



Shearith Israel  
SPANISH &  
PORTUGUESE  
Synagogue of Montreal  
Est. 1768

# SHABBAT BULLETIN

February 19, 2022 | 18 Adar I, 5782



## Parashat Ki Tissa

*A Philosophy of Mitzvot:  
Thoughts on Parashat Ki Tissa*  
Rabbi Marc D. Angel

“The children of Israel shall keep the Sabbath to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations as an eternal covenant.”

This famous verse from this week’s parasha seems to have a redundancy. It informs us that the children of Israel “shall keep” Shabbat “to observe” Shabbat. How do we “keep” Shabbat “to observe” it?

The great Hassidic master, Rabbi Levi Yitzhak of Berdichev, explained the verse as follows: we are commanded to keep the Sabbath. When we actually do keep the Sabbath, we will find that it is a wonderful, soul-satisfying experience. Indeed, it is so fulfilling that we will want to observe the Sabbath next week, and the week after, and throughout the generations.

Some people consider the many laws of Shabbat and think: we can’t do that, Shabbat is too difficult, it requires too many sacrifices. But when they do ac-

tually observe Shabbat, they find that the experience is delightful. They enjoy the Shabbat meals, they rejoice in the synagogue services, they gain wisdom from Shabbat Torah study, they relish the time spent quietly with family and friends. Indeed, Shabbat is so extraordinary that those who observe it wonder how it would be possible to live without Shabbat. Those who love Shabbat pine for Shabbat from week to week; their lives center around the rhythms of the weekly Shabbat. When one has truly kept Shabbat, he/she desires to observe Shabbat again and again. This is what the Torah means: when the children of Israel keep Shabbat, they will continue to observe Shabbat in the future. The powerful experience of Shabbat inspires them to want to observe Shabbat each week.

This is an important lesson about Judaism in general. We have many mitzvot, customs and traditions. At first glance, all these things may seem to be enormous burdens, overwhelmingly difficult to observe. But once we do observe the mitzvot, they become part of the fabric of our lives--and we find that they are essential to our physical, spiritual and emotional well-being. They are tremendous sources of joy and inner strength. Fulfilling one mitzvah leads us to want to fulfill

it again--and to fulfill other mitzvot as well.

The great 17th century author, Isaac Cardoso, pointed out: to those who don’t love the Torah, even six commandments seem as difficult as 613; but to those who love the Torah, 613 commandments seem as easy as just six. It is a matter of attitude. A positive, enthusiastic attitude leads one to fulfill the mitzvot with great satisfaction and happiness. A negative, unenthusiastic attitude leads one to think of the mitzvot as burdensome and unpleasant.

The greatest gift that Jewish parents and grandparents can give their progeny is an attitude and experience of joy in fulfilling Shabbat and the other mitzvot. We teach not by talking at our children and grandchildren, but by sharing with them the fulfillment of the commandments in a spirit of happiness and meaningfulness. If we will keep the Shabbat and other commandments, we will want to observe them again and again; our younger generations will learn to value the mitzvot and will continue our traditions throughout the generations.

Wishing you and your entire family a Shabbat Shalom  
Reverend Hazan Daniel Benlolo

### SHABBAT SHALOM

Start/Debut      End/Fin  
5:07 p.m.      6:12

Parashat Ki Tissa - Hertz page 352  
Haftarah Kings I - Hertz page 370

### WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE

Shabbat  
Shahrit: 8:30 a.m. Minha: 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday  
Shahrit: 8:30 a.m. Minha: 4:30 p.m.

MONDAY - FRIDAY  
Shahrit:      7:30 a.m.  
Minha:      4:30 p.m.

### CHEVRA SHAAS Service Schedule

SHABBOS, FEBRUARY 19<sup>TH</sup>  
Schachris 9:30 a.m.  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20<sup>RD</sup>  
Schachris 8:00 a.m.

### Junior Hebrew School

An educational & fun afterschool program for *children ages 3 - 5 years old*.

Your children will learn about the ALEPH-BET, Shabbat & Holidays as well as other Jewish values in an interactive, creative & engaging way.

Our first semester is starting on **February 24 for 6 weeks**.

For more information, please refer to the *flyer on our website*.

Thank you,  
Gali Pinto

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



### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

When you judge others, you do not define them, you define yourself.

| Aish HaTorah

### OPINION

## Chevra Shaas

Words From  
Rabbi Menahem White  
KI TISSA 5782

Avi Abelow grew up in New York, and went on aliya many years ago. He is a writer and commentator on current events in Israel and the Jewish world. His video presentations called “Israel Unwired,” representing what we would call a “right wing” point of view, are sent to my email.

I do not know him personally, yet I have great admiration for someone like him who went on aliyah and devotes himself to defending the Jewish people and the land of Israel.

Unfortunately, I must take exception to a commentary of his that I saw a few days ago. He said that Israelis are following closely

the “freedom convoy,” who he described as good people who are just trying to get their freedom of choice: “the right to decide to wear a mask, if to be vaccinated, to go to a gym or a movie or a hockey game, etc.”

All of this sounds very nice. The fact is that I personally have suffered from gov’t regulations, as all of my immediate family live outside of Quebec. Nevertheless, I understand that these regulations are to protect the population.

In Mr. Abelow’s news clip, he tried to show how nice the protesters are. He showed them **dancing!** I couldn’t help but think of this week’s parasha. Moshe is on top of the mountain, where God gives him the 10 commandments. But then God tells Moses to go down, because the people have made a golden calf, and deserve to be destroyed. Moshe then, standing on the mountain, makes an emotional plea to God to forgive

the people.

Moshe then starts to walk down the mountain, carrying the tablets on which were engraved the commandments. Yet, as Moshe gets further down the mountains and closer to the people, he sees the calf and the people **dancing** around it. That was too much for Moses. As the great Italian commentator Seforno pointed out, when Moses saw how happy the people were at their terrible act, that’s when he became really furious and despaired, and felt that the people were not worthy of the 10 commandments, and therefore smashed the tablets.

Mr. Abelow, please don’t be fooled by the protesters **dancing!!**

Have a good Shabbos, and, be’ezrat HaShem, as we follow the regulations, may we soon be rid of this pandemic!

Shabbat shalom.





S&P Shabbat Kiddush/Seudah is Sponsored by:

Rachel & Abe Gomel, in memory of his mother, Renee Gomel z'l.

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

The Friends of the Zoltan Leipnik Family, in honour of their Aliyah to Israel.

Congregation Maghen Abraham

Thoughts: Mayer Sasson - PERASHA KI TISA

“...Only keep my Sabbaths for that is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations... (31, 13)

All of the Children of Israel are responsible for one another

When Rabbi Shmuel, the fourth Grand Rabbi of Chabad was a child he had a fund for marrying off brides and grooms. Once one of the Chassidim wanted to urgently speak privately with his father (the Tzemach Tzedek) but at that time it was not possible.

The Chassid told the child that he had a factory for the production of pots and most of his merchandise was supplied to the army. One day one of the workers snitched on him that the pots sold to the army weighed less than what had been written in their contract. He

was now terrified because the hearing was to be held soon and when they would weigh the pots they would indeed see that they were less than they were supposed to be. The Chassid was afraid that they would sentence him to many years in jail.

The boy told him that if he gave him 300 Zehuvim to help marry off couples, everything would work out fine – and he gave him. At the trial they brought a pot and scales and surprisingly the pot weighed even more than it had to according to the contract and the judge set the man free. After the hearing the Chassid went to thank the Tzemech Tzedek. He was certain that the boy had told his father about it and that was where the miraculous salvation had come from. “It’s not me,” said the Grand Rabbi, “it probably comes from the child’s

Our Condolences To:



Lazzam Family, on the loss of mother & grandmother, Sara Lazzam z'l.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE** We are happy to announce that we have opened our doors To attend DAILY AND SHABBAT services at the Spanish, Chevra Shaas and Maghen Abraham, proof of double vaccination is **MANDATORY**. For Shabbat services proof of double vaccination must be submitted by Friday 10 a.m. before Shabbat. This is a one-time only procedure; your proof will be kept on file **Un-vaccinated individuals will NOT be admitted** Thank you for your understanding

actions.” They called Shmuel who was still a young boy and asked him how he had taken responsibility for such a great issue. The child answered in innocence, “What’s the problem? After a large sum was given for a bride and groom I put them and that great merit into the pots – and therefore they weighed more.”

In the holy Zohar it is explained that by unifying a bride and groom in This World a unification is made in Heaven between G-d and Israel. Our Sages ob’m say that the main unification between G-d and Israel occurs on Shabbat. We have to know that G-d is happy to be unified with his bride, Israel, and that is alluded to in verses. The Divine Presence receives the abundant blessings from G-d so that it can bring them to the Children of Israel. G-d connects with the Divine Presence which

is the source of all Jews’ souls just as a bride and groom connect, in order to bless the Jews with an abundance of good.

We should know that the unification of G-d with the Divine Presence is done only through the good deeds and mitzvahs of Israel. When Jews learn Torah and perform good deeds all the great holy brightness that is created from their Torah and good deeds comes before the Divine Presence and it adorns itself with these adornments of the Jews’ Torah and mitzvahs. The adorned Divine Presence comes before G-d Master of the world and when He sees His bride, the shining holy Divine Presence adorned with Torah and mitzvahs He immediately brings great blessings upon the Divine Presence and consequently upon Israel.

SHABBAT SHALOM!!

COMMUNITY

Jewish Wisdom

HALAKHA  
PURIM KATAN  
Reverend Hazan Daniel Benlolo

PURIM KATAN is the name given to the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> days of the first month of \*Adar in a leap year, when \*Purim is celebrated during the second month of Adar. (The Karaites were the only sect to celebrate Purim during the first Adar in a leap year.)

According to Talmudic tradition, Purim should be celebrated in the second Adar because that was the date of the original Purim (which occurred in a leap year). The sages also wanted to bring the period of the redemption of Esther closer to that of the redemption of the Israelites from Egypt celebrated in the following month of Nisan. Purim Katan has none of the ritual or liturgical features of Purim: The megillah is not read, and no gifts are sent to the poor. The \*Al ha-Nissim prayer is not said, but fasting and funeral eulogies are prohibited. Also, \*Taḥanun (supplications) is not recited on these days, which are considered a minor occasion of rejoicing.



Got A Question for Reverend/Hazan Daniel Benlolo?

Dear Danny, There are so many questions that come to mind that I would like to ask. I guess I can sum it up by the following question. After this crazy roller coaster ride the world has been through, how can one take the necessary tools to get back in the game?

Dear reader, That’s a BIG question. I once read something really inspiring. How you approach life says a lot about who you are. There are some who are content to passively coast through, hoping they land where they need to be and know what to do when the time comes. Then there are others, who make active choices to understand who they are, what they want and set the goals that will keep them moving in the right direction.

But a big part of having a successful life, is learning how to cope with the lessons that life has to teach us. Here are 12 of 24 powerful life lessons that will happen to us, learn how they will be significant. I will post the other 12 in my next column. Here they are:

1. Make yourself necessary and you will always be needed. If you want to feel successful, learn to create, innovate or design something other people can use/need.
2. Your thoughts are like boomerangs. What you pass along to others is what will come back to you.
3. You are more defined by what comes out of your mouth than what goes in it. The way you speak and things you say have power. Speech gives us the power to create or destroy.
4. The journey of your success will always begin with the small step of taking a chance. In business, in relationships, and in life, it all begins with a small step grounded in a desire to be better and do better.
5. Your education is never complete. Determine to live fully and continually learn. Prepare for what life has to teach by being open to the lessons in everything you do and experience.
6. Don’t allow the voice of your fears to be louder than the other voices in your head. Make sure the voice of reason, the voice of belief, the voice of confidence is all strong enough to drown it out. Done to here
7. A good reputation is more valuable than money. Your reputation is built on the foundation of your character; it entails the words you speak and actions you take. Take care of your character above all other things and your reputation will take care of itself.
8. You never really lose until you stop trying. The words I can’t never accomplish anything. I’ll try, on the other hand, can perform wonders. Until you try you don’t know what you can do.
9. You get more by giving more. Success doesn’t result from how much you get but from how much you give. If you want an abundant life, give as much as you can.
10. Rule your mind or it will rule you. When you rule your mind by controlling negativity and doubt, you rule your world. The choice is yours to make every day.
11. Great heroes are truly humble. Most of us underrate the importance of humility. It’s an important skill because it keeps you teachable, regardless of how much you already know.
12. Defeat isn’t bitter if you’re smart enough not to swallow it. At one time or another we will all experience failure. In fact, the more we are willing to risk, the more we will fail. The trick is to think of failure not as the end but as part of the process.

Shabbat shalom

PARNASS HAYOM BEIT HAMIDRASH HELWANI

**SHABBAT 18 ADAR I - FEBRUARY 19**  
Familie Nezri, à la mémoire de leur mère, Simi Nezri ז"ל.

**SUNDAY/DIMANCHE 19 ADAR I, FEBRUARY 20**  
Rita & Victor Guindi, Sasha & Samantha, Tania & Adam, à la mémoire de Joseph Meir Zilkha ז"ל.

Edna Mashaal, in memory of her father, Albert Gareh ז"ל.

**WEDNESDAY/MERCREDI 22 ADAR I - FEB. 23**  
Peress Family, in memory of their mother, Naima Peress ז"ל.

Famille Tauby, à la mémoire de Yaacov ben Latifée Tauby ז"ל.

**THURSDAY/JEUDI 23 ADAR I - FEBRUARY 24**  
Sylvia Shahin, in memory of her sister, Amal Akairib ז"ל.

Yael & Edmond Shahin, in memory of her father, Yaacov Zilkha ז"ל.

**FRIDAY/VENDREDI 24 ADAR I - FEB. 25**  
Familie Bensimon, à la mémoire de leur mère, Mazaltov bat Zohra ז"ל.



Upcoming Events



**Tuesday, February 22 | 12:00 - 1:00 pm**  
Sisterhood Book Review: “From Miniskirt to Hijab” By Jacqueline Saper - Reviewer: Yvonne Saleh  
RSVP: sisterhood2020@hotmail.com  
Zoom ID 895 2182 1866 - Password: SISBOOK



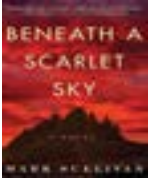
**Tuesday, March 1 | 7:00 - 8:00 pm**  
Improve your Arabic. First of many Tuesday night sessions  
Registration required: sisterhood2020@hotmail.com OR Grace at (514) 979-9779  
Meeting ID: 881 1057 1315 Passcode: SUPERSIS



**Thursday, March 17 | 4:00 - 7:00 pm**  
SAVE THE DATE  
Festive Purim Celebration for all ages



**Tuesday, March 22 | 12:00 - 1:00 pm**  
Sisterhood Book Review: “The Dogs of Winter” By Ann Lamert - Reviewer: TBA  
RSVP: sisterhood2020@hotmail.com  
Zoom ID 895 2182 1866 - Password: SISBOOK



**Tuesday, April 26 | 12:00 - 1:00 pm**  
Sisterhood Book Review: "Beneath A Scarlet Sky" By Mark Sullivan - Reviewer: Wilma Mashal  
RSVP: sisterhood2020@hotmail.com  
Zoom ID 895 2182 1866 - Password: SISBOOK



**SISTERHOOD - MISHLOAH MANOT! PURIM BASKETS**  
Fulfill the Mitzvah of Mishloach Manot!  
Deadline: Friday March 11 at 12:00 P.M.  
Price: \$50 - Phone: 514-737-3695