



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

SHABBAT BULLETIN

June 18, 2022 | 19 Sivan, 5782



Dvar Torah

SOMETIMES IN LIFE YOU'VE GOT TO TAKE
THE PLUNGE
Reverend Hazan Daniel Benlolo

All of us have gone through changes in our lives. Change is inevitable as the air we breathe. It doesn't matter whether you like change or not, whether you embrace it or run in the opposite direction. Not only will changes be taking place, but they will also be taking place all the time, with and without your participation. From small inconsequential stuff to important changes (move) to monumental changes (death and disability). But change can also be wonderful. It can be exhilarating, invigorating, energizing and daunting at the same time. The fact of the matter is how one reaches a level of acceptance when it comes to change.

We all strive to have an inspiring, compelling life that override a clock-punching, nine to five jobs. But making that leap to the unknown comes with some trepidation. We procrastinate because with change come the fear of failure, fear of pain, discomfort and effort, fear of criticism, fear of the new and yes, even the fear of success and the baggage it comes with.

In the words of Henry David Thoreau: "If one advances confidently in the direction of his dreams and endeavors to live the life which he had imagined, he will meet success unexpected in common hours."

In its extensive history the Jewish people has had direction, dreams and accomplishments, but it also was afraid of failure, fear of pain and fear of criticism. The Jewish nation like all individuals has had to experience change. In 168 B.C.E. when the Temple was seized

by the Syrian-Greek army and the Jewish nation was grasping for survival, we were forced to adapt to change. Even though the Maccabees' triumph is central to the Chanukah story, Judaism downplays the military victory which took more than two decades of fighting before they forced the Seleucids to retreat from Palestine focusing instead on the miracle that followed. They chose to take a leap of faith, to send some light into a dark world, even if keeping that light would eventually prove to be a challenge for generations to come. But so the story goes, it did not go out. Instead, it burned continuously



"When your daughter says she wants to jump off a plane & experience flying, let her take the plunge!"

for eight days, long enough for more oil to be pressed. A miracle of light, and a message of hope and redemption; not by might or by power, but by spirit — faith, commitment, courage, and determination — do we triumph over evil. This is also the message of Parashat Beha'alotcha. "Beha'alotcha et Hanerot" - lift yourself not only physically but spiritually and light the Menorah. The re-birth of Israel is considered an unprecedented phenomenon in human history. Israel was not built in a

day! The fact that a people should be driven into exile, be dispersed, and yet survive for 2,000 years, that they should be a nation without a homeland and return, that they should re-establish that homeland is a miraculous, singular event. In more recent times, the rescue and arrival of Ethiopian Jewry in Israel is believed to be the very fulfillment of their redemptive vision. Nothing came easy; they and the Jewish state made accommodating changes and took a leap of faith. In a modern-day exodus from the Soviet Union came the largest single influx of Jewry, even surpassing the number of Holocaust survivors who had arrived during Israel's formative years. Once again, the Jewish state and its new immigrants made accommodating changes and took a leap of faith.

Rabbi Daniel Gordis writes, "The existence of the Jewish state is vital not only for the Jews, but for people everywhere who seek to actualize their potential by embracing their unique ethnic identity".

All these accounts capture a fundamental idea in Jewish thought called Tikun Olam (repairing the world). Our task as a community and as individuals is to bring light and holiness not only inside our own homes, but also outward into the world. How do we make such an impact when we are no more than a wave in the sea of humanity, a grain of sand on the surface of infinity? How then can you and I make a difference?

Nothing comes easy and everything takes time. We repair the world in small steps, act by act, day by day. G-d asks us to do what we can when we can.

Take a leap of faith and make some changes. Now go out there and jump off a plane and have some fun!

Shabbat shalom

SHABBAT SHALOM

Start/Debut End/Fin
8:27 p.m. **9:45 p.m.**

PARASHAT BEHA'ALOTEKHA:
HERTZ PAGE 605
HAFTARAH JUDGES:
HERTZ PAGE 620

WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE

Shabbat
Shahrit: 8:30 a.m. Mincha: 8:15 p.m.
Sunday
Shahrit: 8:30 a.m. Mincha: 6:00 p.m.

MONDAY - FRIDAY
Shahrit: 7:30 a.m.
Mincha: 6:00 p.m.

CHEVRA SHAAS Service Schedule

SHABBOS, June 18TH
Schachris 9:30 a.m.

SUNDAY, June 19TH
Schachris 8:00 a.m.

To contact **Reverend Hazan Daniel Benlolo:**
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(514) 892-2859



Last year, with your unfailing support & your generous donations, we have achieved our goal, You truly made a difference for us, and we are extremely grateful!

This Year, We are Celebrating!
We are our Heritage!
We are Celebrating our Heritage!

Your support is invaluable to us, thank you again! If you have specific questions about the **Annual Giving Campaign 2022** be sure to visit our **website** or reach out to **S&P Synagogue!**

Looking to hearing from you soon!
<https://charidy.com/spanish>

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

Strive not to be a success, but rather to be a value.

Albert Einstein | Aish HaTorah

OPINION

Chevra Shaas Words From Rabbi Menahem White BEHA'ALOTEKHA 5782

First of all, in the name of Chevra Shaas, mazal tov to Edmond Elbaz for his many years of dedication and leadership at the Synagogue.

My first full time job was at the State University of NY, where I was Asst. Prof. of Hebrew. I distinctly remember the following story: After the first semester, a young lady from one of my classes came into my office, to discuss her mark. She had passed the course with a decent grade, but she felt that her

grade should have been higher. I tried to explain how my grading system was very fair, yet she was adamant in her demands, and threatened to report to the Dean how unfair I was. I told her that I don't mind if she reports me, and I would be confident that the Dean would agree with my grading system.

Nevertheless, as a young rookie professor, I found the experience to be upsetting, particularly as this was a student whom I had gone out of my way to help during the semester. So I discussed the situation with my friend and colleague, a seasoned 37-year-old tenured Professor. He told me: "Menachem, you have to remember the first rule of teaching and of life: it's

not 'what have you done for me,' but what have you done for me **lately!**"

I am often reminded of that incident when we come to this week's parasha. Only 1 year had passed since the Exodus from Egypt. The people certainly remembered the 10 plagues that HaShem had brought down upon the Egyptians; the miraculous splitting of the Yam Suf; the manna upon which they were able to subsist; the receiving of the 10 Commandments; the sweetening of the water at Marah; the building of the Tabernacle, and, in this week's parasha, the lighting of the menorah. All of these wondrous events were from HaShem, under the leadership of Moses.

And yet: as we read the 6th aliya of this week's parasha, the people are complaining at Taveirah; and then again at Qivrot HaTa'avah. It's too much for Moshe: Moshe must have been thinking to himself of all that he had done for the people, and now they are just complaining and complaining. It's not what you have done for me, it's what you have done for me **lately!** Moshe tells HaShem he can't take it anymore; until HaShem appoints 70 people who would be able to assist Moshe.

An interesting insight into human behaviour?

Shabbat shalom



S.&P. Shabbat Kiddush is Co-Sponsored By:

Auriella et feu Yoël Taïeb z'l, à l'occasion de la Bar Mitzvah de leur fils, Nathan, frère de Noah.

Dear Friends, Congregants and Generous Donors, I wish to thank you for your presence at the magnificent *Gala* afforded me by our Congregation. My family and I were very touched by the love and affection shown to us. Your presence greatly enhanced the joy of this evening. Warmest thanks and best wishes. **Edmond and Suzanne Elbaz** Shabbat shalom.

Mazal Tov To



Victoria Nathaniel, and Ovadia Shebath, on the upcoming wedding of their granddaughter/daughter, **Lisa Shebath** to **Matthew Kovitz-Lensch**, son of Marcia Kovitz.

Grandmothers, **Evelyn Shahin, Susan Levine & Etty Litvack** and delighted parents, **Gilda & Morris Abdulezer** and **Jeanette & Brian Levine** on the upcoming wedding of their children **Andrea Abdulezer** to **Danny Levine**.



Auriella et feu Yoël Taïeb z'l, à l'occasion de la Bar Mitzvah de leur fils, Nathan, frère de Noah.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

June 13 Gala In Honour of Edmond Elbaz



Gala Committee: (left to right) Muriel, Suzanne & Edmond Elbaz, Arlene Abitan, Sandra Mashaal, Lucie & Charles Shemie, Ron Mashaal (standing) Daniel Benlolo.

We can all agree that this past Monday's Gala in honour of Edmond Elbaz was a huge success. How could it not be when the Gala started with a great enthusiastic and energetic committee, (Sandra and Ron Mashaal, Muriel and Reverend Benlolo, Sandra Koukou, Arlene Abitan, Albert Herscovitch, Françoise Babulot, the entire S&P staff and volunteers) and especially when the honouree is a man that we admire and love.

Congratulations to everyone. Hazak Uvaruch!

Mazal Tov Edmond and the entire Elbaz family. What a great way to start the summer on such a high note and with sooo much to be grateful.

On to more great things. With much respect and appreciation to everyone involved.

PARNASS HAYOM BEIT HAMIDRASH HELWANI

SHABBAT 19 SIVAN - JUNE 18
Famille Abittan, à la mémoire de leur père, Israel Abittan ben Rivka ז"ל.

SUNDAY/DIMANCHE 20 SIVAN - JUNE 19
Sélim Sasson Family, in honour of their Children & Grandchildren.

TUESDAY/MARDI 22 SIVAN - JUNE 21
Albert Mann, in honour of his Children & Grandchildren.

THURSDAY/JEUDI 24 SIVAN - JUNE 23
Albert Cohen, à la mémoire de son père, Moses Cohen ז"ל.

Herscovitch Family, in memory of Abraham Herscovitch ז"ל.

Lily & Alfred Bilbul, in memory of her father, Naji Saleh Daniel ז"ל.

FRIDAY/VENDREDI 25 SIVAN - JUNE 24
Armand & Lizanne Mamane, à la mémoire de Esther Mamane ז"ל.

Renée Hanna Mahfoda, à la mémoire de son père, Mardoché Mahfoda ז"ל.

Marie Miriam Benhaïm Schad, à la mémoire de son père, Jacob Benhaïm ז"ל.



Congregation Maghen Abraham

Thoughts: Mayer Sasson

PERASHA BIHAALOTCHA

"And Moshe cried unto G-d... O G-d heal her, I beseech You." (12,13)

Praying for patients

In the time of Rabbi Yonatan Eibshitz a terrible plague of cholera erupted. The doctors could not find any remedy for the terrible disease that did not skip over homes of the Jews.

The community leaders approached the Rabbi and asked him to write an amulet to cancel the plague. He wrote an amulet and told them to put it on the sick people – and thank G-d they totally recovered from the illness!

One of the people who was curious and wanted to know what it said on this wondrous amulet that cured everyone without any pills or injections, could not believe what he saw when he opened it: It said one word – cholera - "חלרע".

He immediately went to Rabbi Yonatan and asked him about the amulet. "Did the Rabbi make the angel who brought the disease swear? Is he called Cholera?"

The Rabbi answered. Not at all, the word "חלרע" is made up of the initials "חסאנו לפניך דהם" - "עלינו" - "We have sinned before you, have mercy upon us" - and G-d had mercy upon us. Shabbat shalom!!



Upcoming Events

ONLY 36 HRS
\$360,000
EVERY DOLLAR IS X2

SAVE
THE
DATE
June 19

THE SPANISH & PORTUGUESE
SYNAGOGUE OF MONTREAL
EST. 1768

Last year, with your unfailing support & your generous donation, we have achieved our goal, You truly made a difference for us, and we are extremely grateful!

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More than something of yesterday, heritage is something that drives tomorrow. **Today!**

Your support is invaluable to us, thank you again! If you have specific questions about the **Annual Giving Campaign 2022** be sure to visit our **website** or reach out to **S&P Synagogue!**

Looking forward to hearing from you soon! <https://charidy.com/spanish>



Thursday, July 21 | 3:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.
(in the garden in Hampstead) All are welcome!

Sisterhood Book Review: "From Mid East to Far East"
by: Gabrielle Elia - Reviewer: Gabrielle Elia

RSVP: sisterhood2020@hotmail.com