



After a short hiatus Machzikei Hadas is bringing back the Loblaws Gift Card Program. Purchase Loblaws gifts cards (\$50, \$100, \$250, and \$500 denominations) through Machzikei Hadas and help support the shul while you shop!

We will be taking orders until we reach \$20,000 at which point we will order the cards online (Standard delivery time is typically within 4 to 7 business days). We will repeat this process as often as needed.

Please call the office 613-521-9700 or email

jayson.taller@cmhottawa.com to place your order.

Please Note - The shul will not be keeping cards on hand and all orders need to be prepaid.



CONGREGATION MACHZIKEI HADAS

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Rabbi Idan Scher, Rabbi
Rabbi Dr. Reuven P. Bulka, C.M, Rabbi Emeritus
Bonnie Boretsky, President

SHEMINI ATZERET/ SIMCHAT TORAH 22 & 23 TISHRAY 5781 OCTOBER 10 & 11, 2020

SHABBAT | ITON

Torah Thought By Rabbi Scher

If the holiday of Shavuot celebrates the receiving of the Torah, why was Simhat Torah chosen as the day to end and begin the annual Torah reading cycle?

Furthermore, why do we have two holidays for the Torah -- Shavuot and Simhat Torah? And two holidays that are celebrated so differently. On Shavuot, we stay up all night learning Torah. And on Simhat Torah, we dance.

The need for these two holidays has been explained in a parable that has been handed down from generation to generation.

Once a king issued a proclamation. Any one of his subjects was welcome to try for the hand of his daughter. On one condition: The potential suitor was not allowed to meet or see his daughter before the marriage.

The proclamation caused quite a stir. Rumours as to why the king would not allow the potential suitor to meet or see his daughter before marriage became the talk of the town. Finally, a simple wholehearted person spoke up. "I am willing to marry her. How bad can she be? After all, she is the king's daughter and we all know how great our king is."

Word quickly spread and the suitor was led to the palace. As it turned out, he was the only one who volunteered. The king accepted the match and the wedding date was set.

Continued on next page...

TORAH THOUGHTS BY RABBI SCHER CONTINUED:

After the lavish wedding, the groom escorted his bride to their new home. She removed her heavy veil, and he was astounded at her beauty. After spending time with his new wife, getting to know her character, and enjoying long conversations with her, the princess's husband found himself pleasantly surprised. In every way, she excelled beyond his greatest hopes and dreams. None of the rumours he heard were true. Overjoyed, he held a lavish party to celebrate his good fortune.

The king in the parable is God. God originally offered the Torah to every nation in turn. All the nations refused, each one claiming some fault in the Torah they would not be able to live with. When God offered it to the Jews, they said 'Naaseh VeNishma' -- "we will do, and then we will understand" (Exodus 24:7). The Jewish people accepted the Torah without having seen it, as they were grateful for all God had done for them.

Though the Jewish people fully accepted the Torah, they feared a loss. They assumed that the numerous obligations in the Torah would deprive them of their pleasures and freedom. Similarly, the groom in the parable married the king's daughter fearing all of the rumours he heard were true. But as the Jews learned the Torah and applied it's teaching to their lives, they were pleasantly surprised. Not only did they not have to give up anything, they found the Torah brought meaning into their lives beyond their imagination.

Therefore at the conclusion of reading the Torah, when we have again delved into its teachings for a full year, we make a party on Simhat Torah as we rejoice in the incredible gift we received from God.

Schedule of Services

Friday, October 9– Hoshanah Rabbah
6:25 a.m.: Shaharit
Lighting before 6:07 p.m.
6:20 p.m.: Minhah

Saturday, October 10– Shemini Atzeret
9:00 a.m.: Shaharit
10:30 a.m.: Yizkor Approx.
6:15 p.m.: Minhah
Lighting after 7:07 p.m.

Sunday, October 11– Shemini Atzeret-Simhat Torah
9:00 a.m.: Shaharit
6:15 p.m.: Minhah
7:06 p.m.: Havdalah

Monday-Thursday
6:45 a.m.: Shaharit
6:10 p.m. Minhah/Maariv

Friday, October 16
6:45 a.m.: Shaharit
Lighting before 5:54 p.m.
6:05 p.m.: Minhah

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Shabbat Shalom & Chag Sameach
Everyone!

Stay Safe and Stay Healthy

WEEKLY CLASSES

Please refer to emails, Facebook or the shul website for all virtual learning opportunities.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out to the office at office@cmhottawa.com

Yahrzeits for the Week of Oct 10

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| 22 Tishray—Oct 10 Diane Swedler
Freda Edelson | 26 Tishray—Oct 14 Sheva Appotive
Esther Malka Bruner
Martha Cohen
Simon Czajazncky
Chaya Lewinstein |
| 23 Tishray—Oct 11 Isaac Bregman
Joseph Goldberg
Jacob Rivers
James Silverman | 27 Tishray—Oct 15 Georges Uzan
Shmuel Katz |
| 24 Tishray—Oct 12 Isaac Kerzner
Jack Zaitlin
Mordechai Miller | 28 Tishray—Oct 16 Betty Ballon
Eddy Gershberg
Clara Harris
Nathan Weisbord |
| 25 Tishray—Oct 13 Zlata Halickman
Meyer Landau
Phyllis Brill Lief
Belle Slover | |