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70 Sterling Place
Teaneck, NJ 07666
Phone: 201-833-0515
www.jcot.org

בס"ד

March 17, 2020

Dear Friends,

Chaya and I continue to think of each one of you and your families. We know these are trying days, especially for those home alone, and for those trying to manage with small children as well.

Let's please keep the name Malka Idis bat Rivkah in our tefillot, a sister of one of our members who is hospitalized with COVID-19 right now.

New Community Project: *Haggadat Mah Nishtanah*

This year, our Pesach experience will surely be different. We're launching a shul wide project called *Haggadat Mah Nishtanah*, which will be a companion for everyone for the Sedarim this year. We call upon each family to submit one or multiple Divrei Torah, reflections, pieces of children's art to office@jcot.org to be compiled for this unique work documenting our experience as a community this Yom Tov season.

For children's art, a picture can be taken and sent to the office via email. This Seder companion will be produced digitally, and, if possible, in print as well.

We hope these Divrei Torah, reflections, and works of art will enable us to more meaningful experience the essence of the mitzvah of Sippur Yetziat Mitzrayim, which is to imagine ourselves liberated from enslavement. I believe that this year we have a unique opportunity to come closer than ever before to understanding what it means to deal with vulnerability, uncertainty, and trusting that redemption will, in His good time, come to us all.

Pesach Food and Ma'ot Chittin

Please email Elanna at office@jcot.org regarding ordering food for Pesach through our partnership with Glatt Express.

This all inclusive package will cover:

- All Essentials for Both Sedarim, Including One Large Bottle of Grape Juice, and One Box of Shmurah Matzah
- Prepared Meals for Sedarim
- 2 Frozen Meals **Per Person Per Day** for the Rest for of the Chag
- Free Delivery

The base cost **per person** is \$330 for the entire Chag.

- For each additional pound of shmura matzah, add \$30.
- For each additional box of machine made matzah, add \$3.50
- For each additional large Grape Juice, add \$6.

Orders must be sent into shul office at office@jcot.org by Monday, March 29th.

Please specify if you need Light Grape Juice/Sugar Free Meals.

Even after one day, it has become clear that this was an absolute necessity. I thank Dani Secemski for his constant willingness to help care for the members of our community, and Elanna Reiss in our office for masterfully handling the orders. For those who are interested in simply ordering ingredients, you can go to glattexpress@gmail.com.

All of our Ma'ot Chittin funds (please click [here](#) to donate) will go towards supporting the elderly and homebound in our community who will be in need of Pesach food.

JCOT Chessed Update

I wanted to thank everyone from the JCOT Chessed group. The calls and shopping for elderly members keeps them safe. If anyone is planning on going shopping (remember, guidelines are one per family), and thinks they might be able to get a few items for those in need, please join the JCOT Chessed WhatsApp group (<https://chat.whatsapp.com/HgONuwdqwuvAhxEn5Gke3i>) and let Coordinator Debbie Cohen Mlotek know that you are available to help out.

The best practice upon delivery is to simply leave the items outside the door. If that's not possible, then to have the person open the door for you and then have them stay six feet away. The key is to protect our elderly from exposure.

JCOT Family Update

Thank you to all those who continue to post family updates on JCOT Family WhatsApp. It's a great way to keep in touch, and share how people are using the time well.

We will have new content posted every single day by our Youth Director Shevy Chait, and our Shlichei Beit HaKnesset, Boaz and Raz Ben

Chorin. To join the group, please click here

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/FM6a2aS20hs5MwOcZHGa1l>.

Davening Updates

Sunrise tomorrow is at 7:02. Please remember to add Avinu Malkeinu to Shacharit.

We will continue to daven mincha and maariv together by Zoom starting at 6:50, with our learning between Mincha and Maariv at 7. It has been very meaningful to continue to daven and learn together. The Zoom ID is 484 416 0645, and the call number is 1-646-876-9923.

Kaddish

We are deeply grateful to Rabbi Daniel Roselaar and Kehillat Alei Tzion in Hendon, London UK for hosting our kaddish these last few days. Minyanim in the United Kingdom have been suspended by the National Health Service as of tonight. I have transferred kaddish to an approved minyan in Israel, at Yeshivat HaKotel. We are deeply grateful to them for their service. For anyone with an upcoming yearzeit, please email me directly with the date and name of your relative.

JCOT Torah Updates

Join JCOT Torah at

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/GPxU0XVWzqEJTCA9WLA0iW> for daily installments of Tehillim MiMa'amakim and Laws of Pesach.

Yoetzet on COVID-19 and Mikvah

Our outstanding Yoetzet Halacha Tova Warburg Sinensky will be leading an information session on Mikvah and COVID-19 on Thursday at 9 PM. <https://zoom.us/j/4653630025> or call in +1 929 205 6099. The Mikvah continues to be safely open and has met all of the rigorous standards of compliance with health guidelines. We are deeply grateful to Mikvah President Nomi Rotblat and the entire Mikvah staff for their exceptional dedication. *Please remember that Yoetzet events are for women only unless otherwise indicated.*

Health

Please remember to keep up the exercise, healthy eating, and getting fresh air, even while avoiding any gathering in groups. While it's very hard, it's imperative that we continue to avoid playdates for kids across families, or any other form of social interaction.

As you know, Bergen County Executive James Tedesco has issued an Executive Order (2020-1B) which prohibits gathering of more than four people, including family members, in any public spaces. In addition, there is a curfew against public activities from 8 PM-7AM. **Once again, the mikvah remains open.**

In Conclusion....

Keep on calling our elderly members.

Please contribute to Ma'ot Chittin.

Let us know if you need or know anyone who would like Pesach food delivered.

Please do not hesitate to reach out.

We're getting through this together.

Warmly,
Daniel Fridman, Rabbi
Uri Horowitz, President