



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

SHABBAT BULLETIN

March 25, 2023 | 3 Nissan, 5783



Dvar Torah Parashat Vayikra

Summary & Questions!

By: Reverend Hazan Daniel Benlolo

Parasha Vayikra is the first portion of the book with the same name. It discusses the laws and rituals related to animal sacrifices and offerings in the Tabernacle or Temple, as well as the role of the priests in carrying out these practices.

The portion opens with God calling to Moses and instructing him on the proper way to offer a burnt offering: "Speak to the Israelites and say to them: 'When anyone among you brings an offering to the Lord, bring as your offering an animal from either the herd or the flock.'" (Vayikra 1:2) The text then goes on to describe the various types of offerings and how they are to be performed, including the grain offering, peace offering, sin offering, and guilt offering.

One of the key themes in Parasha Vayikra is the importance of following the proper procedures and rituals in approaching Hashem. For example, the text emphasizes that the priests must first cleanse themselves before offering sacrifices: "He shall put on the linen tunic, with the linen undergarments next to his body; he shall be girded with the linen sash, and he shall wear the linen turban. These are the sacred vestments; he shall bathe his body in water and then put them on." (Vayikra 16:4)

Another important theme of the portion is the concept of atonement for sins. The sin offering is described as a way for the Israelites to make amends for their transgressions: "The priest shall make atonement on their behalf, and they shall be forgiven." (Vayikra 4:20)

Parasha Vayikra lays out a detailed framework for how the Israelites are to approach Hashem and seek forgiveness for their sins through the rituals of sacrifice and offerings. It emphasizes the importance of following proper procedures and being mindful

of one's actions in order to maintain a close relationship with Hashem.

Discussion questions:

1. What is the symbolic meaning behind the various types of offerings, and how do they connect to broader themes of identity and purpose in the Israelites' relationship with Hashem?
2. How does the concept of atonement in Parasha Vayikra reflect the Israelites' understanding of the nature of sin and the relationship between humans and Hashem and what implications does this have for ethical and theological debates about the nature of forgiveness, justice, and redemption?
3. How do the intricate rules and regulations governing the practice of sacrifice in Parasha Vayikra reflect broader concerns about social order, purity, and morality in the Israelite community, and what can we learn from these teachings about the role of religion in shaping cultural values and norms?

Shabbat shalom

Shabbat Hagadol

The Importance of Coming Together

By: Reverend Hazan Daniel Benlolo

As the Jewish holiday of Passover draws near, Jews around the world prepare to celebrate the liberation of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. But before the holiday begins, there is a special Shabbat known as Shabbat Hagadol, which falls on the Shabbat immediately preceding Passover. This year, our synagogue will be celebrating Shabbat Hagadol with two exciting events: a family-style Shabbat dinner on Friday, March 31st, and a kids' Shabbat takeover during the morning

service on April 1st.

Shabbat Hagadol is a time for reflecting on the upcoming holiday and preparing for the rituals and traditions that come with it. It's a chance to come together as a community and to share in the excitement of Passover. The name "Shabbat Hagadol" means "the Great Shabbat," and it is believed to refer to the miraculous events that occurred on the Shabbat before the Exodus from Egypt.

We have the opportunity to come together so many times over the past two months. First on Tu'Bishvat, again on Purim and this past weekend to welcome Rabbi Ellis and his family. Each time we gather, it's more special that the last

time. Connections are being forged and relationships are being rekindled.

The family-style Shabbat dinner on March 31st is a chance for families to come together and share a meal, in keeping with the spirit of Shabbat Hagadol. We will enjoy traditional Shabbat foods and celebrate the coming holiday with joy and excitement. The service will begin at 5:30 p.m. in the Iny Chappel. At 6:00 p.m. Reverend Hazan Daniel Benlolo and Hazan Shemi Benjamin Harrouch will invite all the children to join them at the Bima to help welcome Shabbat.

The kids' Shabbat takeover on April 1st is a chance for the young members of our community to take charge of our Shabbat morning service. They will lead some of the prayers, introduce the Aliyot, lead the songs and share their thoughts on the meaning of Shabbat and Passover. This event is a wonderful way to engage our children in the traditions and practices of our community and to help them feel a sense of ownership and pride in their heritage.

As we approach Passover let us celebrate our traditions, our culture, and our shared history. And let us look forward to a bright and joyous future, filled with the strength and resilience of our community.

Shabbat shalom

SHABBAT SHALOM Shabbat Hahodesh

Start/Debut 6:54 p.m. End/Fin 7:58 p.m.

PARASHAT VAYIKRA
HERTZ PAGE 410
HAFTARAH ISAIAH
HERTZ PAGE 424

SHABBAT SERVICES
SHAHRIT: 8:30A MINHA: 6:30P

WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE

Sunday
Shahrit: 8:30A Minha: 6:00P

MONDAY - FRIDAY
Shahrit: 7:00A Minha: 6:00P

CHEVRA SHAAS Service Schedule

SHABBOS, March 25TH
Schachris 9:30 a.m.

SUNDAY, March 26TH
Schachris 8:00 a.m.

TORAH CLASS

Join **ANDRE ROTCHEL** every
Shabbat after services
Beit Hamidrash
Refreshments

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



SHABBAT KIDS CLUB

AGES 3-11
GARDERIE ORSHELI DAYCARE
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

PARASHA

GAMES

SONGS

STORIES

CRAFTS

PRIZES

SELL YOUR HAMETZ



Call the office **514-737-3675** to
sell your **Hametz** or go to our
website: **www.thespanish.org**

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

We may be alone, but we are
alone together.

| Aish HaTorah

SPANISH & PORTUGUESE SHABBAT KIDDUSH SPONSORED/CO-SPONSORED BY:
Choula & Gabriel Lancry, in memory of his father, David Lancry z'l.
Chantal Brahmi & Thomas Cadieux, in memory of her daughter,
Amanda Blondon z'l.

SPANISH & PORTUGUESE SHABBAT SEUDAH SPONSORED BY:
Nelly & Victor Perez, in memory of his brother, Alain Perez z'l.
Angelle Saleh & Family, in memory of her husband, Maurice Albert Saleh z'l.

CHEVRA SHAAS SHABBOS KIDDUSH SPONSORED BY:
The Congregation.

Community

**Congregation
Maghen Abraham**
PERASHA Vayikra
Thoughts: Mayer Sasson

"... if any man of you would bring an offering from you near unto G-d..."(1,2)

An offering from you

"Your offering should be similar to the offering of Adam Harishon. Just as even though Adam Harishon had everything at his disposal he did not bring from stolen or looted items, so you.. do not bring an offering from stolen or looted items." (Vayikra Rabba)

We must understand: Why do we have to learn through an allusion about bringing an offering from something stolen? It says specifically (Yeshaya) "For I, G-d, love judgment and hate robbery with offerings".

The Admor Rabbi Moshe Yechiel Epstein of Azhorov explained: The verse does not speak about stealing from one another; it refers to what our Sages said "One who enjoys This World without a blessing is as if stealing."

A person is not allowed to enjoy this world until he recognizes that everything has been given to him from G-d. Likewise, an offering is not considered "yours" until a person recognizes that it belongs to G-d and he blesses Him for it. This is alluded to in the numerology of "קריב קרבן" – bring an offering – that adds up to "מאה ברכות" – 100 blessings.

The word "מכם" – from you- seems superfluous for it seemingly would have been enough to write "if any man of you would bring an offering". In the Yalkut Mayen Ganim it is brought down that this is to teach us that one who makes one hundred blessings – the numerology of the word "מכם" – every day has as if brought an offering on the altar.

The righteous Rabbi Hillel Lichtenstein of Kolomia added: The fact that the mitzvah of one hundred blessings is alluded to in the word "מכם" teaches us an allusion to that which is written in the Gemara that if a person makes a blessing on something stolen "this is not a blessing but a curse. The Torah says"... if any man of you would bring an offering from you - אדם כי יקריב- "מכם" Make the blessings from your own belongings and not from others'.

SHABBAT SHALOM!!



Chevra Shaas
Words From **Rabbi Menahem White**
VA-YIQRA' 5783

The 9th of Nisan is the yahrzeit of our dear friend Herb Schnap. Herbie was very devoted to CS. We send our best wishes to his wife Fran.

Mazal tov to Simcha and Shulamit Foxman on the wedding in Jerusalem of Simcha's grandson Moshe Yehuda. And refu'ah sheleimah to Simcha's daughter Rachel and her husband David Stern, who were injured in the terror attack this past week in the Shomron. B"H, they are recovering. David was a hero, as he succeeded in shooting the terrorist before more damage could have been done.

Last week, we completed the Book of Exodus. I pointed out then how the ancient rabbis showed that our support and inspiration come from Jerusalem, and how sad it is that our nation has lately been so divided.

Of course, this division is nothing new. In mid-March 1960, Prime Minister David Ben Gurion was a guest speaker at Yeshiva University. The auditorium was packed with rabbis, dignitaries, students, and guests. (This was before I began my studies at YU.) Ben Gurion said in his speech that it is true that the Knesset was located within range of Jordanian guns, but he was not worried, for, as it says in Psalms chapter 121, "the Guardian of Israel does not sleep." ("hinei lo' yanum ve-lo' yishan Shomer Yisrael.") At that point a bearded man in the audience yelled out: "do you mean God or the IDF?" Security guards quickly removed the man from the audience, although BG remarked: "we get this in Israel all the time." [Of course, we could interpret the verse as referring to the blessing of HaShem to the IDF, but it was perceived as either/or.]

Sadly, in the last couple of months, the bitterness has escalated. as all of you who have been following the news from Israel know very well. How can we confront our enemies if we can't even speak one to another?

Rabbi Bahya ben Asher, a very important Sephardi commentator from the 13th/14th century, introduces his commentary of VaYiqra' with

Mazal Tov To



Joyce & Mounir Peress, on the birth of their grand-son, son of Lisa Peress & Ovett Edwards.

**Got a Question for
Reverend/Hazan
Daniel Benlolo?**

Dear Danny, I'm feeling overwhelmed by all the preparations for Passover. Do you have any advice on how to make the holiday more meaningful and less stressful?

Dear Reader, It's understandable to feel overwhelmed during the Pass-over preparations, but there are ways to make the holiday more meaningful and less stressful. One suggestion is to focus on the spiritual aspects of the holiday and not just the practical ones. Take some time to reflect on the themes of freedom and redemption and consider how you can apply those lessons to your own life. Additionally, try to involve your family and friends in the preparations, so that it becomes a communal effort rather than solely your responsibility. Finally, remember that the most important aspect of Passover is spending time with loved ones and celebrating our shared history and traditions. Don't let the stress of preparations detract from the joy of the holiday.

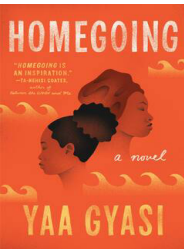
Until next time...

**PARNASS HAYOM
BEIT HAMIDRASH
HELWANI**

- SHABBAT 3 NISSAN - MARCH 25**
Jim & Ariel, in memory of Claire Khazzam ז"ל
- SUNDAY/DIMANCHE 4 NISSAN - MARCH 26**
Leila Khamara & Family, in honour of Drs. Sabah & Samia Bekhor.
- Famille Benisti, à la mémoire de leur père, Salim (Shlomo) Benisti ז"ל
- MONDAY/LUNDI 5 NISSAN - MARCH 27**
Aintabi Family, à la mémoire de leur père Yaacov Aintabi ז"ל
- TUESDAY/MARDI 6 NISSAN - MARCH 28**
Jennifer & Menashi Mashaal, in honour of their Family.
- THURSDAY/JEUDI 8 NISSAN - MARCH 30**
Ronit Dinovitzer & Ron Levi, in honour of their son, Eli Dinovitzer-Levi's Bar Mitzvah.
- FRIDAY/VENDREDI 9 NISSAN - MARCH 31**
Richard Saleh, in memory of his brother, Maurice Albert Saleh ז"ל
- Sampson Family, in memory of Elisha ben Emmanuel & Ruth Sampson ז"ל



Upcoming Events

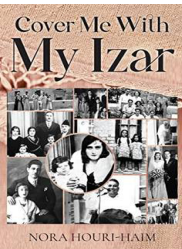


SUNDAY, MARCH 26 | 10:30A - 12:00P
SISTERHOOD BOOK REVIEW: Homegoing
by: Yaa Gyasi - Reviewer: Vicky Shemie - Battat Hall

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

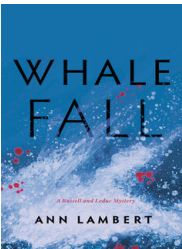


SHABBAT, APRIL 1 | 10:00A - 1:00P
SPY KIDS SHABBAT HAGADOL TAKEOVER
Join us for a fun song filled, children led service. Followed by a kid friendly kiddush.
Please contact Julia Peress julia@thespanish.org if your child would like to participate in the service.



SUNDAY, APRIL 23 | 10:30A - 12:00P
SISTERHOOD BOOK REVIEW: Cover Me With My Izar
by: Nora Houri-Haim - Reviewer: Joe Menashe Battat Hall

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



TUESDAY, MAY 2 | 10:30A - 12:00P
SISTERHOOD BOOK REVIEW: "Whale" Fall by Ann Lambert
Reviewer: Taff Chitayat Battat Hall

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