



Shearith Israel
**SPANISH &
PORTUGUESE**
Synagogue of Montreal
Est. 1768

SHABBAT BULLETIN

August 28, 2021 | 20 ELUL 5781



Parashat Ki Tevo

The Pope is NOT Jewish!
By: Rabbi Maimon Pinto

Jerusalem Post reported that Israel's top Jewish religious authorities had told the Vatican they are concerned about Pope Francis's comments about their books of sacred law and have asked for a clarification.

At the audience, Francis, reflecting on what Paul said about the Torah in the New Testament, said: "The law (Torah), however, does not give life.

"It does not offer the fulfillment of the promise because it is not capable of being able to fulfill it... Those who seek life need to look to the promise and its fulfillment.

Complete rubbish. What arrogance. We are to take lessons about life and fulfillment from the people who orchestrated the crusades, inquisitions, and, more recently, the mass graves of indigenous children?

I seriously suggest that we keep an attitude of "live and let live." We Jews, contrary to Francis's view,

believe that all religions play an important role in perfecting the world and making it a better place to live by following the law. And for us Jews, it includes the laws of Moses given at Sinai.

Many nations, people, ideologies tried to reinvent Judaism or us. If you have not noticed, they all failed. Judaism and its people have outlived anyone and everyone.

Even when the people trying to make those changes are Jewish ultimately fail. Part of the main unfulfilled hope of secular Zionism was to make the Jewish people "normal" – to avoid the extreme swings of Jewish life and history. But it is evident that the State of Israel, the crowning achievement of Zionism, has not succeeded in making us "normal."

In this week's parasha, we find exalted hopes and blessed situations as well as dire predictions and warnings to the Jewish people.

It is as though the Torah cannot make up its mind regarding the Jewish future and destiny. It always seems to be an "all or nothing" situation for the Jewish people – significant moments of triumph and desperate times of persecution, discrimination, and potential destruction.

In the short space of seventy-three years of Israel's as an independent sovereign nation, it and the Jewish world has experienced soaring moments of success and miraculous accomplishments as well as terrible times of tension, pressures, fear, and loss. A pattern seemingly destined to continue. As the Torah indicates, the end of the pendulum we will be on is partially dependent upon us – our behavior, spiritual thoughts, plans, and acts.

We always have to aim high for ourselves regarding personal development, spiritual attainment, and Torah observance. The status quo is an unacceptable state of being in the matter of spirit and tradition.

That is our true fulfillment; A life guided by laws and Torah. The message of Elul and the High Holydays is now upon us – the message of how to attain blessings.

Religious life is not a sprint race. It is a long marathon of personal growth that requires consistency, training, and commitment. There will be a day of greatness and tranquility for the Jewish people. But we have to do our part to make that promise a reality. That is what gives us life and fulfillment.

Shabbat shalom

SHABBAT SHALOM

Start/Debut **End/Fin**
7:22 pm **8:25**

Parashat Ki Tavo - Hertz page 859
Haftarah: Isaiah - Hertz page 874

Shabbat Services
Shahrit: 8:30 Mincha: 7:30

WEEKLY SERVICE SCHEDULES

Sunday: **8:30 a.m.**
Selihot: **7:30 a.m.**

Monday - Friday
Shahrit: **7:30 a.m.**
Selihot: **6:30 a.m.**

Afternoon/Evening Services:
Mincha/Arvit : **6:00 pm**

CHEVRA SHAAS Service Schedule

SHABBOS, AUGUST 28th
Schachris 9:30 a.m.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 29th
Schachris 8:00 a.m.

BEIT HAMIDRASH HELWANI WITH RABBI PINTO

Monday through Friday
8:40 am - Hok L'Israel

Dvar Torah
Weekly Debate - Sunday after services
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday
8:25 am - Halaka/Talmud
6:15 pm - Jewish Wisdom

Dear friends,

I am here for you. Whether you want to ask a question, consult, learn or just chat, you can call me on my mobile (514) 506-3164 or to my email rabbip@thespanish.org

*I am available 24/6.
Shabbat, emergencies only*
Rabbi Maimon Pinto

*To contact Hazan Daniel Benlolo:
cantorbenlolo@thespanish.org
(514) 892-2859*



QUOTE OF THE WEEK

Success is getting what you want. Happiness is wanting what you get.

Dale Carnegie | Aish HaTorah

OPINION

Chevra Shaas Words From Rabbi Menahem White KI TAVO 5781

This motsa'ei shabbat, Saturday night at 11:00 pm, we have our traditional first night of selichot.

I can't forget this parasha. You see, when I was in grade 1, growing up in Boston, my class celebrated our having completed the knowledge of the Hebrew alphabet. We all came on stage, every child holding a large cardboard letter. My letter was "tet," or "tes" as we pronounced it then in Ashkenaz pronunciation.



And "tet," as I explained to the proud parents in the audience, stands for "tene," meaning "basket," a word mentioned in this week's parashah. The Torah tells us that after the children of Israel enter the promised land, they will bring every year the first fruits of their crops, and present them to the kohen, and express their thanks to HaShem for bringing them into the land.

Indeed, I have always thought of the first 29 verses in this week's parasha as among the most inspirational and uplifting in the entire Torah.

And then..... When we come to chapter 28, verse 15, of this week's parashah, we come to 53 of the most frightening verses in the Torah. Hashem threatens that if we don't listen to Him, and don't follow the Torah, terrible curses can befall us.

Our tradition is to read these verses in a low voice, so that everyone has to strain to hear them being read. We also have a tradition that this aliya can go only to the Torah reader himself, so that no one will be insulted and/or discouraged by receiving this aliya.

The juxtaposition of these 2 topics is striking. We know that there are things in life that are beyond our control. Yet there are other things that are within our control. We must constantly be attentive, lest we turn the positive into a negative. And this is an important message, as we approach Rosh Hashanah.

We wish good health and a good year to all.

Shabbat shalom

Our Shabbat Kiddush is Sponsored by:



Our members, **Orly & Ralph Dadoun**, on the occasion of their son **Jess**, becoming Shabbat Hatan and upcoming wedding to **Amber**, daughter of **Lilia Goldfarb**.

Leila Khamara & Families, in memory of her husband; father & grandfather, **Afram (Tamy) Khamara z'l**.

Mazal Tov To



Our members, **Orly & Ralph Dadoun**, on the upcoming wedding of their son, Shabbat Hatan, **Jess to Amber**, daughter of **Lilia Goldfarb**.

Our Condolences To



Our member, **Leila Khamara & Family**, on the loss of husband, father and grand father, **Afram (Tamy) Khamara z'l**.

Congregation Maghen Abraham

Thoughts: Mayer Sasson - Ki Tavo

Brothers Should Not Hit Each Other

“Cursed be he that smites his friend in secret...” (27, 24)

One day someone asked Iron - why does your voice sound so loud when you are beaten, while when Gold is beaten its voice is not heard so loudly?

Iron replied - the reason is simple: In order to create a piece of jewelry from gold, it is struck with iron, not with gold, which is its brother. The iron which is a stranger strikes him so he does not shout so much when he strikes him. Therefore, no loud sound is heard from the beating!

In contrast, Iron is struck by Iron that is

his brother and close to him. Then, the pain is great - the pain that brothers and ones close to one other beat each other. That is why the iron “shouts” very much when another iron strikes it, and as a result its voice is heard loudly! (According to Yalkut Gershuni)

When iron beats iron it is more painful and harder. Let us have patience and refine in our hearts the words of the prophet Yeshaya “Let each one help his neighbor ... to his brother let him say - be strong.” Let us help one another and strengthen the bond with our close brothers - those who truly need us.

Shabbat Shalom!!



Jewish Wisdom

Parashat Ki Tetsei
Rabbi Maimon Pinto

La clé du succès

Moïse a ensuite rassuré le peuple juif que malgré les menaces qu'il venait de prononcer, il devait être confiant dans sa capacité à rester fidèle à l'alliance de D.ieu et à bénéficier de sa protection.

[Moïse a dit au peuple juif: « Vous devez rester fidèle à votre alliance avec D.ieu] afin que vous réussissiez dans tout ce que vous entreprenez.

Le mot hébreu pour « réussir » (taskilu) signifie également « comprendre ». Ainsi, ce verset implique qu'en accomplissant les commandements de D.ieu, nous « comprendrons tout ce que nous devons faire»

Il y a de nombreux aspects de la vie dans lesquels nous luttons pour déterminer comment agir de la manière la plus spirituellement positive. En vivant conformément aux instructions de la Torah, nous devenons sensibles à la volonté de D.ieu. Ceci, à son tour, nous aide à comprendre comment agir conformément à la volonté de D.ieu dans le contexte des domaines de la vie qui ne sont pas directement régis par des commandements spécifiques.

Chabbat chalom

Got A Question for Reverend/Hazan Daniel Benlolo?

Dear reader, The following is the second of two parts dealing with the question of refugees/immigrants and Judaism's stance.

Rabbi Morris N. Kertzer continues by saying: “Each wave of immigrants to Israel is called an aliyah, meaning “a group of people who go up,” as if Israel were the highest point on the globe. The early aliyahs that settled the country around the turn of the 20th century were composed of Jews fleeing from czarist Russia, whose foreign minister had boasted that he would get rid of every single Jew in his own lifetime, and from Poland, where post – World War I nationalism produced bloody anti-Jewish riots. Almost immediately after Israel was founded, however, Jews being persecuted in Arab lands were airlifted to the new Jewish State, where they joined another recent Aliyah, Jews saved from the Nazi concentration camps and interned in British displaced persons camps thereafter, while they waited for a country that would take them in.

The latest examples of Jews in search of the haven – the most recent aliyahs, that is – are the enormous Russian Jewish population suddenly set free by the crumbling Soviet empire, and the entire body of Ethiopian and Jewry, who had been systematically tormented for decades but were flown to Israel in 1991, in a miraculous 24 hour airlift.

The basis for Israel's open door-policy, then, lies in its citizens' realization that it must always be ready to save Jewish lives. From time to time, a small party of right-wing religious fanatics there agitates for a change in the Law of Return, whereby automatic Israel citizenship would be granted only to people who could prove that they are Jews by very strict Orthodox standards – but not, therefore, to many Reform, Conservative, and Reconstructionist Jews. Yet the overwhelming majority of the citizens of Israel believe that every Jew who wants to settle in the Jewish state has an inalienable, G-d-given right to do so. The Israeli government can no more deny Jews the right of entrance to the Land than it can bar their entry to a house of worship.”

Dear friends, the refugee crisis in Syria reminds us of the saying in the Torah in parasha Mishpatim “Do not oppress a stranger; you yourselves know how it feels to be a stranger, because you were strangers in Egypt.”

According to Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, “Mishpatim contains many laws of social justice against taking advantage of a widow or orphan, for example, or taking interest on a loan to a fellow member of the covenant community, holding on to an object (a poor person's cloak) taken as security against a loan, against bribery and injustice, and so on. The first and last of these laws, however, is the repeated command against harming a stranger. Clearly something fundamental is at stake in the Torah's vision of a just and gracious social order.

The stranger is one who lives outside the normal securities of home and belonging. He or she is, or feels, alone – and, throughout the Torah, G-d is especially sensitive to the sigh of the oppressed, the feelings of the rejected, the cry of the unheard. That is the emotive dimension of the command.” Until next time, Cantor Danny

PARNASS HAYOM

Shabbat 20 Elul - August 28 Août
Famille Nahmiash, à la mémoire de Esther Nahmiash ז"ל.

Sunday/Dimanche 21 Elul - Aug. 29 Août
Famille Amzallag, à la mémoire de Simon Amzallag ז"ל.

Monday/Lundi 22 Elul - Aug. 30 Août
Khamara Family, in honour of Dina's birthday.

Tuesday/Mardi 23 Elul - Aug. 31 Août
Vivian & Saul Belboul, in honour of their grandchildren, Maija, Joshua & Samuel.

Wednesday/Mercredi 24 Elul - Sept. 1 Sept.
Moghrabi Family, à la mémoire de Rebecca Moghrabi bat Rahel ז"ל.

Friday/Vendredi 26 Elul - Sept. 3 Sept.
Famille Sananes, à la mémoire de Julia Sananes ז"ל.

Shashoua Family, in memory of their mother, Marcelle Shashoua ז"ל.

Sylvia Shahin Family, in memory of her husband, Albert Abraham Shahin ז"ל.

HIGH HOLIDAYS SEATS

Please call the synagogue office to reserve your seats if you are planning to **attend** services. Because of the COVID situation, we have limited seats in each hall.

Tel: (514) 737-3695 OR
online: www.thespanish.org

Upcoming Events



Sunday, August 29 | (Save The Date)
Soccer Tournament - Parc Mackenzie-King
Time to be confirmed. Trophy, fun, games!

Contact: Marc Hadid mhadid@mvapower.com



Sunday, September 12 | 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.
Installation of Hazan Daniel Benlolo with the title of Reverend. Guest speaker Rabbi Yamin Levy.

In person or live stream-Join Zoom ID 914 650 9809
Registration required: www.thespanish.org



Monday, September 13 | 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Chai Mitzvah Program
Unit 6: Arc of the Fall Holidays

Join on Zoom ID 526 438 1158 - Registration required.



Thursday, September 23 | 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Ten Paths to God - Unit 10: Responsibility - The Jewish Future with Guest Panelists Arlene Madar Abitan & Alice Becker Lehrer

Zoom ID 846 5677 7165 / Password: 058194



Thursday, October 7 | 10:00 - 11:00 a.m
Women's Learning Group - The latest in Federal Politics
Hon. Anthony Housefather, MP for Mont-Royal

Zoom ID 898 8229 8754 - Password: WLG2021
Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89882298754?pwd=VS9D-NEljNGtjTmxJRkdJQWVEcFVrdz09>



Wednesday, October 13 | 10:00 - 11:00 a.m
Women's Learning Group - The Uniqueness, History, and Future of the Jewish Arabic Dialects of Iraq with Dr. Assaf Bar-Moshe

Zoom ID 898 8229 8754 - Password: WLG2021
Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89882298754?pwd=VS9D-NEljNGtjTmxJRkdJQWVEcFVrdz09>