



**PARK
SLOPE
JEWISH
CENTER**

June 2-10, 2017 | 8-16 Sivan, 5777
Shabbat Nasso

Friday, June 2 8 Sivan				Shabbat Nasso Saturday, June 3 9 Sivan		
Kabbalat Shabbat with Alan Palmer 7:00PM Candle Lighting 8:04PM				Shabbat Morning Services 10:00AM Paloma Jourdes Ferdman and Ruby Spector B'not Mitzvah Mini Minyan Jr. Cong. 11:15AM <i>*Tot Shabbat is not meeting this week, families are welcome to join Mini-Minyan.</i> Mishneh Torah Class Laws of Teshuvah 1:30PM		
Sunday June 4 10 Sivan	Monday June 5 11 Sivan	Tuesday June 6 12 Sivan	Wednesday June 7 13 Sivan	Thursday June 8 14 Sivan	Friday June 9 15 Sivan	Saturday June 10 16 Sivan
	PSJC Knitters 7:30PM	A Vigil on the 78th anniversary of the day 937 largely Jewish refugees aboard the SS St. Louis <i>Brooklyn Borough Hall</i> 6:00PM	Morning Minyan 7:15AM Brooklyn Pride Interfaith Service <i>All Saints Episcopal Church</i> 286 7th Avenue 7:30PM	Rodfei Tzedek Meeting 7:15PM	PJ Library - It's Friday! Music Class 10:30AM Kabbalat Shabbat with Judy Ribnick 7:00PM Shaarei Mitzvah Dinner 7:30PM Candle Lighting 8:08PM	Shabbat <i>Beha'alotecha</i> Shacharit 10:00AM Shabbat Kulanu 11:15AM Book Club 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) Aileen Heiman, Director of Youth Education (aileen.heiman@psjc.org) Marsha Stanley, Administrative Assistant (office@psjc.org) For questions about Accessibility (inclusion@psjc.org)		

Mazal Tov!

To **Paloma** and her parents **Bertie** and **Julien**, and sister **Talia**; and **Ruby** and her parents **Marci** and **Steven**, and sister **Delilah**, as **Paloma** and **Ruby** celebrate their B'not Mitzvah this Shabbat.

Todah Rabbah

To **Bertie Ferdman** and **Julien Jourdes**, and **Marci Aronovitz** and **Steven Spector** for contributing to the Kiddush Fund this Shabbat in honor of **Paloma's** and **Ruby's** B'not Mitzvah.

HaMakom Yenachem

Our condolences go to:

Carol Diamond and her family on the death of her friend, **Stuart Winston, z"l.**

Allen Brafman and his family on the death of his wife, **Edith Brafman, z"l.**

Carol Diamond and her family on the death of her brother-in-law, **Ernie Schimel, z"l.**

Yahrzeits observed 9-15 Sivan:

Ann Levy, mother of Joel Levy; **Anne Taibel**, mother of Chava Newcombe; **Annette Fried Gissinger Schwartz**, mother of Julie Hendel; **Bill Hoffer**, father of Sue Herskovits; **Ethel Sinkoff**, mother of Michal Tamuz; **Ida Floman**, great-grandmother of Ellen Simon; **Irene Goldstein**, mother of Ezra Goldstein; **Mae Wolkoff**, mother of Steve Wolkoff; **Marianne Santo**, mother of Helene Santo; **Norman Zeitlin**, father of June Zeitlin; **Pauline Grebel**, grandmother of Marla Kessler; **Pauline Wollman**, mother of Michael Wollman; **Reyna McGowen**, mother of Angela Weisl; **Steven Buchbinder**, cousin of Marla Kessler; **Walter Grossberg**, father of Reva Grossberg.

May their memories be for a blessing.



June 2-10, 2017 | 8-16 Sivan, 5777
Shabbat Naso

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 only have a few tickets left!



Mishneh Torah - Laws of Teshuvah

Saturday, June 3 | 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.

PSJC Knitters

Monday, June 5 | 7:30PM

For more information contact marjorie.rothenberg@gmail.com.

A vigil to commemorate the 78th anniversary of the day 937 largely Jewish refugees aboard the SS St. Louis

Tuesday, June 6 | 6:00PM | Brooklyn Borough Hall

The Brooklyn Synagogue Coalition for Refugees invites you to join us and political and interfaith leaders, on the steps of Borough Hall at a vigil to commemorate the 78th anniversary of the day 937 largely Jewish refugees aboard the SS St. Louis were denied entry to the United States. Over one-quarter of them (254) later died in concentration camps. Help us honor their memory and to learn from this tragic moment in our history as we stand firm in solidarity against the continuing attacks on the U.S. refugee program.

Brooklyn Pride Interfaith Service

Wednesday, June 7 | 7:30PM

All Saints Episcopal Church | 286 7th Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11215 (7th Avenue and 7th Street - across from Methodist Hospital in Park Slope)

An Interfaith Worship service celebrating the LGBTQ+ Community and Friends. Refreshments will be shared after the service.

Rodfei Tzedek Meeting

Tuesday, June 8 | 7:15PM

Please join us as a community sit down together to consider how we as PSJC can expand our efforts and become a community that truly is RODFEI TZEDEK - Pursuers of Justice. As a community we can define our priorities, areas of interest/passion, and capacity for meaningful, ongoing social action projects and social justice initiatives that involve members of all generations. RSVP to rabbicarie@psjc.org.

Israel Film Center Festival

June 8-13 | JCC

Join PSJC at the 5th Annual Israel Film Center Festival which runs June 8-13. Catch the most exciting new films from Israel as part of New York's largest celebration of Israeli cinema. For more information and to purchase tickets click please visit www.israelfilmcenter.org/festival2017.

Kabbalat Shabbat with Judy Ribnick

Friday, June 9 | 7:00PM

Shaarei Mitzvah 2017-2018 Classes Friday Night Potluck Dinner

Saturday, June 9 | 7:30PM

You're Invited: Community Conversation about PSJC's Future and Status Report on the North Wall

Sunday, June 11 | 11:00AM -1:00PM

Join PSJC friends and members at a **Community Meeting** to hear the recommendations of the Etz Chaim working group, developed over months of conversations with hundreds of PSJC members, and learn about the scope and progress of PSJC's building reinforcement and restoration project and related L'dor V'dor Capital Campaign. We'll provide a light nosh and plenty of coffee: Please save the date to have a voice in the future of our community.



Shabbat Kulanu

Saturday, June 10 | 11:15AM

Kulanu means "all together," so join us for our brand new, all-ages, musical service. We will meet once a month on Shabbat mornings during the school year and approximately eight times a year on Friday evenings. Abe and Aileen will lead an inclusive Shabbat service that will get you on your feet and in the Shabbat spirit. Shabbat morning services will include a short Torah service and as a community will join with the main service for concluding prayers and kiddush.

Book Club: Between Friends

Saturday, June 10 | 1:30PM

We will discuss Amos Oz's *Between Friends* (חברים בין), a book of linked short stories (or a novel in stories) set on a kibbutz in the late 1950s or early 1960s. The 2013 hardcover edition and the 2014 paperback are each 192 pp., so it should not take long to read. BPL has eight copies of the hardcover and six of the paperback as well as an ebook edition. Place separate holds on both the hard cover and paperback editions and take whichever comes in first.

Shabbat Shmooze

Saturday, June 17 | 1:30PM

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.

Stoop Shabbat

Friday, June 23 | 4:30PM

Come stop by the stoop for stories, songs, and some ice cream for the summer!

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#>



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. **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 hevra.kadisha@psjc.org.



Shabbat Naso

Triennial (Numbers 4:21-5:10): Etz Hayim p. 791; Hertz p. 586; Plaut p. 1043

Haftarah (Judges 13:2-25): Etz Hayim p. 812; Hertz p. 602; Plaut p. 1256

Sotah - Oppression or Empowerment?

Parshat Naso contains the famous law of the Sotah (Num. 5:11-31), the woman who is suspected by her husband of having committed adultery. In such a case her husband can bring her to the priest (kohen) and she will be forced to drink a strange concoction of water, dirt from the Tabernacle floor and curses containing God's name ground into little pieces, known as the "bitter waters" (mei ha-marim).

Once the woman drinks this potion there are two options: If she is guilty "the water that causes the curse will enter into her and become bitter, and her belly will swell, and her thigh will fall away; and the woman shall be a curse among her people." If she is innocent "then she shall be cleared, and will conceive seed" (vs. 27-28).

Throughout the passage about the Sotah it is the man, or rather the men, who are in control. The husband may be overwhelmed by an unfounded ruach kina, "spirit of jealousy," yet he may still force his innocent wife to go through the ordeal. At this point her body essentially comes under the jurisdiction of another man, the priest. The fact that an innocent woman could be forced to go through such a trying and humiliating ritual just because her husband is suspicious is problematic, to say the least. This may be one of the reasons why, according to many scholars, the ritual was likely never actually performed. In any event, part of what stands out to us as modern readers of the text is the utter powerlessness of the woman here.

Fascinatingly the rabbis in the Talmud tell how an important Biblical figure used this ritual as a mode of empowerment and strength. In Brachot 31 Hannah is presented as a model of prayer, from whom many important laws are learned, yet their close reading of I Samuel 1:17 portrays her as challenging God for the lot He has dealt her, particularly her being barren. R. Eleazar interpreted the words im ra'oh tireh (v. 11) – "if You will surely look" (lit, "look, look!"):

"Hannah said before the Holy One, blessed be He: If You will look, it is well; and if You will not look, I will go and shut myself up with someone else in the knowledge of my husband Elkanah, and as I shall have been alone they will make me drink the water of the suspected wife, and You cannot falsify Your law, which says, 'She shall be cleared and shall conceive seed'."

In this Talmudic passage Hannah uses this apparently oppressive law to her advantage, as a tool of her own liberation (or at least to help her get what she so wants, a child). In doing so Hannah is revealed to be a talmidat hachamim, a Torah scholar, not only because she knows the law but also because she knows how to manipulate it to her advantage. Hannah's technique is one often used by less powerful people in attempt to get control of their own situation, using the tools of oppression to attempt to secure liberation. What we do with difficult texts in our tradition is matter of choice. We can choose to use them to further oppression or we can use them to overcome oppression and facilitate empowerment. Perhaps it would be better if we used Hannah as our guide.

This weekly commentary on the Torah portion is by Rabbi Shoshana Cohen. Torah Sparks, from the "Torah Sparks" series produced by the Conservative Yeshiva in Jerusalem, <http://learn.conservativeyeshiva.org/torah-sparks/>. Rabbi Shoshana Cohen is a Faculty of Conservative Yeshiva (Talmud and Midrash). 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. **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.

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