



PARK SLOPE JEWISH CENTER

May 12-20, 2017 | 16-24 Iyar, 5777
Shabbat Emor

Friday, May 12 16 Iyar				Shabbat Emor Saturday, May 13 17 Iyar		
Kabbalat Shabbat with Judy Ribnick 6:30PM Candle Lighting 7:46PM				Shabbat Morning Services 10:00AM Family Torah 10:30AM Shabbat Kulanu 11:15AM Sholem Aleichem 1:30PM		
Sunday May 14 18 Iyar	Monday May 15 19 Iyar	Tuesday May 16 20 Iyar	Wednesday May 17 21 Iyar	Thursday May 18 22 Iyar	Friday May 19 23 Iyar	Saturday May 20 24 Iyar
Hebrew School 9:30AM		Hebrew School 4:00PM	Morning Minyan 7:15AM Hebrew School 4:00PM		PJ Library - It's Friday! Music Class 10:30AM Kabbalat Shabbat Kulanu 6:30PM Candle Lighting 7:52PM	Shabbat <i>Behar-Behukotai</i> Shacharit 10:00AM Judy Ribnick will be leading Musaf and giving the D'var Torah Mini Minyan Tot Shabbat Jr. Cong. 11:15AM Shabbat Shmooze 1:30PM
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, PSJC's Rabbi (rabbicarie@psjc.org) Ellen Brickman, President (president@psjc.org) Sarah Guthartz, Executive Director (executive.director@psjc.org) Aileen Heiman, Director of Youth Education (aileen.heiman@psjc.org) For questions about Accessibility (inclusion@psjc.org)		

Mazal Tov!

To **Matthew Eilenberg** in celebration of **Matt's** retirement from Willis Towers Watson and the 46th anniversary of his bar mitzvah this Shabbat.

Todah Rabbah

To **Helene Santo** and **Matthew Eilenberg** for sponsoring Kiddush in celebration of **Matt's** retirement from Willis Towers Watson and the 46th anniversary of his bar mitzvah, along with a big thank-you to **Angelica Condon** for her years of devoted service to PSJC and best wishes on her move to North Carolina.

HaMakom Yenachem

Our condolences go to:

Julie Weintraub and her family on the death of her mother, **Greta Levine Tedoff**, z"l.

Iris Sheber and her family on the death of her brother, **Joel Sheber**, z"l.

Yahrzeits observed 17-23 Iyar:

Anita Cuchel, mother of Karen Cuchel; **Arthur Cohen**, uncle of Debra Nussbaum Cohen; **Betty Kover**, mother of Elihu Kover; **Isidore Monblatt**, father of Cathy Monblatt; **Lena Silver**, great aunt of Steve Elworth; **Leo Stopnitsky**, father of Barbara Auslander; **Mendy Berger**, father of Hope Levav; **Milton Wax**, father of Ronnie Wax; **Myra Segal**, stepmother of Pete Segal; **Rose Spruchman**, great-aunt of Jan Orzeck; **Roslyn Glatman**, mother of Joan Glatman; **Ruth Feinstein**, aunt of Roberta Moskowitz; **Seymour Friedman**, father of Todd Friedman; **Vivian Balick**, mother of of Lawrence Balick. *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 hevrakadisha@psjc.org.

Got announcements? Email by Monday 5:00PM (office@PSJC.org)



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PSJC at Brooklyn Cyclones Opening Day with T-Shirt Promo Giveaway!

Tuesday, June 20 | 7:00PM (Gates open at 5:30PM) **Deadline Monday, June 5**

PSJC goes to the Cyclones Opening Day opening game. Brooklyn Cyclones vs Staten Island Yankees. We will be sitting behind home plate. Tickets are \$15.00 each, and an additional donation would be appreciated. It's the Brooklyn Cyclones Opening Day! Buy tickets now! Visit: <http://www.psjc.org/form/brooklyn-cyclones-2017.html>.



We Remember Sholem Aleichem on his 101st Yahrzeit

Saturday, May 13 | 1:30PM

Join us in observing the 101st Yahrzeit of beloved Yiddish writer Sholem Aleichem. As he instructed, we will gather for a reading of his famous ethical will, and "pick out a story, one of the really merry ones." (immediately after the Shabbat Kiddush). The program is free, but please RSVP: jan_huttner@msn.com.

PJ Library Class: It's Friday!

Friday, May 19 and 26 | 10:30AM | \$12 per class

It's Friday! is a series of classes for children 3 and under and their caregivers. Join PSJC Tot Shabbat Leader, Abe, for hands on exploration of Shabbat and holidays. Visit www.psjc.org/event/its-friday.html for more information.

Kabbalat Shabbat Kulanu

Friday, May 19 | 6:30PM

Join us for a musical Shabbat celebration for all ages! Services begin in the sanctuary with Abe and Aileen. Everyone is welcome! Main entrees will be provided. Please bring a substantial salad/veggie side or desert to share. RSVPs are encouraged but not required <https://www.psjc.org/form/kabbalat-shabbat-kulanu.html>.

The Jews Of Spain: Alba Toscano

Friday, May 19 | 8:00PM

Following Kabbalat Shabbat Kulanu services led by Abe and Aileen, please join us all for a vegetarian/dairy potluck and a dessert discussion about The Jews of Spain, with our special guest, Alba Toscano.

Shabbat Shmooze

Saturday, May 20 | 1:30PM | 7th Avenue near 16th Street

Shabbat Shmooze is a get-together in the home of a PSJC member. We will walk together over to the Shabbat Shmooze Potluck Lunch after the Kiddush. Bring a parve potluck dish to share. Please contact shabbatshmooze@psjc.org if you would like to host a Shabbat Shmooze.

End of Year Hebrew School Picnic

Sunday, May 21 | 9:30AM

We join together to honor and celebrate our teachers, students, and families, and then head to the park for a picnic!

Balfour at 100, Six-Day War Plus 50, and Trump at 4 months: the Implications for the Jewish community Here and Worldwide with Cornell Professor, Ross Brann

Sunday, May 21 | 1:00PM

Ross Brann returns to PSJC as part of the ILJB to once again share his impressive insight and understanding of world affairs, particularly of Israel and the Middle East, to help us understand this serious historic moment in which we find ourselves. Suggested Donation \$10.

PSJC Board Meeting

Tuesday, May 23 | 7:15PM

PSJC Board meetings are open to members in good standing.

A Back-To-School Ha'Sadnah

August 21-25 | 9:00AM-3:00PM

Ha'Sadnah (Hebrew for "The Workshop") is a boutique children's art program run by designer, Jordyn Jacobs, and artist, Reut Asimini. Ha'Sadnah art programs are designed to spark each child's creativity and to encourage curiosity and a handmade approach. Our winter craft program will focus on textile arts, including sewing, embroidery, and knitting. Registration is required.

Please visit: <https://www.psjc.org/event/a-back-to-school-hasadnah.html#>



Dr. Eilon Schwartz: Towards a New Vision for Israeli Society. (Shaharit Institute Series Conclusion)

Thursday, May 25 | 7:00PM | Congregation Mount Sinai

Dr. Eilon Schwartz is the CEO of Shaharit and the visionary behind its work across the communities of Israeli society. He was among the founders of the Heschel Center for Sustainability, where he served as director. In addition to his work at Shaharit, Eilon is a faculty member at the Melton Center for Jewish Education at Hebrew University where he teaches graduate courses in cultural criticism, social-environmental politics, and education.

Advanced Talmud

Saturday, May 27 | 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

Mishneh Torah - Laws of Teshuvah

Saturday, May 30 | 1:30PM

When it was written in the 12th Century, Maimonides' Mishneh Torah changed the landscape of Rabbinic literature, and has since served as one of the great authoritative codes of Jewish Law. This is a monthly study session with Rabbi Carter. Please <https://www.psjc.org/form/mishneh-torah.html> for this study group.

Shavuot - Communal Tikkun Leil Shavuot

Tuesday, May 30 | 8:00PM | CBE

Please join PSJC for Shavuot Across Brooklyn as we come together for an all-night celebration for the holiday of Shavuot commemorating the giving of the Ten Commandments. Please RSVP and see the full schedule at www.facebook.com/events/1159039490872508/

Shavuot Services

Wednesday, May 31 | 10:00AM | PSJC Sanctuary

Thursday, June 1 | 10:00AM | PSJC Sanctuary

Shavuot Potluck Picnic

Sunday, June 12 | 12:30PM

PSJC Families and Friends after services let's walk together over to Prospect Park and have a picnic. Bring a parve/dairy/veggie pot luck dish to share.

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; **joining the Hevra Kadisha**, email the coordinators at hevra.kadisha@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.



Shabbat Emor

Triennial (Leviticus 21:1-22:16): Etz Hayim p. 717; Hertz p. 513

Haftarah (Ezekiel 44:15-31): Etz Hayim p. 734; Hertz p. 528

The Dark Side of the Quest for Sanctity

On April 13th this year an outspoken journalism student, Mashal Khan, was seized from his dorm room by a mob that stripped and beat him and then shot him dead. Khan had been accused of offending Islam – a dangerous charge in Pakistan, where perceived disrespect for that religion can ignite violent anger. Over 1000 people have been accused under Pakistan's blasphemy laws in the last 30 years and over 65 people have been murdered after being accused of blasphemy.

The primary Torah source dealing with the laws of blasphemy appears in Vayikra (Leviticus) at the very end of Parshat Emor (Vayikra 24:15-16): "And you shall speak to the children of Israel saying, whoever curses his God shall bear his sin. And he who blasphemes the name of the Lord shall surely be put to death, and all the congregation shall certainly stone him: both the stranger and he that is born in the land, when he blasphemes the name of the Lord, shall be put to death."

Rabbi Yitzchak Karo explains, in his commentary Toldot Yitzchak, why the laws of blasphemy are located here, following a series of laws about the sanctity of the priesthood, sacrifices, Shabbat and Holydays, and certain ritual items in the Mishkan. He explains that the blasphemer comes and "repudiates all – the offerer, the sacrifice, and the very existence of God, by blaspheming, as if there is no Law and Judge."

In other words, the Torah first teaches us at length about the significance of sanctity in Israelite society and then presents us with the blasphemer – the arch-deseccrator of the sacred. A society which concentrates on promoting the quest for sanctity will necessarily express its revulsion when that sanctity is desecrated. Such a society will certainly understand blasphemy as a most extreme form of deviance. The Torah reveals here the dark side of the quest for sanctity.

Friends remembered Mashal Khan as an inquisitive and pious Muslim intellectual. "He dreamed of a system where everyone could enjoy justice and equal rights. He was against corruption and the corrupt political setup. I can't imagine him being against any religion," said a friend, Saddam Hussain. Khan's father, Muhammad Iqbal Khan, said his son was, by his nature, out of sync with the traditional values of Pakistan, "He was the kind of a person this society can never tolerate," he said. "You can call him a revolutionary, reformist, humanist, whatever, but he wasn't a conservative person. My son was a voice of the voiceless."

Is it true that the stronger the emphasis on piety and sanctity in a particular society, the more likely that society will be to purge members who challenge the sense of the sacred? As we read the central chapters of the Chumash which extol us to be holy and then go on to describe the features of a community committed to holiness, the biblical case of the blasphemer who is to be stoned to death comes as a wake-up call. If piety inevitably leads to this kind of acute, purging violence, then many will choose to create societies less committed to piety! Most liberal Jewish individuals and communities do indeed opt for a muted form of piety and its concomitant inclusiveness and compassion. Is it impossible to imagine religious communities that are god-fearing and pious and yet celebrate difference and allow for dissent?

This weekly commentary on the Torah portion is by Rabbi Joel Levy, from the "Torah Sparks" series produced by the Conservative Yeshiva in Jerusalem, <http://learn.conservativeyeshiva.org/torah-sparks/>. Rabbi Joel Levy, is Rosh Yeshiva, the Conservative Yeshiva, Jerusalem. A Haftarah commentary by Rabbi Mordechai Silverstein of the Conservative Yeshiva may be found at <http://www.uscj.org.il/learn/commentaries/>

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.