



**PARK
SLOPE
JEWISH
CENTER**

June 21-29, 2019 | 18-26 Sivan 5779
Parashat Beha'alotecha

Friday, June 21 18 Sivan				Parashat Beha'alotecha Saturday, June 22 19 Sivan		
Kabbalat Shabbat Kulanu 6:30PM Candle Lighting 8:10PM				Shacharit 10:00AM Advanced Talmud 1:30PM Elias Aslan Bar Mitzvah 6:30PM - <i>Mincha</i>		
Sunday June 23 20 Sivan	Monday June 24 21 Sivan	Tuesday June 25 22 Sivan	Wednesday June 26 23 Sivan	Thursday June 27 24 Sivan	Friday June 28 25 Sivan	Saturday June 29 26 Sivan
BK Cyclones 4:00PM		Board Meeting 7:15PM	Morning Minyan 7:15AM		Kabbalat Shabbat with Alan Palmer 6:30PM Candle Lighting 8:13PM	<i>Parashat Shelach Lecha</i> Boaz Ulman Bar Mitzvah Shacharit 10:00AM
Park Slope Jewish Center 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) Aileen Heiman, Director of Youth Education (aileen.heiman@psjc.org) For questions about Accessibility (inclusion@psjc.org)		

Mazal Tov!

To **Jonathan, Lisa, Ira** and **Leora** on Jonathan's graduation from high school and Prozdor!
To **Elias, Alexandra, Pablo, Rafael** and **Sofia** on Elias' Bar Mitzvah this Shabbat!

Todah Rabbah

To **Ira Singer** and **Lisa Hellerstein** for contributing to the Kiddush Fund this Shabbat in honor of Jonathan's graduation from high school and from the Prozdor program at JTS!
To **Michael** and **Reba Snyder** for contributing to the Kiddush Fund this Shabbat in honor of **Lucy Snyder!**
To **Pablo Aslan** and **Alexandra Aron** for contributing Seudah Shlishit in honor of Elias' Bar Mitzvah during Mincha Services this Shabbat!
To **Elizabeth Schnur** and **Peter Holmes** for hosting the Shabbat Shmooze last Shabbat.

HaMakom Yenachem

Our condolences go to:

Adine Schuman Pusey and her family on the death of Adine's father, **Joseph Schuman**, z"l.

Yahrzeits observed 19-25 Sivan:

Deborah Coquillon, friend of Elizabeth Kaczmarczyk; **Elias Berliner**, father of Sophie Weber; **Erwin Herskovits**, father of Steve Herskovits; **Harriet Schnur**, mother of Elizabeth Schnur; **Isidor Oren**, father of Sue Oren; **Joel Youner**, grandfather of Steven Radwell; **Joseph Schulkin**, father of Pauline Friedland; **Julius Reiss**, observed by the PSJC community; **Kenneth Brodziak**, cousin of Fredrica Brooks; **Louis Schwartz**, father of Barbara Wollman; **Margaret Rolnick**, mother of Josh Rolnick; **Meir Itskovitch**, grandfather of Nir Sadovnik; **Phil Smith**, father of Ann Smith; **Robert Cooper**, brother of David Cooper; **Shirley Korashan**, mother of Marc Korashan; **Susan Nutes**, observed by the PSJC community; **Yetta Levine**, grandmother of Yehudit Moch.

May their memories be for a blessing.

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 or hevradkadisha@psjc.org



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Advanced Talmud

Saturday, June 22 | 1:30PM

This class is an on-going self-study group appropriate for people who are proficient in Hebrew and have some prior experience in Gemara study. New students are welcome! Email aronrhalb@gmail.com.

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>

Board Meeting

Tuesday, June 25 | 7:15PM

PSJC Board meetings are open to members in good standing.

Rosh Hodesh Tammuz Minyan

July 3 & 4 | 7:00AM

PAI Book Club - "The Underground Railroad" by Colson Whitehead

Wednesday, July 10 | 7:00PM

Saturday, July 20

Simcha Shabbat | 10:00AM

Join us as we will acknowledge our members who are celebrating their July 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 for more details.

Shabbat Shmooze | 1:30PM

Shabbat Shmooze is a get-together at PSJC courtyard during the summer months. We will shmooze after the Kiddush. Bring a parve potluck dish to share. If anyone would like to host a Shabbat Shmooze in the coming year, please email shabbatshmooze@psjc.org, with the date they would like to host a Shabbat Shmooze (3rd Shabbat of the month).

PSJC runs on community participation. If you are interested in: **leading Kabbalat Shabbat/Maariv Services**, email freddie.brooks@psjc.org; **leading Shabbat Morning Services**, email Elizabeth Schnur at davening@psjc.org; **chanting Haftarah**, email Alan Palmer at haftarah@psjc.org, reading Torah, email Rabbi Sue Oren at leyning@psjc.org. **To request an Aliyah or other honor**, email Rabbi Carter a week in advance (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.

Coming Soon!

Once again, PSJC will be participating with ORT so you can send Honey to your friends and family in time for Rosh HaShanah.

This is a lovely gift and a PSJC fundraiser.

Notices will be going out as soon as they open their website.

Get your orders in early so you can get free shipping





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Annual Membership Renewal 2019-2020

We hope you will join us for another great year at PSJC! We have already begun planning for 5780!
We would love to get to 100% participation. No amount is too big or too small.

Renew your membership today! It's easy and can all be done online.

Visit www.psjc.org/membership_renewal and log in to your account.

Please contact Peter by email treasurer@psjc.org if you have to arrange payments or limited income.

Hebrew School Registration is Live!

Registration for 2019-2020 Hebrew School is OPEN!

Join us for another year of Jewish learning and invite your friends to consider the magic of the PSJC learning community!

https://www.psjc.org/hebrew_school_registration

Deadline to avoid \$100 late fee is **Friday, June 30, 2019**

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.



Parashat Beha'alotecha

Triennial: Numbers 10:35-12:16 | Etz Hayim p.826; Hertz p.613; Plaut p.1091

Haftarah: Zecharia 2:14-4:7 | Etz Hayim p.836; Hertz p.620; Plaut p.1259

D'var Torah: Calendars, Rigidity & Flexibility

Scholars have described the possibility of “making up” for missing the first opportunity to celebrate Pesach as the most perplexing and shocking law in the entire Torah. Rituals must be performed at their proper time, and there is no other case in the Torah in which an individual or community who fails to do so is given another opportunity. Indeed, the law is not only surprising in the context of the Torah, but it also clashes with the norms of surrounding cultures. There is a passage in Hittite law that sounds remarkably similar to the circumstances in which the Pesach Sheni discussion arose, but rule in a completely opposite manner: “You who (are) the temple officials: If you do not perform the festivals at the time of the festivals; ... (or) if the right time for doing the festival (has) arrived, and he who is to do it comes to you . . . and he seizes your knees, (saying) ‘The harvests (are) before me,’ or a marriage or a journey or some other matter. ‘Let me off. Let that matter finish for me, and when that matter is finished for me, I will do the festival thus’: Do not do according to the wishes of (that) man.” Why then does Sefer Bemidbar (the Book of Numbers) give Israelites the ability to offer the Pesach sacrifice a month late?

Simeon Chavel, a Bible professor at the University of Chicago Divinity School, posits that the background to the Torah’s puzzling law is the fact that most Israelites/Jews during the period did not live close enough to Jerusalem to travel there for the festivals. Sefer Devarim (the Book of Deuteronomy) revolutionized Israelite religion by demanding that all sacrifices be brought to Jerusalem instead of being offered at local altars. Such a radical change in Israelite religion would have been extraordinarily difficult for those living far away, and we find many attempts in Devarim itself to ameliorate the difficulty of this seismic shift. For instance, if one lives far from the Mikdash (the Temple), one may eat meat not offered as a sacrifice (Devarim 12:20-28). One need not bring tithes to the Mikdash, but rather exchange them for money to be brought or sent to Jerusalem (Devarim 14:22-26). But when it comes to offering the Pesah, the demand to bring the Pesah to the Mikdash is unmitigated in Devarim (16:1-7).

The passage in this week’s parashah offers both a solution to this problem but also an exhortation. On the one hand, those who miss the first opportunity to celebrate Pesach are not automatically cut off from their people. They are given a second chance. However, Bemidbar shares Devarim’s insistence that every Israelite offer the sacrifice. Being away from the center of worship or being impure is a reason for delay, but only a temporary one.

The innovation of the book of Devarim, the centralization of worship, is in a sense mirrored by the revolutions Jews have experienced over the last century. Judaism went from a religion whose center was largely unreachable, to a center that is almost never more than a day’s travel away. This transition has been traumatic for Judaism and for many Jews, and has raised and continues to raise many crises for Jews who do not live close to the center. And like the book of Devarim, there is a voice that offers no compromise in its insistence that Jews be in Israel. Those who do not show up are cut off, no excuses accepted. And of course, there remains a voice like that which we read in Sefer Shemot (the book of Exodus), which does not portray any centralization of worship. The Pesah can be offered at any place of worship. But there is also the middle position of Bemidbar. Jews must make a pilgrimage to the center of Jewish life. If they intentionally do not, they will eventually be cut off from their people. But we understand that they cannot always do so. Like the impurity and distance mentioned as preventing people from offering the Pesah in the book of Bemidbar, people may not be able to come to Israel for religious and practical reasons. But at a certain point remaining part of the Jewish people demands a real encounter with the Jewish state, one that can only take place in the land of Israel itself.

This weekly commentary on the Torah portion is by **Dr. Joshua Kulp**, *Conservative Yeshiva Faculty & Rosh Yeshiva, Conservative Yeshiva Faculty* “Torah Sparks” series produced by the Conservative Yeshiva in Jerusalem. A Haftarah commentary by Rabbi Mordechai Silverstein found at <http://www.conservativeyeshiva.org/torahsparks>.

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