



## Facing Pharaoh

The opening verse of Parshat Bo sets the stage for the drama of Moses 'stepping into his power', becoming the leader of an oppressed people whom he gradually forges into a nation: 'And the Lord said to Moses: "Go/come in to Pharaoh; for I have hardened his heart and the heart of his servants, that I might show them My signs."' (Exodus 10:1). Moses realises that before he can assume leadership of his people he must face Pharaoh.

Last year a group of us formed a circle in Emanuel Synagogue's Neuweg sanctuary every third Shabbat morning to focus on this verse. We studied Rabbi Nahman's teaching, where he sees Moses and Pharaoh not so much as individuals but as archetypes. Rabbi Nahman bases his teaching on the Lurianic cosmogenic narrative, where Isaac Luria taught that in the beginning God desired to create the universe in order to be known as *rahum v'hanun*, gracious and compassionate.

It was important for God to have Creation reflect these divine attributes. In order to manifest Creation, God had to engage in *tzim tzum*, divine concealment, in order to allow space for Creation. A *hallal panuee*, vacant space, was formed, where Creation could manifest. The problem with this vacant space is not that it is an evil place but the lack of divine

light resulting in God's concealment means that in this space we see reality in binaries, such as good/evil, black/white ...

Through a series of linguistic associations Rabbi Nahman sees the *hallal* and Pharaoh as synonymous. It is a very profound teaching. From Rabbi Nahman's perspective the *hallal*/Pharaoh is a very dark and confusing place, where all of Creation is lost in the illusion of duality. It is a place where darkness clouds our judgment, a place where it is difficult to find the Divine. However, God needs the *hallal*/Pharaoh in order continuously to manifest Creation. So, Pharaoh is a necessary stage—a stage that all of us as created beings have to pass through. We all have Pharaoh within us, in our DNA, but if we can embody the attributes of Moses—who enters the *hallal* Pharaoh and rescues all the lost souls there—then we are able to find God in the *hallal*/Pharaoh, thereby liberating ourselves from the pull of the Pharaoh. In doing so we also infuse Pharaoh with holiness, softening the 'hardness' of Pharaoh's heart with *rahum v'hanun*, Divine grace and compassion.

Rabbi Nahman's interpretation of the first verse in this week's parasha

*continued over...*

*Thank you to Claire Sexton & Ian Steigrad for sponsoring the Progressive kiddush and the Glass family for sponsoring the Masorti kiddush.*

## MAZAL TOV

**Caleb Winch & Rebecca Stern** on the **naming** of the son **Asher**  
(*New Sanctuary*)

**Eliora Glass** on her **Bat Mitzvah**  
(*New Sanctuary*)

**Orly Mizrahi-Lifschitz & Adam Lifschitz** on the **naming** of their daughter, **Gavriella**

**Harry Steigrad** on his **Bar Mitzvah**  
(*Heritage Sanctuary*)

## CANDLE LIGHTING

Friday 7:43pm

Saturday 8:19pm

**TORAH** (*page 351*)

Exodus 10:1 - 13:16

**HAFTARAH** (*page 369*)

Jeremiah 46:13 - 46:28

## SHABBAT SERVICES

### Erev Shabbat

- 6:15pm *Shabbat Live* service  
(*New Sanctuary*)
- 6:15pm Masorti service  
(*Neuweg*)

### Shabbat Morning

- 9:00am -  
Masorti service  
(*New Sanctuary*)
- 10:00am -  
Progressive service  
(*Heritage Sanctuary*)

might appear esoteric, but the core of this teaching is deeply insightful about our condition as modern human beings. We may liberate ourselves—neutralising the oppressor within—if we can embody the qualities of Moses. These qualities are patience, humility and the ability to see the transcendent face of the Divine in the natural world, realising that freedom is only truly achieved when we are in true relationship with another being, for it is through this service to the ‘other’ that the Divine is manifest in our world.

Rabbi Nahman uses the opening verse of this week’s parasha—“Go/come in to Pharaoh”—as a guide for an alchemical process by which we achieve true inner liberation. This inner work is essential for all of us to participate in for without it we cannot be true agents for social justice in our world. History is full of examples of people and movements who strove for social justice and equality but became more oppressive than the systems and tyrants that they struggled to replace. We cannot hope to be agents for true and lasting change in our world without first transforming our hearts from that of Pharaoh’s to a heart full of compassion and lovingkindness.

*Shabbat Shalom,*

Cantor George Mordecai

## **IN CONVERSATION WITH IAN ANDERSON AO & ROBERT GRIEW**

**February 2nd from  
5:00pm to 6:30pm**

### **What can our community do to support reconciliation & recognition?**

*Two men, from very different walks of life have developed a friendship through a common cause - helping to transform our society, particularly through the health and education sectors. As we continue to work for justice for the First Nations, come learn from two leaders who have brought about change about the difference we can make.*

**Professor Ian Anderson** was one of the group of three first Aboriginal medical graduates in Australia, had a career as a doctor and administrator in Aboriginal controlled health services. He is currently the Deputy CEO of the National Indigenous Australians Agency in the Commonwealth Government, making him the most senior Indigenous public servant in the federal government.

**Robert Griew** is a management consultant, working mostly on health, education and Indigenous assignments.

**Book now:**

[www.emanuel.org.au/event/reconciliation](http://www.emanuel.org.au/event/reconciliation)

## **PROGRAMMES FOR CHILDREN**

### **JBaby**

for parents of 0-2 year old and their babies  
Every Friday from February 14 - 9:00am-10:30am  
Enjoy socialising, entertainment and refreshments with activities for children.

Register: [www.emanuel.org.au/mumsbubs](http://www.emanuel.org.au/mumsbubs)

### **Shabbat Tot**

for 2-5 year olds

The first Friday of every month, 4:30pm - 5:30pm  
Returns Friday February 7th

A lovely way to introduce your children to Shabbat and to meet other families in the community.

### **Kef Kids**

For kids in K-5

Our weekly Kef Kids program returns on 6 February, 4:00pm - 5:30 pm. We have a revamped curriculum and an all-star team of educators excited to meet you and your children. At Kef Kids, we offer Jewish ideas, practices, culture and Hebrew skills taught through games, conversation and hands-on activities.

### **Bnei Mitzvah**

Our weekly Bnei Mitzvah education program returns on 6 February, 4:00pm-5:30 pm. We've been hard at work updating our curriculum to better offer comprehensive B'Mitzvah preparation for your children using use games, discussions, story-telling, and collaboration. Our program covers topics such as Jewish Values and Me, Jewish Leaders and Role Models as well as Israel and Zionism.

**More information:** Donny Janks at  
[donny@emanuel.org.au](mailto:donny@emanuel.org.au)

# WHAT'S ON

## **Conversations about Israel - Monday 10:00am to 11:30am**

Every Monday, join Rabbi Jeffrey Kamins or guest speakers to examine the complex issues facing contemporary Israel. 3 February 2020 Rabbi Kamins on "The Deal of the Century".

## **Morning Minyan - Mondays and Thursdays at 6:45am (*Neuweg*)**

Come along each week for an intimate prayer service, a beautiful way to begin the day with intention and reflection.

## **Lunch 'n' Learn - 8 February 2020**

Join us on the second Saturday morning of each month following Shabbat services. On February 8, Rabbi Kamins will present on *Judaism and the Environment*.

## **Hebrew classes - Beginners and Intermediate start February 3rd from 6:00pm-7:00pm**

Give us one hour on a Monday and ten minutes a day and you will be able to read Hebrew!

Register: Beginner: [www.emanuel.org.au/event/begin-hebrew-2020](http://www.emanuel.org.au/event/begin-hebrew-2020) and

Intermediate: [www.emanuel.org.au/event/inter-hebrew-2020](http://www.emanuel.org.au/event/inter-hebrew-2020)

## **Tu' Bishvat - Celebrate Nature - Sunday 9th February from 4:00pm**

A chance to celebrate with all ages for the festival of trees and environment at the Botanical Gardens [www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=594541&](http://www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=594541&)

## ***The Lost Princess* returns February 13th from 7:15pm**

Join Cantor George Mordecai for a study of *The Lost Princess*, a deeply insightful story from Rabbi Nahman, incorporating music and meditation.

## **Learn Torah Trope - Monday evenings starting February 17th from 6:15pm**

We are offering weekly classes in reading torah trope. Haftarah from 6:15pm- 7:15pm, Torah from 7.30pm- 8.15pm Registrations are essential: [www.emanuel.org.au/event/torah-trope](http://www.emanuel.org.au/event/torah-trope)

## **Shabbat in The Circle - returns Saturday, 15 February, 2020 from 10:00am**

Join us each month for a special Shabbat morning gathering, *Shabbat In the Circle*.

## **Jewnatal - Monthly from 16 February from 12:00noon**

Preparation for birth in a Jewish context. Calling all expecting couples, regardless of whether this is your first, second or more! Please call the office on 9389 6444 for details of this program.

## **HEALTH BRUNCH DEALING WITH ANXIETY & DEPRESSION**

**23 February 2020**

**from 10:30am to 12:00 noon**

Join us for the first in our series of brunches on issues of concern regarding our health.

Our first speaker is **Dr Michela Sorensen** (B.Med, FRACGP) a General Practitioner specialising in Mental Health. Michela believes that mental illness is one of the biggest health issues faced by society today. In any one year, around 1 million Australian adults have depression, and over 2 million experience anxiety.

Register: [www.emanuel.org.au/event/health-brunch1](http://www.emanuel.org.au/event/health-brunch1)

## **SHELOSHIM SERVICE FOR RABBI BRIAN FOX**

Prayer service followed by a celebration of Rabbi Fox's life in story, song and visual.

**February 9th from 7:00pm**

## **WORLD WIDE WRAP**

**Sunday, 2 February 2020 at 9:00am**

Join with our people. Participate in the Mitzvah Experience the Wonder and Joy of Tefillin.

Afterwards, please join us for a light breakfast and learning session.

Male or female, first timers or old hands

Please register: [www.emanuel.org.au/event/world-wide-wrap-2020](http://www.emanuel.org.au/event/world-wide-wrap-2020)

# IN MEMORY

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

*Shiva:* Marcia Frankel, Elizabeth (Lisl) Ziegler

*Shloshim:* Albert Salinas, Clifford Einstein, Mattie Tarragano, Kathleen (Kitty) Westman, Rabbi Brian Fox AM, Michael Owen, Joy Jarman, Michael Reynolds

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

\* Memorial Light

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|--|---|
| * <b>Abraham Abrahams</b>  | * <b>Isidore Krumholz</b>   |
| <b>Sophie Barold</b> (Gerard Barold)   | * <b>Maximilian Lamberger</b> (Jeffrey Kamins)                    |
| <b>Charles Berg</b> (Vivienne Sharpe)  | <b>Moshe Lamberger</b> (Jeffrey Kamins)                           |
| <b>Michael Berger</b> (Jane Berger, Peter Berger, Joshua Berger, Jessica Berger, ) | * <b>Esther Margaret Lehmann</b> (Gerald Lehmann)                 |
| <b>Julian Block</b> (Rosie Block, David Block, Jessica Block, Antonia Milner)      | * <b>Millicent (Millie) Levenson</b>                              |
| <b>Samuel Berrima Brandon</b> (Leonard Brandon)                                    | <b>Elinda Lissing</b> (Jack Lissing)                              |
| <b>Annie Blou</b> (Frankie Blou, Lester Blou)                                      | <b>Elemer Lorentz</b> (Ivan Lorentz)                              |
| <b>Aaron Blou</b> (Frankie Blou, Lester Blou)                                      | <b>Max Julius Marcuse</b> (Lily Dreyer)                           |
| <b>Ignatz Broch</b> (Toni Kleiner)   | * <b>Regina Merkur</b> (Toni Kleiner)                             |
| * <b>Arthur Peel Cohen</b>   | * <b>Sarah Nassau</b> (Dianne Nassau)                             |
| <b>Hannah Cohen Levi</b> (Amnon Levy)  | <b>Benny Norman</b> (Donna Moses)                                 |
| <b>Eliezer Dan</b> (Tova Goldstein)  | <b>Lola Penn</b> (Ian Penn)                                       |
| <b>Edith Dreyer</b> (Lily Dreyer)  | <b>Benjamin David Penny</b> (Gary Penny)                          |
| <b>Hans Dreyer</b> (Lily Dreyer)   | <b>Noni Pozniak</b> (Sheldon Pozniak, Brett Pozniak)              |
| <b>Herta Ehrlich</b> (Ron Ehrlich)   | <b>Kato Reich</b> (Victoria Reich)                                |
| <b>Malka Bat Eli Melach</b> (Marc Lane)  | <b>Myra Reynolds</b> (Barbara Holmes)                             |
| <b>Abraham Feldman</b> (Judy Menczel)  | <b>Jadwiga Sapera</b> (Tessa Boucher)                             |
| <b>Katherine Gal</b> (John Gal)  | <b>John Sirmai</b> (Joy Sirmai , Geoffrey Sirmai, Michael Sirmai) |
| <b>Albert Gertler</b> (Robert Gertler, Vera Jacoby)                                | <b>Joav Slonimsky</b> (Reeva Schindler)                           |
| <b>Marie Gold</b> (Brian Gold)   | <b>Janet Stern</b> (Shirley Rotenstein)                           |
| <b>Phillip Goran</b> (Deanne Rosenthal)  | <b>Efim Taksa</b> (Michael Taksa, Lucy Taksa)                     |
| <b>Bruce Green</b> (Joel Nothman)  | <b>Genia Taksa</b> (Michael Taksa, Lucy Taksa)                    |
| <b>Harvey Greenberg</b> (Heidi Goldman)  | <b>Herrmann Teitler</b> (Philip Moses)                            |
| <b>Israel Gross</b> (Colin Gross)  | * <b>Arthur Thieman</b>   |
| <b>Brian Hardy</b> (Elaine Hardy)  | <b>Samuel Wingerin</b> (Belinda Levy, Elana Leigh)                |
| <b>Elaine Hershkopf</b> (Susan Banki)  | <b>Felix Wirth</b> (Henry Wirth)                                  |
| <b>Desider Hosek</b> (Valerie Hosek)   | <b>Leslie Youngleson</b> (Beverley Berelowitz)                    |
| <b>Zena Housepeters</b> (Marlene Epstein)  | <b>Sylvia Zamel</b> (Maurice Zamel)                               |
| * <b>Anna Kadisch</b> (John Mikler)  | * <b>Esther Zines</b>   |
| <b>Marilyn Katz</b> (Leslie Katz)  |   |
| <b>Paula Kitchener</b> (Peter Kitchener)   |   |

**Shoah Remembrance:** Sarah Cukerkoren was born in Poland in 1913 and lived in Bychow, Belarussia until she was murdered in Majdanek during the Holocaust.