

First Rabbis Ordained in Germany Since 1942

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Rabbi Walter Jacob of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, U.S.A., a German émigré and the President of the college, presided over the ordination, which followed the candidates' graduation the previous day. Baroness Julia Neuberger, a British rabbi and member of the House of Lords, delivered the graduation [address](#). Rabbi Walter Homolka, Principal of Geiger College, joined Rabbi Jacob in conducting the ordination. Greetings were also offered by Rabbi Dr. Alfred Gottschalk, Chancellor Emeritus of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, U.S.A., and also a child survivor of the Holocaust.

The three ordinands include Daniel Alter, who will serve congregations in Delmenhorst and Oldenburg, Germany; Tomás Kučera, who will serve Munich's Congregation Beth Shalom as well as the Progressive community in Prague; and Malcolm Matitiani, who will return to his homeland, South Africa, to serve as a rabbi at Temple Israel in Cape Town. All three candidates completed congregational internships as well as their academic studies.

Rabbi Andrew Goldstein of Northwood & Pinner Liberal Synagogue in Middlesex, U.K.,

commenting on the event in a [sermon](#) preached just after returning from the ordination ceremony, stated: "We were witnessing a miracle indeed in which the past glory of German Jewry was being linked to a new future."

From press releases and news reports

[Further information](#)