

Shearith Israel
SPANISH &
PORTUGUESE
Synagogue of Montreal
Est. 1768

SHABBAT BULLETIN

December 17, 2022 | 23 Kislev, 5783



Dvar Torah

VAYESHEV - HANUKKAH
LES COÏNCIDENCES DES MIRACLES

La principale définition de "miracle" est "un événement extraordinaire manifestant une intervention divine dans les affaires humaines".

Nous pouvons attribuer de nombreux miracles, grands et petits, qui ont accompagné la nation juive ; de la traversée de la mer Rouge au miracle de la cruche d'huile décrite dans le Talmud babylonien comme l'une des raisons de Hanoukka aux 10 plaies en Égypte infligées par Dieu pour convaincre le Pharaon de permettre aux Israélites de partir de l'esclavage.

La grande question est de savoir si des miracles se produisent encore aujourd'hui? Considère ceci.

Le 14 mai 1948, l'État moderne d'Israël est né.

Le mur de Berlin, qui divisait une ville en un Est communiste et un Ouest non communiste, est tombé.

Mais il existe d'autres formes de miracles. Certains pourraient les appeler le destin, d'autres pourraient les appeler des coïncidences.

Peu de temps après notre arrivée à Montréal au début des années 70 en provenance de Casablanca au Maroc, berceau de la communauté juive séfarade, ma famille et moi avons fréquenté la synagogue Spanish et Portugaise. C'était un développement naturel non pas à cause de son nom mais parce

que le cousin de ma mère était le Chazzan. Cantor Solomon Amzallag (alias Samy El Maghribi) était l'un des plus grands musiciens marocains de tous les temps. Au sommet de sa popularité, il n'y avait pas une personne au Maroc qui ne connaisse son nom ou qui n'ait entendu sa musique. Il a chanté pour les rois. Né dans la ville côtière de Safi en 1922,

il était déjà une sensation de chant dans les années 1940. En 1967, il s'installe à Montréal, sert comme chanteur à la synagogue Spanish et portugaise et continue de se produire dans le monde entier. À Montréal, nos chemins se sont croisés. Il m'a pris sous ses ailes, m'a fait diriger sa chorale de jeunes nouvellement créée, m'a fait chanter depuis la Bima sans préavis et a finalement fait de moi le Chazzan que je suis aujourd'hui. En 1987, il a déménagé à Ashdod, en Israël, où il a vécu jusqu'en 1996, date à laquelle il est retourné à Montréal. Il est décédé le 9 mai 2008 à l'âge de 86 ans. Ses conseils me manquent à ce jour.

Il est dit que "la vie d'un Juif est pleine de limitations". Plutôt que de me frustrer, je trouve que ces mêmes restrictions sont de la peinture et de la toile pour mon âme.

En tant qu'enfant, X Box, PS3, iPad chargés d'applications et Blackberry étaient inconnus. En y repensant, nous n'avions ni télévision ni téléphone - au moins, cela fonctionnait ! Ma mère de mémoire bénie m'a souvent dit que, regardant par la fenêtre de la cuisine, elle observait son plus jeune passer



Hazan Solomon Amzallag

des heures à dessiner avec des restes de charbon de bois sur le sol de la cour. Ainsi a commencé mon indéniable amour pour l'art.

Au Collège rabbinique du Canada, j'étais destiné à rencontrer la personne qui allait me catapulter dans le monde de l'art juif. Il s'appelait le rabbin Solomon Benaroch. Dominant plus de 6 pieds avec une barbe blanche et de douces mains géantes, le rabbin Benaroch n'a jamais été vu sans un crayon à charbon et un bloc-notes à son bureau créant les scènes bibliques les plus étonnantes tout en chantant les prières du matin dans la salle de classe. Les huit années suivantes de ma vie scolaire se sont passées à ses côtés. Pendant que mes amis manipulaient un ballon dehors, j'étais à l'intérieur manipulant un crayon ou un pinceau, ses mains géantes sur les miennes. Le petit appartement qu'il partageait avec sa femme regorgeait de tableaux. Il y avait des peintures sur les murs, derrière les portes, sous les lits et comme tables. Je suis resté là, émerveillé par son coup de pinceau parfait, ses belles nuances et ses couleurs qu'il a créées pour former une toile complexe qui semblait danser sur la toile. Sa passion me manque à ce jour.

Il y a certainement quelque chose à dire pour être au bon endroit et dans le bon état d'esprit. Mais considérez comment vous êtes arrivé à cet endroit. Est-ce vraiment une coïncidence ? Je crois que la coïncidence est la façon dont Dieu choisit de rester anonyme.

Reverend Hazan Daniel Benlolo



CDB « Chamsa Ketuba »

OPINION

Chevra Shaas

Words From
Rabbi Menahem White
VA-YEISHEV 5783

As I wrote last week, my new grandson's name is Akiva Simcha. After whom was he named?

Following a tradition of not revealing the name until the actual berit, the parents of the baby had kept the name a secret. When we heard the name, we felt it was a very nice name, and assumed he was named after someone on "the other side." But the "other side" also did not have anyone by that name, so they assumed it was named after someone on our side.

At the seudah following the berit, the father Elchanan (married to my granddaughter Rosy) of the baby explained: He had an uncle, an outstanding

Talmud scholar, who had passed away this past year. The uncle's name was Moshe. However, they couldn't name the baby Moshe, since that is the name of my "mechutan," who is Rosy's other grandfather.

So---- there is a famous midrash brought down in the Talmud that when Moshe Rabbeinu was on Mount Sinai to receive the Torah, HaShem put him in a time machine, and he found himself in the classroom of Rabbi Akiva. Moshe was sitting in a back row, and couldn't understand a word that Rabbi Akiva was saying, which of course was upsetting.

One of the students asked the teacher (i.e. R. Akiva): what is the source of what you are saying? R. Akiva answered: it is a halacha of Moshe from Sinai. And this made Moshe very happy.

My understanding of that midrash

is that Moshe saw that R. Akiva was taking the laws that Moshe had taught many hundred of years previously, and was applying them to his time.

And our prayer is that our little Akiva should also, as he grows and matures, study and interpret the laws of Torah.

And, what about the 2nd name: Simcha, which means "happiness." We know that R. Akiva lived in a difficult time, during the Roman persecutions: teaching Torah was a capital offense; and in the end, he was tortured to death by the Roman rulers of Erets Yisrael. And so we pray that little Akiva live a long life of joy and happiness.

And may we all be inspired by the lights of Hanukkah.

Shabbat shalom and Hanukkah Sameah



SHABBAT KIDS CLUB

AGES 3-11
GARDERIE ORSHELI DAYCARE

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM



QUOTE OF THE WEEK

Look at how a single candle can both defy and define the darkness.
-Anne Frank | Aish HaTorah

**S.&P. Shabbat Kiddush is Co-Sponsored by:**

Anna Victoria, Aviva & Jamie Pinsky, in memory of father, Shimon Pinsky z'l.

S.&P. Seudah Shlishit is Sponsored by:

The Congregation

C.S. Shabbos Kiddush is Co-Sponsored by:

Anna & Joshua Haimovici, in honour of the birthday of their twins, Elior Yehosef & Tehila Adela.

Iris & Jacob Haimovici, in honour of the birthday of their son, Leon.

INSIGHTS

Jewish Wisdom HALAKHA

6 REASONS WHY HANUKKAH 2022 IS UNIQUE.
By Menachem Posner

1. It's a Hakkel Year In ancient times, every 7 years the entire nation would gather in the Holy Temple to hear the king read from the Torah. Today, the seventh year, known as a Hakkel year, is a special time for gathering Jewish people together to study Torah, gain inspiration, or even just enjoy each other's company. Chanukah is a perfect time to host YOUR Hakkel gathering!

2. It Has Two Sundays Chanukah can begin on any day of the week except Monday night, but it's only when it begins on Sunday night—as it does this year—that we light the menorah twice on Sunday. This means that you have two super convenient nights—the first and the eighth—on which to host your Chanukah party.

3. Hanukkah Is During the December Holidays We're coming out of a Jewish leap year, which had an additional, 13th month, meaning Chanukah is pretty late in the season this year, starting on Dec. 18th and ending on the 26th. This means that many more people will be off work and free to attend your Chanukah celebration this year.

4. We're Out of the Pandemic After two years of drive-thru celebrations, drive-up concerts, and drive-by menorah lightings, we are good and ready to get together in person, socialize, see each other's faces up close, and enjoy getting sprinkled with powdered sugar as our friends take those first bites out of oversized jelly doughnuts.

5. We've Collected the Best Recipes for You After years of frying and fiddling, concocting, and confecting, testing and tasting, we've put together our collection of all-time favorite Chanukah recipes, including the crispiest latkes, the sugariest doughnuts, and even our classic Chanukah party surprise cake.

6. It's Now! The Kabbalists teach us that every moment G-d creates the world anew. This year brings with it fresh opportunities and new significance that have never existed before and will never exist again. Grab the moment and make this a Chanukah to remember!

Shabbat shalom
Reverend Hazan Daniel Benlolo

Congregation Maghen Abraham

Thoughts: Mayer Sasson

PERASHA VAYESEH

The sale of Yosef

"And Yisrael loved Yosef more than all his children for he was son of... old age and he made him an embroidered cloak." (37,3)

"A person should never distinguish one son amongst his sons because thanks to the weight of two *slaim* of wool that Yakov gave to Yosef beyond what he gave to his other sons, his brothers became jealous of him and in the end our forefathers went down to Egypt.

The Meshich Chochma notes that the weight of the piece of *zehorit* that was tied onto the head of the head of the goat that was sent down to the wilderness on Yom Kippur was also two *slaim* in order to atone for the sale of the sale of Yosef, because according to our Sages ob'm this sin still exists in every generation.

Accordingly, we can understand the unique wording used to describe Israel, wording that we do not find in any other prayer, except for the prayers of Yom Kippur – "for you forgive Israel and pardon the Tribes of Israel." We can say that with these words we ask forgiveness for the sin of our forefathers the Tribes of Israel for selling Yosef.

Rabbi Yosef Cohen ob'm, Chief Dayan of Jerusalem added an additional dimension: The prohibition not to wear shoes on Yom Kippur is in order not to remind of the sin of selling Yosef, for Yosef was sold in exchange for shoes, as it says, "for their selling a righteous and poor man for money, for shoes."

SHABBAT SHALOM!!!

**Mazal Tov To**

Jennifer Madar & Stephane Oehrli on the bar-mitzvah of their son, James Teddy Barouch Oehrli Madar.



Past-President, David Gabbay & Family, on the loss of his wife, Vivian Shasha Gabbay z'l.

Oren & Karen Gabbay, on the loss of his mother, Vivian Shasha Gabbay z'l.

Doris Shasha & Family, on the loss of her daughter, Vivian Shasha Gabbay z'l.
Selma Sufer & Family, on the loss of her sister, Vivian Shasha Gabbay z'l.

SHINSHIN ARIEL LEVY

PLEASE JOIN ME IN SONGS

Hello everyone and Shabbat Shalom! Here are my third set of weekly songs, you are invited to listen to them during the week and share with me what you thought of them!

In order to listen to my songs, scan the following QR code



The first song of this week is "Lashuv Habita" by Yishai Rivo. In a week I'm going back for a short vacation in Israel, and after 4 months I'll see all my friends and family again, I'm excited and counting the days! This song accompanies me when I'm a little homesick, but it reminds me that I have a home and family to return to.

The second song is "Arafel" by Shuli Rand. The truth is, I started listening to Shuli Rand's songs recently, and this song is one of my favorites. He talks about his difficulties in life and how his faith in God helps him deal with them.

I can't wait to share with you my following songs!

Enjoy your winter break!

Shabbat shalom

PARNASS HAYOM BEIT HAMIDRASH HELWANI

SHABBAT 23 KISLEV - DECEMBER 17

Samuel & Vivienne Kairy, à la mémoire de sa mère, Esther Israel z'l

Famille Dadoun, à la mémoire de leur père, Prosper Samuel Dadoun z'l

SUNDAY/DIMANCHE 24 KISLEV-DEC. 18

Famille Ifergan, à la mémoire de son père, Selim Saad Cohen z'l.

Khamara Family, in memory of Edmond Khamara z'l

MONDAY/LUNDI 25 KISLEV - DEC. 19

Famille Gozlan, à la mémoire de leur père, Isaac Gozlan z'l.

TUESDAY/MARDI 26 KISLEV - DEC. 20

Albert & Gabriel Benizri; Dody & David Hasson, à la mémoire de leur mère, Fréha Benizri, z'l.

Isaac Shemoly, in memory of his father, Naji Shemoly Hakohen z'l

WEDNESDAY/MERCREDI 27 KISLEV - DEC. 21

Albert Mann, en l'honneur de ses enfants et petits-enfants.

THURSDAY/JEUDI 28 KISLEV - DEC. 22

Albert Levy & Jimmy Levy, en l'honneur de ses enfants et petits-enfants.

FRIDAY/VENDREDI 29 KISLEV - DEC. 23

Sehayek Family, in memory of their mother, Farah Sehayek z'l.

**Notice / Avis**

In order to have your tax receipt for 2022, please pay by December 31st, 2022.

Thank you for contributing to the Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue.

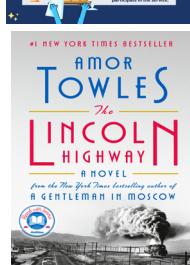
Wishing you and your family, a Happy Hanukkah.

Upcoming Events**SHABBAT, JANUARY 28 | 10:00A - 1:00P**

SPY KIDS SHABBAT TAKEOVER

Join us for a fun song filled, children led service. Followed by a kid friendly kiddush.

Please contact Julia Peress julia@thespanish.org if your child would like to participate in the service.

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12 | 10:30A - 12:00P**

SISTERHOOD Book Review: The Lincoln Highway by: Amor Towles - Reviewer: Yvonne Saleh Battat Hall

\$5 FOR SISTERHOOD MEMBER & \$8 FOR NON-MEMBERS

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 19 | 4:30P - 6:20P**

SPY HANUKKAH PARTY

BOUNCY CASTLES, FACE PAINTING, COOKIE DECORATING, ARTS & CRAFTS, LATKES, PIZZA, SUFGANIYOT AND MUCH MORE! \$5/child - \$5/adult - \$20/family

DON'T MISS OUT - REGISTER NOW! www.thespanish.org

RSVP: julia@thespanish.org

HOMEGOING

"HOMEGOING IS AN INSPIRATION."

"A STUNNINGLY BEAUTIFUL NOVEL."

"A STUNNINGLY BEAUTIF