that too of kids who are close to adulthood. And I've been thinking about the hype around December 31st and New Year's Eve, making resolutions and the proverbially throwing out of the old and ushering in the new. That's all fine, but it's the story of migration around our Islamic New Year that has imprinted itself on my heart.

Migration is literally "the movement of people from one permanent home to another. This movement changes the population of a place. International migration is the movement from one country to another. People who move into another country are called immigrants. The movement of people into a country is known as immigration."

With the Prophet Muhammad (saw)'s migration from his beloved home of Makkah to Madinah – where the Ansars greeted and welcomed him and helped Islam to grow within a safer space – there was a literal movement that affected profound change. And, this brought forth the dawn of a time so remarkable, important and profound that our calendar began from there.

It wasn't marked by the birth of someone or some major scientific big bang of a

phenomenon, but rather the migration of a nascent group of Muslims led by the Prophet of Islam to seek harbor, seek refuge, seek a place to live and flourish.

In the haunting poem "Home" by Somali-British poet Warsan Shire about the refugee/migration experience, she writes,

"no one leaves home until home is a sweaty voice in your ear saying-leave, run away from me now i don't know what i've become but i know that anywhere is safer than here"

And so I'm thinking of my father who migrated from India to the United States decades upon decades ago, after the Partition forever changed his family's lives and little opportunity and much danger was left for him in his home. And how life began again for him in Madison, Wisconsin.

I'm thinking about the Prophet Muhammad (saw), who fled his home where his life and the lives of his Muslim companions were threatened. And, he helped Muslims establish themselves in Madinah.

To migrate is to leave your home, because you can no longer live there, for something else. It is to start anew. Our Ummah started anew with the Hijrah. And now it is the year 1443 AH. While there is no fanfare and fireworks to usher in this new year, there should be the appreciation of the migration that started it all, and the resolve, Insha'Allah, to keep building a better home for all of us under the guidance of Allah (S).

I pray the coming year brings my family and yours safe health and happiness.

Courtesy of: <https://www.hautehijab.com/>





HIDDEN UNDER THE TONGUE-THE STORY OF TWO SLAVES

Once a king purchased 2 slaves. One of them was very handsome while the other was very ugly. The king asked the handsome slave to go and take a bath. While he was away the king turned to the other slave and said "Your companion has given a very bad account of you, he said that you are a thief and of bad character. Is this correct?"

The slave replied that his companion was a handsome person, and his exterior beauty must be reflected by inward beauty as well. He could not believe that such a beautiful man could tell a lie. He therefore said "If my companion has a bad opinion about me, there must certainly be something wrong with me. I am afraid he must be correct."

The king observed that beauty was only an Allah given gift, and it did not follow that a person who had a handsome face had a pure heart as well.

The king was greatly impressed with the character and intelligence of this slave. In the meantime, the first slave had returned from his bath.

The king sent the second slave (i.e. the ugly slave to have a bath) and in his absence told the handsome slave that his fellow slave

had given a bad account of him. On hearing this, the slave burst into invectives against his companion and said that he was a rascal and a liar.

The king thus came to the conclusion that the slave with a beautiful face had no inner worth while the slave with an ugly face had much inner worth.

The moral of the story is that beauty is only skin deep. All that glitters is not gold. "Every man is hidden under his own tongue" The tongue reveals the inner intelligence as well as inner vileness. "The safety of a man lies in holding his tongue"

Rasulullaah (s.a.w.s) said: " He who is silent is successful!"

Courtesy of : <https://islamcan.com/islamic-stories/chaos-in-a-restaurant.shtml>



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The Mosque - An Islamic Institution (continued)

establish brotherhood, run schools for children to teach them Qur'an, hadith, Arabic, Islamic morals and manners (akhlaq); hold classes for adults to reinforce their learning of the deen; assemble together to initiate and encourage volunteer community services, plan and engage in da'wah activities, participate in interfaith dialogues, build bridges with people of other faith traditions, educate non-Muslims about Islam and cooperate with them on issues of social justice. It is the masjid where complete social equality is practiced. The ruler and the ruled, the rich and the poor or the scholar and the unlettered are all equal when standing before Allah (SWT). In order to thrive and excel as a community, our masjid must emulate the Prophet's mosque and turn them into centers of learning. The Prophet's Mosque should be the template for all masjid in the world.

Just as the Qur'an lays down the condition that a masjid can only be built on the basis of taqwa, so also it lays out the criteria for people who can frequent them. *"The mosques of Allah should only be frequented by those who have iman in Allah and the Last Day and establish salat and pay zakat, and fear no one but Allah. They are the ones most likely to be guided."* (al-Taubah, 9:18)

Muslims who build masjid should be among those who follow Islam in letter and spirit, and fear none but Allah (SWT). They are not intimidated by anyone; not even the government or its agencies, when it comes to spreading the truth—the undiluted truth of the Qur'an and the Sunnah. In His Majestic style, Allah (SWT) says that they are the ones most likely to be guided, meaning that they will be the ones who will actually be guided.

We, at IONA, beg Allah (SWT) and hope that we are among those who qualify for guidance. Our *tawfiq* is only from Allah (SWT). This is what the prophets used to tell their people. *"I cannot succeed without God's help: I trust in Him, and always turn to Him."* (Hud, 11:88) At IONA Center, we try to work on the methodology and spirit of repelling evil with good. This is evidenced by the fact that our one time opponents, who were vehemently opposed to the establishment of our Center, in Warren, have become our dear friends. Now they know who we are. We have mutual respect for each other. By the grace of Allah (SWT), working with other clergy in the city among other community leaders, we were able to influence the Mayor and city officials to put an end to discrimination and prejudice. Ultimately in 2010, the City Council of Warren passed a unanimous resolution upholding the American core values of freedom, equality, and justice—those universal qualities, which do not discriminate on the basis

of religion, race, nationality, language and gender. These qualities are in fact integral to Islam's teachings and values.

Alhamdulillah, by Allah (SWT)'s blessing, the IONA Masjid and Learning Center was founded on taqwa, and Allah (SWT) is a witness to it.

May Allah (SWT) guide our hearts, give us tawfiq and gather us among the righteous who will be in the company of our beloved Prophet Muhammad (SAW). Ameen.

New Dawn Academy STEM Charter School Opening Fall 2021

We are now accepting applications for grades K-8!

New Dawn Academy, opening in the fall of 2021, is a new S.T.E.M school located at the corner of 14 mile and Van Dyke in Sterling Heights serving students in grades KG through 8th.

New Dawn Academy does not charge tuition

The New Dawn Academy is part of the EMAN family of schools, which are committed to providing equitable access to high quality STEM pathways for diverse children.

Feel free to contact us via email: enroll@newdawnacademy.net. We look forward to serving your students! starting September 2021!



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Jazaka Allah Khair!



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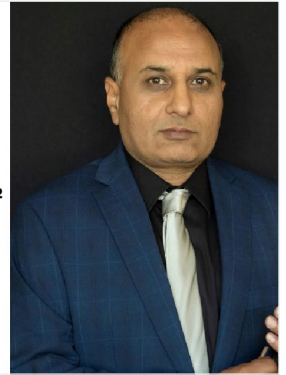
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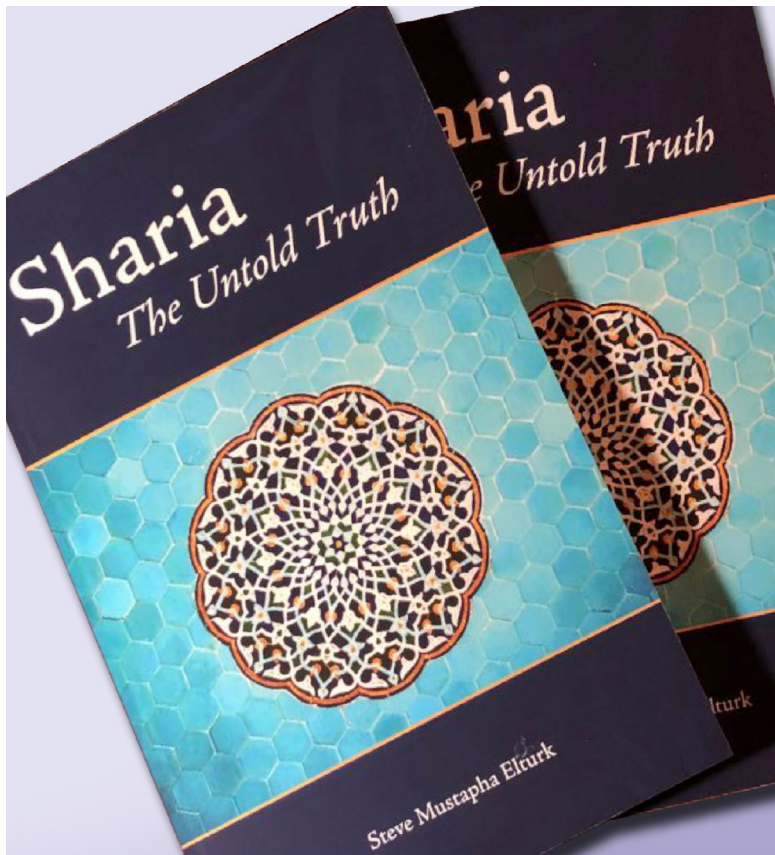
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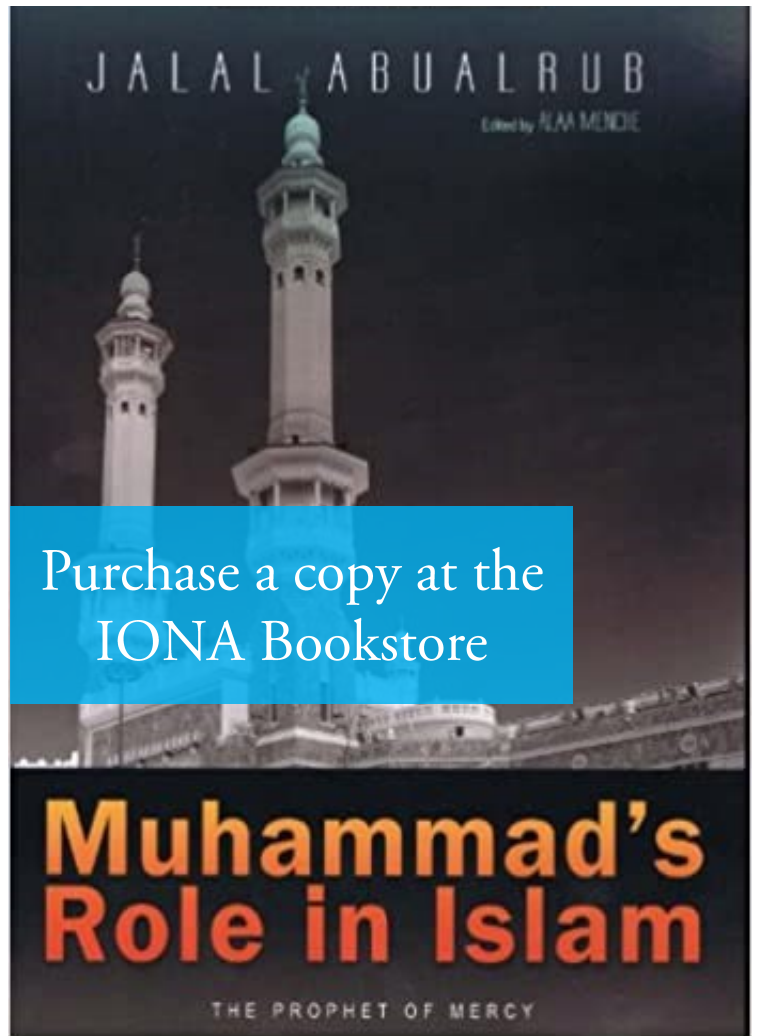
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**Muhammad's
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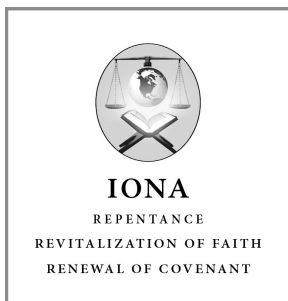
THE PROPHET OF MERCY

IONA Masjid - Salah and Iqama Timings for September 2021

DATE	Fajr	Iqama	Sunrise	Zuhr	Iqama	Asr (S)*	Asr (H)*	Iqama	Maghrib	Azan	Isha	Iqama
Wed 1	5:22	6:15	6:57	1:37	2:00	5:14	6:12	6:30	8:10	8:15	9:23	9:45
Thu 2	5:23	6:15	6:58	1:37	2:00	5:13	6:11	6:30	8:08	8:13	9:21	9:45
Fri 3	5:24	6:15	6:59	1:37	2:00	5:12	6:09	6:30	8:06	8:11	9:20	9:45
Sat 4	5:26	6:15	7:00	1:36	2:00	5:11	6:08	6:30	8:05	8:10	9:18	9:45
Sun 5	5:27	6:15	7:01	1:36	2:00	5:10	6:07	6:30	8:03	8:08	9:17	9:45
Mon 6	5:28	6:15	7:02	1:36	2:00	5:09	6:05	6:15	8:01	8:06	9:15	9:30
Tue 7	5:30	6:15	7:03	1:35	2:00	5:08	6:04	6:15	7:59	8:04	9:13	9:30
Wed 8	5:31	6:15	7:04	1:35	2:00	5:07	6:02	6:15	7:58	8:03	9:12	9:30
Thu 9	5:32	6:15	7:05	1:35	2:00	5:06	6:01	6:15	7:56	8:01	9:10	9:30
Fri 10	5:33	6:15	7:06	1:34	2:00	5:05	6:00	6:15	7:54	7:59	9:09	9:30
Sat 11	5:35	6:15	7:07	1:34	2:00	5:04	5:58	6:15	7:52	7:57	9:07	9:30
Sun 12	5:36	6:15	7:08	1:34	2:00	5:03	5:57	6:15	7:51	7:56	9:06	9:30
Mon 13	5:37	6:15	7:09	1:33	2:00	5:01	5:55	6:15	7:49	7:54	9:04	9:30
Tue 14	5:39	6:15	7:11	1:33	2:00	5:00	5:54	6:15	7:47	7:52	9:03	9:30
Wed 15	5:40	6:15	7:12	1:33	2:00	4:59	5:52	6:15	7:45	7:50	9:01	9:30
Thu 16	5:41	6:15	7:13	1:32	2:00	4:58	5:51	6:15	7:44	7:49	8:59	9:30
Fri 17	5:43	6:30	7:14	1:32	2:00	4:57	5:50	6:00	7:42	7:47	8:58	9:15
Sat 18	5:44	6:30	7:15	1:32	2:00	4:56	5:48	6:00	7:40	7:45	8:56	9:15
Sun 19	5:45	6:30	7:16	1:31	2:00	4:54	5:47	6:00	7:38	7:43	8:55	9:15
Mon 20	5:46	6:30	7:17	1:31	2:00	4:53	5:45	6:00	7:37	7:42	8:53	9:15
Tue 21	5:48	6:30	7:18	1:30	2:00	4:52	5:44	6:00	7:35	7:40	8:51	9:15
Wed 22	5:49	6:30	7:19	1:30	2:00	4:51	5:42	6:00	7:33	7:38	8:50	9:15
Thu 23	5:50	6:30	7:20	1:30	2:00	4:49	5:41	6:00	7:31	7:36	8:48	9:15
Fri 24	5:51	6:30	7:21	1:29	2:00	4:48	5:39	6:00	7:29	7:34	8:47	9:15
Sat 25	5:52	6:30	7:22	1:29	2:00	4:47	5:38	6:00	7:28	7:33	8:45	9:15
Sun 26	5:53	6:30	7:23	1:29	2:00	4:46	5:36	6:00	7:26	7:31	8:44	9:15
Mon 27	5:54	6:45	7:24	1:28	2:00	4:45	5:35	5:45	7:24	7:29	8:42	9:00
Tue 28	5:55	6:45	7:26	1:28	2:00	4:43	5:33	5:45	7:22	7:27	8:40	9:00
Wed 29	5:56	6:45	7:27	1:28	2:00	4:42	5:32	5:45	7:21	7:26	8:39	9:00
Thu 30	5:57	6:45	7:28	1:27	2:00	4:41	5:30	5:45	7:19	7:24	8:37	9:00
Fri 1	5:58	6:45	7:29	1:27	2:00	4:39	5:28	5:45	7:17	7:23	8:36	9:00
Sat 2	5:59	6:45	7:30	1:27	2:00	4:38	5:27	5:45	7:15	7:20	8:34	9:00

* S = Shafi'i, H = Hanafi

Join us LIVE on YouTube for Friday Sermons at 12:10 PM and 1:30 PM



IONA's objective is to help the Muslims of North America understand and fulfill their divinely ordained obligations, in order to please Allah (SWT) and thereby achieve success and salvation in the Hereafter. The aim is to seek the forgiveness and mercy of Allah (SWT) in the hereafter.

On the basis of the best scholarly understandings of the *Qur'an* and the *Sunnah* IONA has recognized that our divinely ordained obligations are as follows:

- (1) the cultivation of a strong and authentic faith;
- (2) the loving and sincere obedience to the will of Allah (SWT);
- (3) calling all of humankind towards Islam in the most beautiful and convincing way; and,
- (4) engaging in the struggle to establish social, political, and economic justice.