



**PARK  
SLOPE  
JEWISH  
CENTER**

May 3-11, 2019 28 Nissan – 6 Iyyar 5779  
Shabbat Shoah Parashat Acharei Mot

Friday, May 3   28 Nissan				Shabbat Shoah Parashat Acharei Mot Saturday, May 4   29 Nissan		
Lev Tahor welcomes Artist In Residence <b>Eleanor Epstein</b>   6:30PM Candle Lighting   7:36PM				Shacharit   10:00AM - D'var Torah by Eleanor Epstein Tot Shabbat/Mini Minyan   11:15AM Artist in Residence - Melava Malka   8:00PM		
Sunday May 5 30 Nissan	Monday May 6 1 Iyyar	Tuesday May 7 2 Iyyar	Wednesday May 8 3 Iyyar	Thursday May 9 4 Iyyar	Friday May 10 5 Iyyar	Saturday May 11 6 Iyyar
Rosh Hodesh Minyan Kane Street 9:00AM  HAGIGA! Communal Celebration 10:30AM	Rosh Hodesh Minyan 7:00AM	Hebrew School 4:00PM  Yom Hazikaron Tekes 7:00PM Union Temple	Morning Minyan 7:15AM  Hebrew School 4:00PM  Yom Ha'Atzmaut With Nava Tehila Shuk   6:30PM Concert   7:45PM		PAI - Walking Group 9:30AM  Stoop Shabbat 3:30PM  Kabbalat Shabbat with <b>Cornelia Dalton</b> 6:30PM  Candle Lighting 7:43PM	Shabbat Kedoshim  Parashat Hashavua 9:30AM  Shacharit   10:00AM  Family Torah   10:15AM  Shabbat Kulanu 11:00AM  Tot Shabbat   11:15AM  Hagar and Miriam with Cornelia Dalton 1:30PM
<b>Park Slope Jewish Center</b> 1320 Eighth Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11215 (718) 768-1453 Office hours: M-Th 9AM-5PM, F 9AM-2PM www.psjc.org   email: office@psjc.org				Rabbi Carie Carter, Rabbi (rabbicarie@psjc.org) Ellen Brickman, President (president@psjc.org) Elana Ayalon, Director of Administration (office@psjc.org) Aileen Heiman, Director of Youth Education (aileen.heiman@psjc.org) For questions about Accessibility (inclusion@psjc.org)		

**Mazal Tov!**

To **Eli Wolfhagen** and **Lena Katsnelson**, **Yonah** and **Levy** on the birth of their new son and brother.

**HaMakom Yenachem**

Our condolences go to:

**Julie Greenspon** and family the death of Julie's father, **Barry Edward Greenspon**, z"l

**Marty Moskowitz** and family on the death of his aunt, **Frances Rosenfeld**, z"l.

**Ruth Steinberg** and family on the death of her father, **Jerome Steinberg**, z"l.

**Yahrzeits observed 29 Nissan-5 Iyyar:**

**Dr. Douglas M. Warschauer**, father of Jeffrey Warschauer; **Erwin Honig**, father of Les Honig; **Herman Krevsky**, father of Leslie Krevsky; **Jennie Phillips**, grandmother of Rabbi Regina Sandler-Phillips; **Lazarus Radlow**, uncle of Reba Snyder; **Martin Ullman**, father of Seth Ullman and Judith Ullman; **Max Frank**, grandfather of Elizabeth Schnur; **Miriam Mihlrad**, aunt of Judith Ullman; **Victor Strumph**, observed by the PSJC community.

*May their memories be for a blessing.*

**“Save-the-Date: PSJC Spring Benefit”**

“We hope you will join us on May 23rd for a community Lag B’Omer celebration and our big spring fundraiser.

More information soon!

**Have announcements?** Email by Monday 5:00PM (office@psjc.org)



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**Artist in Residence: Eleanor Epstein | May 3-4**

**Tunes That Speak and Words That Sing:** Reclaiming the Poetry of the Jewish People make this Friday night a special Shabbat of joyous singing with Lev Tahor followed by a sponsored catered **Shabbat Dinner** (meat, with vegetarian options) then reflect on text and music with Eleanor.

**Saturday morning** services will include a **D'var Torah by Eleanor**. At the end of Shabbat, we will explore the music and text used to usher out the Shabbat, 117 Sterling Place, Apt 3.

**Brooklyn Celebrates Israel's Remarkable Diversity with a focus on the Moroccan Jewish Community in Israel**

Sunday, May 5 | 10:30AM - Kane Street Synagogue

Join us for HAGIGA! With fun for families and children of all ages (food, art, dance, music, games and more). Don't forget to sign up for special programs for adults: Moroccan Jewish Cooking with Dilka Ben Lulu and Mizrachi Music workshop with Sam Thomas of ASEFA. To top off the day celebrate with a live concert of Moroccan Jewish Music with ASEFA! RSVP: <https://www.psjc.org/event/hagiga-communal-celebration.html#>

**Yom Hazikaron Ceremony**

Tuesday, May 7 | 7:00PM | Union Temple

Join us as we observe Israel's Memorial Day together as a Brooklyn community. Contact [rabbicarie@psjc.org](mailto:rabbicarie@psjc.org) for questions or to let us know you are coming.

**Brooklyn Celebrates Israel and Yom HaAtzmaut with Nava Tehila**

Wednesday, May 8 - Shuk | 6:30PM; Concert | 7:45PM

Join your Brooklyn community and the Nava Tehila Band from Jerusalem, for an evening of delight as they invite us to connect to our roots and celebrate independence as a people and as individuals. Through chanting Psalms and prayers with original melodies and guided intentions, we will travel into the landscape of holiness and joy, connect to the spirit and allow it to fill our hearts and uplift our souls. Food and Drink at "the Shuk" | 6:30PM; Doors open for Concert | 7:45PM. This event is made possible through the generosity of UJA-Federation of NY and the efforts of the Brooklyn Shlichut Initiative and its partners in Brooklyn. Buy your tickets now! <https://www.psjc.org/event/hagiga-communal-celebration.html#>

**PAI: Tracing Your Roots**

Thursday, May 9 | 11:00AM - The Center for Jewish History (CJH)

**LAST CHANCE TO SIGN UP** for this rare opportunity **to learn** how to research your family history with renowned Jewish genealogists. This is a special offer from CJH made available to PSJC congregants and a unique opportunity to trace your family history in the stacks of the most comprehensive collection of Jewish archives in the world, outside of Israel. Sign up after Shabbat on <https://www.psjc.org/event/tracingyourroots>. Free of charge. For more information email Marjorie, [marjorie.rothenberg@gmail.com](mailto:marjorie.rothenberg@gmail.com)

Friday, May 10

**Stoop Shabbat** | 3:30PM

**Kabbalat Shabbat with Cornelia Dalton** | 6:30PM

Help us thank Cornelia for a wonderful year at PSJC on her final Shabbat as our Rabbinic intern.

**HIAS-Brownstone Brooklyn Project to Support Refugee Family - How you can help**

As a HIAS host organization, we have pledged to support a refugee family. We are all working to find housing, vocational training, employment and childcare for a young couple from Chad and their infant son, and provide them with financial counseling. If you are in a position to assist this lovely family in any way, please email [lmcover@gmail.com](mailto:lmcover@gmail.com) or for more information visit <https://www.psjc.org/rodfeitzedek.html>.

G'mach, Hevra Kadisha welcome new members If you are able to cook, deliver meals, visit, attend shiva minyanim, do shmira or tahara for those who have died, and support our members in good and bad times - please contact G'mach and Hevra Kadisha to add your name to the distribution list: [gmach@psjc.org](mailto:gmach@psjc.org) or [hevradkadisha@psjc.org](mailto:hevradkadisha@psjc.org)



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Saturday, May 11 | 1:30PM

**Parashat Hashavua** | 9:30AM

Get a brief taste of the week's Torah portion with Cornelia Dalton, PSJC Rabbinic Intern. It's a great lead into the Shabbat morning services.

**Family Torah** | 10:30AM

<https://www.psjc.org/event/family-torah3.html>

**Shabbat Kulanu** | 11:15AM

<https://www.psjc.org/event/shabbat-kulanu1.html>

**Hagar and Miriam: Models of Willful Women and Relationship to God in Biblical Narratives** | 1:30PM

Join Rabbinic Intern, Cornelia Dalton, on her last Shabbat at PSJC to explore Biblical text, artwork, and midrash surrounding the stories of two women of the Tanakh who are sent out into the desert by God.

**PAI: Preventing Consumer Fraud**

Thursday, May 16 | 7:00PM

**Kabbalat Shabbat with Judy Ribnick**

Friday, May 17 | 6:30PM

Saturday, May 18

**Simcha Shabbat** | 10:00AM

Join us as we will acknowledge our members who are celebrating their May birthdays & anniversaries.

**Kishkush Acharei Kiddush** | 1:00PM

Are you comfortable speaking Hebrew? Do you want a place to speak with other fluent Hebrew speakers? Join us after services and kiddush where we have a Shulchan Ivrit - a table to sit around, drink coffee and talk with one another in Hebrew. Those who aren't sure if they are "fluent" or not are all welcome! Contact Michal:

[Kishkush.at.PSJC@gmail.com](mailto:Kishkush.at.PSJC@gmail.com) for more details.

**Shabbat Shmooze** | 1:30PM

Home of Marjorie, Joel and Sam Rothenberg

Let's walk together over to the Shabbat Shmooze Potluck Lunch (after the Kiddush following Shabbat morning services). Bring a parve/dairy/veggie pot luck dish to share. The Shabbat Shmooze offers the chance to get to know some of the PSJC community and spend time with those you already know. It is a great way to keep the Shabbat vibe going all afternoon long.

**Save the Date! PSJC goes to the Cyclones**

Sunday, June 23 | 4:00PM - **Deadline Monday, June 5**

Brooklyn Cyclones vs Staten Island Yankees. Tickets are \$18.00 each includes a Kosher Hot Dog and soft drink as well as the fashionable Cyclones cap, and an additional donation to would be appreciated. Buy tickets now! Visit:

<http://www.psjc.org/event/bklyn-cyclones.html>

**All congregants and visitors** (of all genders) are requested to wear a head covering in the Sanctuary. Cell phones and photography are not permitted in the synagogue during Shabbat. Please also refrain from applause during services. **PSJC runs on community participation.** If you are interested in: **leading Kabbalat Shabbat/Maariv Services**, email [freddie.brooks@psjc.org](mailto:freddie.brooks@psjc.org); **leading Shabbat Morning Services**, email Elizabeth Schnur at [davening@psjc.org](mailto:davening@psjc.org); **chanting Haftarah**, email Alan Palmer at [haftarah@psjc.org](mailto:haftarah@psjc.org), reading Torah, email Rabbi Sue Oren at [leyning@psjc.org](mailto:leyning@psjc.org). **To request an Aliyah or other honor**, email Rabbi Carter a week in advance ([rabbicarie@psjc.org](mailto:rabbicarie@psjc.org)), or notify the usher if you arrive before the Torah Service begins; we honor requests whenever possible. **To usher services**, email Ira Drucker at [ira.drucker@psjc.org](mailto:ira.drucker@psjc.org).



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## Shabbat Shoah Parashat Acharei Mot

Triennial: Leviticus 16:1-34 | Eitz Hayim p.679

Maftir: Genesis 4:1-18

Haftarah: Special for Shabbat Shoah

### D'var Torah: With Him I Cannot Dwell

After referring back to the death of Aharon's sons, Nadav and Avihu, a few parashot ago, Acharei Mot goes on to cover three main topics: 1) Yom Kippur, including the activities of the Kohen Gadol in the Holy of Holies and the preparation of the "Seir L'Azazel" - the goat upon which the nation's sins are placed before it is sent away, 2) Kashrut, including the prohibition of consuming blood, and 3) Prohibited sexual relations.

Although there doesn't appear to be much of a connection between the three, I suggest that each represents one of the main categories of Jewish ritual law: 1) worship in particular times and places, 2) regulation of consumption and, 3) regulation of intimate relationships, even between consenting adults. Generally speaking, these are the areas where "ethics" is the least involved.

These are also the areas that make us most distinct as Jews, setting us apart from the non-Jewish world and dividing the Jewish people into different religious streams and sub-communities. We may have particular ways we understand and apply particular value-laden "ethical commandments," but we are not divided by questions of how much tzedaka we give.

It is within that context that we encounter a puzzling verse: "Thus he shall purge the Kodesh (the central area of the Mishkan) of the uncleanness and transgression of the Israelites, whatever their sins; and he shall do the same for the Ohel Mo'ed (Tent of Meeting), which abides with them in the midst of their uncleanness." (VaYikra 16:16). The simple meaning is that before the Kohen Gadol enters into them to perform the special Yom Kippur ritual to purge the nation of its sins, he has to perform particular rites to "purge" the Kodesh and the Ohel Mo'ed of the uncleanness **they** have accumulated due to Bnei Yisrael's sins. But that last phrase - "which abides with them in the midst of their uncleanness" - jumps out for being so obvious (Like, **of course**, the Kodesh and the Ohel Mo'ed are still there, where else would they be?) and asks us to dig deeper.

The Mishkan was built, as its name makes clear, as a place for God to dwell in the midst of Bnei Yisrael. As Shemot 25:8 says, "*V'asu li Mikdash, v'shachanti b'tocham.*" We know that those entering the Mishkan must, therefore, take the utmost care to be pure. So we might have thought that the general impurity of the Israelite nation would make it impossible for the Mishkan to be there - or more exactly, for **God's presence, the Shechinah**, to dwell there. (Absent God's presence, the Mishkan isn't really a Mishkan). Our verse comes to communicate something quite important, as Rashi explains in his commentary: "...although they are unclean, nevertheless the Shechinah dwells in their midst." God is with us, individually and collectively, even when we sin. It is not how and when we worship, what we eat, and with whom we are intimate that drives away the Shechinah. Rather, as we see in Babylonian Talmud Sotah 5a, the issue is **pride**:

Rav Hisda says, and some say that Mar Ukva says: Concerning any person who has arrogance within him, the Holy One, Blessed be He, said: He and I cannot dwell together in the world, as it is stated: 'He who slanders his neighbor in secret, him will I destroy; he who is haughty of eye and proud of heart, him will I not suffer [oto lo ukhal]' (Psalms 101:5-6). These verses should be understood as follows: Do not read the verse as: "*Oto lo ukhal*"; rather, read it as: *Itto lo ukhal*, meaning, with him, I cannot bear to dwell.

All communities - right and left, modern and traditional - commit their sins and accumulate their impurities, but God dwells in our midst as long as we stay humble. And the best way to do that is to stay focused on what we get wrong and others get right, and not vice versa. Rabbi Irving "Yitz" Greenberg, an Orthodox rabbi often seen as the standard-bearer for pluralism and Jewish communal unity, captured this notion well when he said "I don't care what denomination you belong to, as long as you're **embarrassed** by it."

This weekly commentary on the Torah portion is by **Rabbi Andy Shapiro Katz**, CY Director of North American Engagement "Torah Sparks" series produced by the Conservative Yeshiva in Jerusalem. A Haftarah commentary by Rabbi Mordechai Silverstein found at <http://www.conservativeyeshiva.org/torahsparks>.