

Rabbi

Rabbi Zvi Ralbag is the Rav of Congregation Bais Ephraim Yitzchok.

Rabbi Zvi Ralbag was raised in Amsterdam, Holland until the age of 12 when his family moved to New York. Rabbi Ralbag's formative experiences in New York were in the Young Israel of Avenue K, where his father was the Rav. At the Young Israel, he resolved to spend his life in the rabbinate, serving the needs of the orthodox community.

Rabbi Ralbag pursued his rabbinic studies at Hebron Yeshiva in Israel where he received his semicha from the Rosh Yeshiva, Rabbi Simcha Zissel Broide zt'l. He also studied at Yeshivas Brisk in Yerushalayim and in Beis Medrash Gavoha in Lakewood, New Jersey. After getting married, he concentrated on Dayanus, specializing in Even Haezer and Choshen Mishpat. He passed his exam in Dayanus Evan Haezer from the Chief Rabbinate of Israel and received semicha Yadin Yadin from Rabbi Zalman Nechemia Goldberg and Rabbi Shlomo Fisher. Rabbi Ralbag then served as a dayan pro temp in the Jerusalem District Court.

Rabbi Ralbag attended Yeshivah Torah Temimah and graduated as valedictorian of the high school. Rabbi Ralbag graduated summa cum laude from Touro College with a Bachelors degree in Actuarial Science and a minor in Finance.

After completing his formal training, Rabbi Ralbag became Assistant Rabbi of the Young Israel of Staten Island. In addition to his Rabbinic and pastoral duties, he was responsible for the Staten Island Eruv as well as answering personal Halachic sheilot. He formed close relationships with many of the families of the Staten Island community, which continue to today.

In 2008, he accepted the position of Rav of Congregation Bais Ephraim. In addition to leading the kehilla on Shabbassim and Yomim Tovim, Rabbi Ralbag gives shiurim in Gemarah (biyun), Jewish history and Halacha L'emaaseh issues in Orach Chayim. Rabbi Ralbags house is open 24/7 to his members and he provides religious guidance to the nearly 100 members of Congregation Beis Ephraim and to the larger 5 Towns Jewish Community.

Rabbi Ralbag is married Paghit Herzog from Toronto, Canada. Paghit Ralbag attended Michlala Jerusalem College for Women. She studied at York University, Toronto and then completed her degree in Biology with a minor in Psychology from Touro College in Israel. She later earned an M.S., with honors, in Neurobiology at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. In Staten Island, Paghit gave shiurim to women and girls, and had a monthly shiur focusing on women in Tanach. She was also involved in the Bikur Cholim of Staten Island, teaching Kallah classes, and volunteering on a helpline for women. She currently teaches at the Hebrew Academy of Long Beach. Together, they have 4 children.