



# Congregation Spanish & Portuguese

שארית ישראל

פרשת

## Parashat Miketz

פרשת מקץ

Parasha Hertz: Page 155 & 598 ~ Haftarah Kings III Hertz: Page 167

**Tsom 10 Tevet:** Friday/Vendredi, Dec. 25 déc. - Begins/Debut 6:09 a.m. - ends/fin 4:51 p.m.



### Joseph, Son of Jacob

For the past weeks we have been reading about Joseph in the Torah. Let me tell you a bit about Jacob's favorite son, Joseph.

Born in the Mesopotamian town of Haran, to his parents Jacob and Rachel. Jacob displayed extra affection to Joseph, who was born to his father's old age, when presenting him with a specially-crafted garment. This prompted feelings of jealousy within his brothers. These ill feelings exacerbated when Joseph repeated two of his dreams to them, in which he was portrayed as ruling over his brothers.

One day, Jacob instructed Joseph to visit his brothers. Little did he know that this would be the last time he would see his dear son, until their reunion a long twenty-two years later. Seizing their chance, the brothers threw the unsuspecting Joseph into a pit. A short while later they spotted an Arab caravan passing the scene, and the brothers sold Joseph to the traders. He was eventually brought to Egypt, where he was sold to Potiphar, one of Pharaoh's ministers.

For a while, things started to look up for young Joseph. Divine success enabled him to find favor in his master's eyes, and he was appointed head of Potiphar's estate. However, this would not last for long.

Attracted by his handsome looks, Potiphar's wife desired to be intimate with him. To her consternation, Joseph continuously refused. One day, when no one was home other than the two of them, the mistress grasped Joseph's garment, demanding that he consent. Thinking quickly, Joseph slid out of his cloak and ran outside displaying high self-control.

But Potiphar's wife turned the tables on Joseph, telling her husband that it was Joseph who had tried to entice her. The angry master reacted by placing his trustworthy assistant in prison.

Joseph's charisma followed him to prison as well, and the warden soon appointed him as his right-hand man. In time, his unique qualities expressed themselves in an additional area: when the king's royal

cupbearer and baker were imprisoned, Joseph successfully interpreted their dreams, correctly predicting that the cupbearer would be released and the baker hanged.

Two years later, Pharaoh himself envisioned two dreams, which none of his advisors were able to explain. Remembering the Hebrew youth from his prison days, the cupbearer suggested that Joseph be summoned. Joseph, then thirty, interpreted Pharaoh's dreams as being a Divine prediction for seven years of plenty followed by seven years of famine, and advised Pharaoh to prepare by storing grain during the first seven years. Impressed by Joseph's wisdom, Pharaoh appointed him as his viceroy, second only to the king himself, and tasked him with readying the nation for the years of famine.

While in prison with Pharaoh's ministers, Joseph notices one day how miserably unhappy they looked and asks them why they are so miserable? This may sound like small talk between prisoners but in reality, it gives us a small peek into who Joseph really is. After being sold by his brothers, pursued and imprisoned by his boss in the prime of his life - how would any of us feel if that happened to us? Anger? Frustration? Depression? I mean the guy spent many years in an "ancient Egyptian" prison. Nothing close to our north American prison system. But no, not Joseph. Not only is he not angry or depressed, his concern is with someone else's well being. He can't bear the sight of two people that are miserable in prison. It is that exact attitude that turned him from prisoner to viceroy. Not letting hate poison his heart, not even when betrayed by his brothers. His determination to stay positive and face all challenges brings blessings to him and to all those around him. And in whatever situation he is in, even in prison, he knows how to keep a smile on his face. It is his sense of mission in life, his trust in the divine plan that gives Joseph the strength to overcome life's challenges and ultimately becoming the first Jewish ruler of the ancient empire.

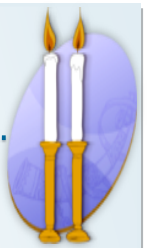
*Shabbat Shalom, Rabbi Maimon Pinto*

## Shabbat Shalom

Start/Début 3:54 pm.

End/Fin 5:04 pm.

Havdalah



### Services Schedule

### Horaire des Offices

### Our Week Day Services

SERVICES SCHEDULE IS AS FOLLOWS:

**SHAHRIIT:** 7:30 a.m.

Everyday Monday through Friday

Sunday: 8:30 a.m.

### Afternoon/Evening Services:

Minha/Arvit 3:25

Join on Zoom ID: 914-650-9809

### SHABBAT SERVICES (RSVP)

MASHAAL SANCTUARY - 9:00 a.m.

Minha Friday & Shabbat 3:45



### LEARNING WITH RABBI PINTO

**Lundi 28 decembre**

**4:00 - 4:30 P.M.**

PENSÉE JUIVE

**Mardi 29 decembre**

**4:00 - 4:30 P.M.**

DÉCOUVRIR LE SIDDOUR

Adon Olam

**Thursday, January 7, 2021**

**4:45 - 5:45 P.M.**

In the Beginning

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**Monday through Thursday after Minha**

**S&P SOUP TALK**

Join us for a warm soup & enriching conversation with Rabbi Pinto

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**Sunday, January 17, 2021**

**10:30-11:30 A.M. ~ "Wrap & Roll"**

**With Rabbi Pinto & Hazzan Benlolo**

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**Monday through Thursday**

**8:25AM. & 3:40PM.**

**RABBI'S DAILY THOUGHTS & HALAKHA**

## HALAKHA הלכה

### DID YOU KNOW

Tzedakah (צדקה) - often translated as charity—is a mainstay of Jewish life. The sages teach that the world was built upon kindness. Tzedakah goes one step beyond. Literally translated as "justice" or "righteousness," tzedakah tells us that sharing what we have with others isn't something special. It's the honest and just thing to do.

Tzedakah is not limited to gifts of money. Sharing time, expertise, or even a

kind smile are all forms of charity.

No matter how much you were blessed with, you can always share with others. Throwing a coin into a charity box every morning (except for Shabbat and Jewish holidays) sets the tone for the rest of the day. So make sure to make it a habit.

*AskTheRabbi*

*Shabbat Shalom, Rabbi Maimon Pinto*

**Quote Of The Week:** Failure follows the path of least persistence. -Aish HaTorah



# Beit Hamidrash Helwani

פרנס חסידות - Parnass Hakavod: Mayer & Muriel Sasson

PROGRAMME DU BEIT HAMIDRASH

שיעור יומי

PROGRAMME QUOTIDIEN - HOK LEISRAËL - DIM.-VEN. APRÈS SHAHRIT Rabbi M. Pinto - Zoom ID: 5264381158

## PARNASS HAYOM פרנס היום

Shabbat 4 Tevet - December 19 décembre

Fattal Family, in memory of their parents, Jacob & Josephine Fattal ז"ל.

**Sunday/Dimanche 5 Tevet - December 20 décembre**

Fattal Family, in memory of their father, Jacob Fattal ז"ל.

**Monday/Lundi 6 Tevet - December 21 décembre**

Ariele, Jessica & Audrey, à la mémoire d'une mère merveilleuse, Claire Gabizon Gozlan ז"ל.

Corin Family, in memory of Ezra Yaacov Corin ז"ל.

Sananes Family, in memory of Joseph Sananes ז"ל.

**Tuesday/Mardi 7 Tevet - December 22 décembre**

David & Dody Hasson, in memory of Selim Halabi ben Esther ז"ל.

**Thursday/Jendredi 9 Tevet - December 24 décembre**

Carole & Elie Cohen, in honour his sister, Melia Haya bat Olga ז"ל.

Albert & Gabriel Benizri and Dody & David Hasson,  
à la mémoire d'une leur père, Elie Benizri ז"ל.

**Friday/Vendredi 10 Tevet - December 25 décembre**

Famille Selim Sasson, à la mémoire de son oncle, Isaac Sasson ז"ל.

CHEVRA SHAAS  
ADATH JESHURUN  
HADRATH KODESH  
SHEVET ACHIM  
CHAVERIM KOL YISRAEL  
D'BET ABRAHAM  
CONGREGATION

### SHABBOS, DECEMBER 19<sup>th</sup>

FOR TIMES OF WEEKDAY SERVICES, PLEASE  
FOLLOW WITH SPANISH & PORTUGUESE

WE HAVE MOVED THE STARTING TIME OF SHABBAT  
MORNING SERVICES IN CS HALL TO 9:30 A.M.

WORDS FROM RABBI WHITE  
MIQNETS 5781

Last week, I wrote of an important insight that I learned from my professor of Classics in university. This week, I would like to present a different type of lesson that I learned from another important teacher.

The year after I graduated from high school, I had the privilege of spending a year in Israel. Once a week, we were fortunate to have the great teacher Dr. Nechama Leibowitz come and deliver a lesson to us.

She had a wonderful methodology. She would demand of us to think: questions such as what was the problem in the Torah that inspired Rashi to make his comment; what was the real difference between Rashi and Ramban; what is strange about this verse, etc. Very many years have passed, yet I remember and apply much of what we learned in her class. Here is an interesting observation from this week's parasha:

Joseph's brothers had come to Egypt to purchase grain. Joseph accuses them of being spies, and incarcerates them for 3 days. The brothers talk among themselves, and say that this is certainly a divine punishment, for when they had thrown Joseph in the pit, and he was begging them for mercy, they didn't listen. (Genesis 42:21)

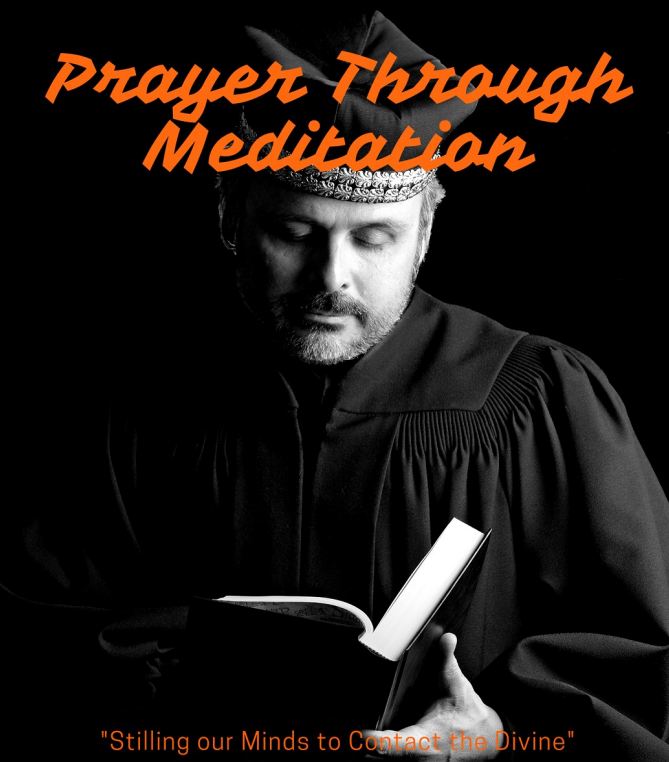
However, if you go back to last week's parashah (37:24) it seems that Joseph didn't say anything when he was thrown into the pit. He comes across as stoical. We see from here that "the words of the Torah are poor in one place, and rich in another." Now, you might ask, why didn't the Torah tell us originally that Yoseph had been begging his brothers? Ramban gives 2 possible answers: 1) it's obvious that a young man would plead with his brothers to save him; 2) the Torah did not want to elaborate last week on the cruelty of the brothers. The Torah waited until now, when the brothers themselves finally recognized the seriousness of what they had done.

Whenever we read this parasha, I think of my class with Nechama, and how she inspired me and many others to think about the Torah and its commentaries.

*Shabbat shalom*

THE SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE SYNAGOGUE AND  
HAZZAN DANIEL BENLOLO PRESENT

## Prayer Through Meditation



"Stilling our Minds to Contact the Divine"  
- a creative and innovative approach to prayer

Please contact Hazzan Benlolo @ 514-892-2859 or  
cantorbenlolo@thespanish.org

# Major Donors Program

The Spanish & Portuguese has recently begun a fundraising program whereby our goal is to raise \$1.5 Million over 3 years to help fund our activities, programs, and events.

We are pleased to announce the following congregants who have made very generous 3-year donations:

Edward & Gertrude Mashaal & Family

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## SPANISH & PORTUGUESE ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN

With deep gratitude, we acknowledge the following generous donors who are supporting the operations, activities, and welfare of our synagogue.

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### SUPPORTER

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David & Lyson Haccoun

Gladys Mooallem

Maurice Douek

Robert Fattal

Rabbi Howard & Norma Joseph

Jim & Ruth Nabi



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23 - 10:00 - 11:00 A.M.

Sisterhood Health Series: Yoga Class with Lisa Shebath - Registration required.  
 lisashebath@gmail.com OR sisterhood2020@hotmail.com

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29 - 12:00 - 1:00 P.M.

Sisterhood Book Review "The Third Daughter" by Talia Carner  
 Reviewer: Wilma Mashal - Zoom ID: 885 7489 6038 SISBOOK

### A YEAR OF HONOURING RABBI SACKS ZT'L - THE TEN PATHS TO GOD (SERIES)

STARTING THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31 AT 7:00 P.M.

"IDENTITY: ON BEING A JEW"- Carole Basri, visiting Law Professor & History Scholar, Sami Sourani.

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2021 - 7:00 - 8:00 P.M.

Sisterhood Health Series "Let's Dance" with Silvia Lebensztajn Shahrabani  
 Zoom ID: 899 8627 6146 SUPERSIS

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2021

Rosh Hodesh Sh'vat Musical Experience  
 Rabbi Maimon Pinto & Hazzan Daniel Benlolo

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2021 - 7:00 - 8:00 P.M.

Sisterhood Health Series Healthy Mind for the Daily Grind  
 Speakers: Dr. Melanie Bilbul & Dr. Sheida Rabipour

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2021 - 7:00 - 8:00 P.M.

Sisterhood: Tu B'Shvat/Shabbat Shirah - Benefits of Music on Body, Mind...  
 Guest Speaker Hazzan Daniel Benlolo

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 2021

Tu B'Shvat Seder Program - with Rabbi Pinto & Hazzan Benlolo

### A YEAR OF HONOURING RABBI SACKS ZT'L - THE TEN PATHS TO GOD (SERIES)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28 AT 7:00 P.M.

"PRAYER: SPEAKING TO GOD"- Cantor Rabbi Daniel Benlolo, Order of Canada; Cantor Eyal Bitton & Michèle Tredger, Cong. Neveh Shalom, Portland, OR.

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2021 - 7:00 - 8:00 P.M.

Sisterhood Health Series Healthy Musings on Holistic Wellness  
 Speaker: Denise Archambault Nathaniel  
 Zoom ID 811 4151 0549 - SUPERSIS

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2021

Rosh Hodesh Adar I - Musical Experience - with Rabbi Pinto & Hazzan Benlolo

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2021

Rosh Hodesh Adar II - Shabbaton - Rabbi Pinto & Hazzan Benlolo

### A YEAR OF HONOURING RABBI SACKS ZT'L - THE TEN PATHS TO GOD (SERIES)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18 AT 7:00 P.M.

"STUDY: LISTENING TO GOD"- Edmond Elbaz, B.Sc, M. Ed, Immed. Past President S&P.

JPPS-Bialik High School Administrator; 30 years Canadian Délégué Général to L'Alliance Israelite Universelle; Order of France in Arts and Letters.



## CONGREGATION ☆ MAGHEN ☆ ABRAHAM

### THOUGHTS FROM MAYER SASSON ~ WHO HEARS PRAYERS

"...Take... in your vessels... and take double money.... And G-d the All-limiting One grant you sympathy in the presence of the man...." (43, 11-14)

"From now on you are not missing anything except for prayer. I will pray for you." (Rashi)

Rabbi Avraham Yitzchak Shein, Torah Lecturer in the Tiferet Yerushalaim Yeshiva, asks – Why did the Tribes depend on their father's prayers and why didn't they themselves pray?

He explains: In the verse above (42,21) "After all we are guilty" – it is explained that the Tribes understood that the reason for their troubles was because they did not hearken to the pleas of their brother and save him; therefore, when they themselves needed mercy they thought that correspondingly G-d would not listen to their prayer. They therefore asked their father to pray for them.

From here we learn a poignant message for any person who wants G-d to listen to his pleas at a time of troubles – he should always be sure to listen

to the pleas of his brethren and help them as much as possible.

"As soon as the morning was light the men were sent away... Yosef said to his steward - stand up, chase after the men and ... overtake them...." (44' 3-4)

Why did Yosef have to tell his steward to chase after the men? Since they were going with animals loaded with burdens, certainly the job of overtaking them would be very easy?

Rabbi Hilel Lichtenstein of Kalamia explained: Since the brothers left early at dawn, Yosef understood that if he doesn't hurry to chase after them, they will have time to pray by sunrise and thus he would not be able to blame them for stealing the goblet – for our Sages have said concerning one who prays at sunrise that he will not be harmed for that entire day. Therefore he told his steward, "Chase after the men and ... overtake them" – before they have a chance to pray.

**Shabbat Shalom**

### SISTERHOOD NEW LIFETIME MEMBERS

JULIA PERESS ROSENFELD ~ LISA PERESS ~ SHANI SEBAG ~ GENE RABIE ~ WILMA MASHAL ~ MICHELE SHERMIE  
 LISA JOY LAWEE ~ NATALIE LAWEE ~ GLENDA LISBONA ~ MARINA MASHAAL ~ EVELYNE BARCHICHAT

### SISTERHOOD "SUPER TUESDAY" DONORS (S&P GENERAL DONATIONS FUND)

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