

OC GUIDE TO PREPARING FOR PESACH



PASSOVER PRODUCTS: Extra care and consideration should be taken in selecting food products for Passover. There is a wide range and variety of Kosher food products for Passover that are made under reliable Rabbinic supervision. In case of doubt, please do not use any product until you have consulted the Rabbi.

SELLING OF CHAMETZ: Ownership of Chametz is PROHIBITED during the Passover Holiday, and Chametz that is not disposed of PRIOR to Passover cannot be used after the Passover Holiday. Consequently, all Chametz that has not been consumed or disposed of should be stored away and its ownership transferred through contractual sale to a non-Jew. The Rabbi, who acts as the authorized agent for the Congregation, will be available at the Synagogue from Sunday, April 7th until the Thursday evening before Pesach, April 18th. The Rabbi will be available in the morning after Shacharit, in the afternoon after Mincha, and on Sundays April 7 and 14 at Orach Chaim. It is preferable that such authorization be done in person. If you are unable to come in person, you can arrange for the sale of your Chametz by completing the form below. The form should be mailed, emailed or hand delivered by Thursday, April 18th. Those selling Chametz with Orach Chaim should allow Rabbi Skydell approximately one hour after Pesach is over Saturday night, April 27th, to re-purchase all sold.

MAOT CHITTIM APPEAL: The onset of our preparations for Pesach makes us aware of the many families who need our assistance at this time of year. Please respond generously to our annual Maot Chittim Appeal for the benefit of individuals, families and institutions who turn to our Synagogue for support. You can contribute online at <https://www.orachchaim.org/payment.php> or make your check payable to "Orach Chaim Welfare Fund". This is an ideal way to perform this important and rewarding mitzvah. Please send your contribution as soon as possible so that the monies can be allocated in sufficient time before the Passover holiday.

KASHERING OF UTENSILS: Certain types of utensils such as metal trays, cups, silverware, etc., can be Kashered. The method of Kashering of such utensils depends on the manner of their usage during the year. Kashering will be done on **Sunday, April 14 from 9:00am - 12:00pm and on Monday, April 15 from 6:00pm - 9:00pm** at Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun, 125 East 85th Street (whom we thank for their hospitality). Please remember that all items you wish to Kasher must be washed and scoured at least 24 hours prior to Kashering and cannot be used during this period.

BEDIKAT CHAMETZ - SEARCH FOR CHAMETZ: The search for Chametz in the home is to be done on **Thursday Evening, April 18th, immediately after 7:38 P.M.** The Chametz which is found during the careful search is to be set aside until it is burned Friday Morning, March 30th. The Bracha-Prayer to be recited prior to the search and the Kol Chamira declaration following the search can be found in your Passover Haggadah.

SIYUM BECHORIM - FRIDAY, APRIL 19: It is customary for all first born sons to fast before Passover in recognition of the miracle of the saving of the Bechorim of the children of Israel during the plague of the firstborn in Egypt on the night of Passover. It is an accepted and long standing custom that attendance at a festive ceremony such as a "Siyum" - conclusion of a Tractate of the Talmud - permits the bechorim to partake of the festive meal-Seudat Mitzvah-and absolves them from fasting on this day. The traditional Siyum will be held following morning services on Friday morning, March 30th at 6:45 AM.

EATING OF CHAMETZ - FRIDAY MORNING, APRIL 19: Chametz may be eaten until 4 hours after sunrise (10:39).

BURNING OF CHAMETZ - FRIDAY MORNING, APRIL 19: All remaining Chametz as well as the Chametz set aside following the Bedikat Chametz of Thursday evening April 18th is to be burned before 5 hours after sunrise (11:47). The Kol Chamira declaration is recited again at this time.

For any Pesach related inquiries, Rabbi Skydell can be reached at rabbiskydell@orachchaim.org.

AUTHORIZATION TO SELL CHAMETZ

I hereby appoint Rabbi Benjamin Skydell, of Congregation Orach Chaim, to serve as my Shaliach (agent) and empower him (or any agent acting on his behalf) to sell Chametz which may be in my possession wherever these items may be, whether in my home, in my place of business or elsewhere. The term Chametz is to be understood according to the Rabbinic definition of leaven and is to include every such kind of food or liquid in separate or mixed form. This sale is to be concluded in accordance with all the requirements of Jewish Law and the details of the general authorization contract which the aforementioned Rabbi will execute. This authorization is legalized by my signature.

Date: _____ Approximate value of Chametz: \$ _____
Name: _____
Address: _____ Apt No.: _____
Signature: _____ I/We will be in Israel/Europe/Far East on Thursday,
April 18th .

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$ _____ made payable to the Orach Chaim Welfare Fund for the Maot Chitim Appeal.

Kindly Mail, E-Mail to office@orachchaim.org or hand deliver for arrival by Thursday evening, April 18th to:
Rabbi Skydell c/o Cong. Orach Chaim 1459 Lexington Avenue New York , NY 10128