SHO'AH MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR CHRISTIANS AND ALL PEOPLE OF COMPASSION TO REMEMBER 1933-1945



Detail from the Warsaw Ghetto Memorial at Yad Vashem.

This Memorial Service is an initiative of THE COUNCIL OF CHRISTIANS AND JEWS (New South Wales) INC.

The altar is dressed in black and white: black for the darkness of the Sho'ah, the catastrophic tempest which blew six million Jews to their death during the years of the Nazi regime, from 1933–1945; white for the Jewish liturgical colour of holiness and atonement. A yellow Star of David attached to the black drape calls to mind the command of Hitler that all Jews must wear this badge on their outer garments.

Nine candles will be placed on the altar: six will burn for the six million Jews who died; one will burn for the non-Jews who lost their lives during those years; and the eighth candle will honour the righteous gentiles, who, in those desolate, dark days, risked their lives for the sake of their Jewish neighbours. Towards the end of the service a ninth candle will be placed on the altar to declare that never again must there be Sho'ah.