



A reminder of miracles

This week's Parasha, Bo, is the third of the Book of Exodus, bringing us to the climactic encounter between God and Pharaoh. There is a pause in the narrative of the plagues for the first Passover Celebration to take place. In this short diversion, we learn a few things about Passover.

First, the name, as God passes over the houses of the Israelites and only kills the first born of the Egyptians.

Second, these sequences of stories, beginning two weeks ago and continuing on for another two weeks, form the basis of the story of Passover, which we recite at the Seder. One question could be, why doesn't this narrative fall during the celebration of Passover? The rabbis were usually very careful about which readings fall when, making sure that certain passages reflect the time of year. It would seem not to be the case here. Also, why not simply include a short recitation of the story at the Seder? We've read it now and gone into a lot of detail of the signs and wonders that God brings; staffs turning into snakes, ten plagues, splitting of the Red Sea and the revelation at Mount Sinai. To quote the song, *dayanu!*, wouldn't it have been enough?

As the rabbis are fond of teaching about the Torah, no word is superfluous – each has a meaning. So, what is the meaning here? I believe it goes beyond the simple surface reading (*p'shat*) of God convincing the Israelites and Egyptians of God's awesome power. By infusing this story with multiple miracles, they become ingrained in the narrative. The story simply does not flow or even exist without the miracles. As they become a part of the story, it could be easy to either downgrade their importance or worse, become numb to them. By reciting the story every year, we are reminded of the power and astounding awe of God, and the miracles God brought.

In our lives, we are surrounded by miracles each and every day. Passover reminds us that they exist, but we need something a little closer to home so we can live them. Shabbat is just such an opportunity. By forcing ourselves to take a pause out of our days, we live the experience of the miracle of creation each and every week. By pausing and simply being on Shabbat, we see the world for what it really is, not what we are trying to make it. We cannot become numb to the miracle when we have no choice but to appreciate it. Shabbat then becomes so much more than a reminder (as Passover is), but a living testament to the marvel of the world around us.

I pray this Shabbat that we all take the time to simply be and appreciate the miracle of life all around us.

Shabbat Shalom,

Rabbi Rafi Kaiserblueth

Next Renewal Kabbalah Shabbat

Friday 9 February 6:15pm with Cantor George Mordecai and Rabbi Orna Triguboff in Neuweg Sanctuary

MAZAL TOV
to **Blake Wright**
on his **Bar Mitzvah**
(*Main Sanctuary*)

CANDLE LIGHTING

Friday 7:50pm
Saturday 8:49pm

TORAH

Exodus 10:1 - 13:16
(*page 374*)

HAFTARAH

Jeremiah 46:13 - 46:28
(*page 395*)

SHABBAT SERVICES

Erev Shabbat

- 6:15pm - Pluralist Service
(*Neuweg Sanctuary*)
- 6:15pm
Netzer
Shabbat Service
- February 2nd
Shabbat Live returns
with special guest,
Cantor George
Mordecai

Shabbat Morning

- 9:00am - Masorti service
(*Neuweg Sanctuary*)
- 10:00am -
Progressive service
(*Main Sanctuary*)

MORNING

MINYAN

- Please note:
Morning Minyan
will resume on Jan
29, 2018.

KEEP THE DATE

February 28 - Purim
- Megillah reading
and Purim Spiel!



Rabbi Jeffrey B. Kamins OAM
Arno & Hella Seefeldt Rabbinic Chair



Rabbi Jacqueline Ninio



Rabbi Dr Orna Triguboff



Rabbi Rafi Kaiserblueth



Rev. Sam Zwarenstein
Director of Communal Engagement



A TASTE OF HUMMUS & CO

with chef Michael Rantissi

Wednesday 21 February 2018, from 7pm
Emanuel Synagogue

Join Michael Rantissi, chef from the renowned Sydney restaurant **Kepos Street Kitchen** for a demonstration of some recipes from his new cookbook, 'Hummus & Co', (which he co-wrote with Kristy Frawley the co-owner of Kepos St Kitchen).

Tickets: just \$60 A percentage of profits will go to OzHarvest.
Book now: <https://tinyurl.com/hummusco>

80th Anniversary: Memories of Emanuel Synagogue

An exhibition celebrating 80 years of Emanuel

Have you celebrated a birth, bar/bat mitzvah, wedding or other occasion at Emanuel Synagogue? We are creating an exhibition of photographs to celebrate our synagogue, the people and stories within our community and we need your help.

Please send us photos of life and lifecycle events at Emanuel.

Scan and send your photos together with a few sentences explaining the photos and send it to 80years@emanuel.org.au

Renewal Shabbat Service

with special guest Cantor George Mordecai

Friday 9 February 2018 at 6:15pm in the Neuweg Sanctuary.

Followed by a pot luck dinner and then music and meditation.

Our Jewish Story: Our Land, Our People

Monday from 10:00am-11:30am

Monday January 22 from 10:00am-11:30am

Rabbi Kamins explores contemporary issues facing Israel

Monday January 22 from 10:00am-11:30am

The fight you don't see or hear - saving Syrian children

with guest presenter, **Professor Mary-Louise McLaws** outlining Ziv Hospital's activities saving children from horrendous war wounds and psychological ill health.

WHAT'S ON

Netzer Shabbat Service 19 January from 6:15pm - 7:15pm

Netzer invites you to share a dynamic, creative and musical Kabbalat Shabbat service designed especially for children. Parents and grandparents welcome!

Harbourview Australia Day Dinner - 26 January at 7:30pm

This young adult event is held in a private home. For more info contact us at 0458 130 321.

Shabbat Tot - Friday February 2nd from 4:30pm-5:30pm

A lovely way to introduce your children to Shabbat and an opportunity to meet other families in the community. For 2 to 5 year olds. Parents and grandparents welcome!

Kef Kids - Fridays from 4:00pm-5:30pm (returns on February 2nd)

Educational program for children in years K-5 - an exciting, fun way for kids to connect with Judaism and their community, learn and form friendships with children in the congregation.

The World Wide Wrap is back - Sunday February 4 from 9:00am

Join with our people. Participate in the Mitzvah. Experience the Wonder & Joy of Tefillin. There'll be extra sets and personal tefillin trainers to help you through the process. Afterwards, please join us for a delicious bagel breakfast and learning session. Male or female, first timers or old hands - join us and be a part of this lovely experience.

Kabbalah Meditation Tuesday evenings 7:30-8:30pm starting February 13th for 4 weeks
Learn techniques to improve your focus, ability to relax and enjoy spiritual community.

followed by

Kabbalah Text Study Tuesday evenings 8:30-9:30pm

Taught by Rabbi Dr. Orna Triguboff, who has a Ph.D. in Kabbalah studies.

Book now at www.emmanuel.org.au

Give us a term and we'll give you Hebrew

This year, we are introducing weekly **Beginners Hebrew and Intermediate Hebrew classes** on Monday evenings from 5 February 2018, 6-7pm. In just one term we will open the world of reading a Hebrew prayerbook for you! Your commitment is just one hour a week and 10-15 minutes practice a day. Registrations are essential and are open now at <https://tinyurl.com/beginhebrew> and <https://tinyurl.com/advhebrew>

JOURNEY IN JUDAISM

Starting February 4, every Sunday morning of school term, we are introducing a new and exciting program to broaden your horizons and build on your journey in Judaism.

You can partake in any one of the three parts of the journey, or all of it. From **9:00-9:45am** we will have an **informal learner's minyan** to help you understand the pattern and meaning of Jewish prayer. From **9:45am** we will be having **light brunch**. From **10:00-11:00am** we conclude our journey with meaningful learning led by one of our clergy team on an exciting topic.

Do you need help in dealing with bereavement?

Experience has shown that bereavement support can often offer individuals appropriate care in their time of need. Jacky Gerald, who has experience in this field, will be facilitating a number of one-hour group sessions on Monday evenings for those seeking help in dealing with bereavement.

As these sessions will be held off-site (in the CBD) registration will be required.

The next group is on **Monday 5 February**; please contact us by e-mail info@emmanuel.org.au or call 9389 6444 and information on the sessions will be sent to you.

IN MEMORY

There are mourners in our community to whom we extend our sincerest sympathies on the death of their loved ones.

Shiva: Bernard (Bernie) Hirst, Nadine (Deanna) Ryner, Nina Crown

Shloshim: Ruth Kedzier, Edward Strasser, Frederick Feldman, Joel Hess, Norma Brender, Ivan Fedor

This week we observe the Yahrzeits of (observed by):

* Memorial Light

* **David Abbott** (Coral Lawrence)
* **Abraham Abrahams**
Sophie Barold (Gerard Barold)
* **Gina Benjamin** (Susan Benjamin)
Julian Block (David Block, Rosie Block)
David Carpenter (Dinah Danon)
Barry Cashman-Laws
(Mary-Louise McLaws)
Betty Clark (Rachael Clark)
Hannah Cohen Levi (Amnon Levy)
Melvin S. Cooper (John Cooper)
Michael Coppel (Ronald Coppel)
* **Albert Abraham Coppleson**
Esther Davis (Richard Davis)
Jack Dryen (Sonia Davis)
Herta Ehrlich (Ron Ehrlich)
Bernard Ferster (Renee Ferster Levy)
Katherine Gal (John Gal)
Louis Gilray (Noelene Gilray)
Fawzy Habib (Bernadette Crain)
Yaakov David Herczog (Ian Penn)
Desider Hosek (Valerie Hosek)
Richard Immergluck (Yvonne Perczuk)
Jessie Kerlander (Steve Kerlander)
Esther Klein (Amy Klein, Ricky Klein)
Rachil Kremer (Edward Kremer)
Fay Lawrence (Yittah Lawrence)
Leon Lehrer (Carolyn Crawford,
Gus Lehrer)
Hannah Levy (Beverley Adcock)
Fanny Linker (Maurice Linker)
Zislya Lyubarsky (Regina Shusterman)
Jeffrey Mendick (Mark Roeder)

* **Sarah Nassau** (Dianne Nassau)
Benny Norman (Donna Moses)
Lola Penn (Ian Penn)
Margarette Pollak (Esther Simons)
Alexander Rabin (Milly Goldman
and family)
Sonia Rabin (Milly Goldman
and family)
Kato Reich (Victoria Reich)
Ludwig Reiss (Elizabeth Parker)
* **Otto Clyde Rheuben** (Scott Whitmont,
Steph Whitmont)
Dorian Ritterman (Fritzi Ritterman)
Alexander Roby (Patricia Roby)
Stanislaus Henryk Sharota
(Dorian Sharota)
Joav Slonimsky (Reeva Schindler)
Serafim (Jim) Tsintsof (Antoinette Doctor)
Lutz Hans Wertheim (Viola Wertheim)
Samuel Wingerin (Bess Arenson,
Elana Leigh, Belinda Levy)
Felix Wirth (Henry Wirth)
Sylvia Zamel (Maurice Zamel)
* **Ernst Zweig** (Evelyn Krieger, Anita Zweig)

Shoah remembrance: Alfred Trost was born in 1889 in Hodonin, Czechoslovakia and lived in Moravska Ostrava, Czechoslovakia until he was murdered during the Holocaust.