



PARK SLOPE JEWISH CENTER

February 15-23, 2019 | 10-18 Adar I 5779
Parashat Tetzaveh

Friday, February 15 10 Adar I				Parashat Tetzaveh Saturday, February 16 11 Adar I		
Candle Lighting 5:12PM Kabbalat Shabbat with Erik Lieber 6:30PM				Simcha Shabbat Shacharit 10:00AM Kishkush Acharei 1:00PM Shabbat Shmooze 1:30PM		
Sunday February 17 12 Adar I	Monday February 18 13 Adar I	Tuesday February 19 14 Adar I	Wednesday February 20 15 Adar I	Thursday February 21 16 Adar I	Friday February 22 17 Adar I	Saturday February 23 18 Adar I
		PAI - Aging Issues Group 6:30PM	Morning Minyan 7:15AM	Biblical Hebrew 7:00PM	PAI Walking Group 9:30AM Candle Lighting 5:21PM Kabbalat Shabbat with David Rosen 6:30PM	<i>Parashat Ki Tisa</i> Shacharit 10:00AM Tot Shabbat 11:15AM Advanced Talmud 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, 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)		

Todah Rabbah

To **Sarah Chinn** for contributing to the Friday Night Kiddush Fund in memory of **Geoffrey Chinn, z"l** during this Shabbat.

To **Jacqueline LeBlanc** for contributing to the Friday Night Kiddush Fund in memory of **Florence LeBlanc, z"l** during this Shabbat.

To **David Nachman** for contributing to the Friday Night Kiddush Fund in memory of **Harvey Nachman, z"l** during this Shabbat.

Yahrzeits observed 11-17 Adar I:

Abram Joel Snyder, brother of Michael Snyder; **Bob Weinstein**, friend of Sara Sloan; **Edwin Huttner**, father of Jan Lisa Huttner; **Fred Pozarik**, uncle of Rabbi Sami Barth; **Geoffrey Chinn**, father of Sarah Chinn; **Giovanni Foppa Pedretti**, father of Claudia Foppa Pedretti; **Harvey Nachman**, father of David Nachman; **Jerome Schnur**, uncle of Elizabeth Schnur; **Joel Gordon**, father of Karen Barth; **Leona Abramson**, aunt of Steve Elworth; **Lillian Hawthorne**, mother of Fran Hawthorne; **Maly Bornstein**, mother of Peter Bornstein; **Marcia Slarskey**, mother of David Slarskey; **Midel Carlin**, great-grandmother of Rachel Isaacs; **Myra Bleifeld Danzing**, mother of Rachel Danzing; **Ralph Robins**, father of Susan Robins; **Roberto Ferdman**, father of Bertie Ferdman; **Rose Bleifeld**, grandmother of Rachel Danzing; **Rose Feiman**, aunt of Steve Elworth; **Roz Miller**, grandmother of Rachel Goldstein; **Sidney I. Roberts**, father of Russell Roberts; **Syd Steinfeld**, mother of Alvin Steinfeld; **Valerie Marrero**, sister of Matthew Septimus; **Yosef Weiss**, father of Necha Sirota; **Ze'ev Koznbluth**, father of Hanna Ulman.
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

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



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Saturday, February 16

Simcha Shabbat | 10:00AM

Join us as we will acknowledge our members who are celebrating their February 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

Home of Loretta Lurie | 474 5th Street 4th fl between 6th and 7th Avenues

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.

PAI Aging Issues Group: Living with Chronic Illness

Tuesday, February 19 | 6:30PM-8:00PM

Many people age 50+ have one or more chronic illness or health condition, and managing it all can be a source of stress. Talking with others in the same boat can be a valuable source of support and information. Our discussion group meets monthly on the 3rd Tuesday at PSJC, \$5 fee*.

ATID Happy Hour

Thursday, February 21 | 5:30PM

Hello ATID friends! We had a great time at the pot luck last month and are excited to share our next event. Meet us for ATID happy hour apps and drinks nearby, exact location TBD. We will start at 5:30 and have many hours to hang out. Hoping to see you there! Please RSVP: atid@psjc.org.

Advanced Talmud

Saturday, February 23 | 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.

PAI Benefits and Entitlements for Seniors

Sunday, February 24 | 1:30PM

Do you or your aging parents know: How to reduce costs in retirement or obtain financial assistance? The options for care in or outside of the home and how much they cost? What senior discounts there are beside the movies? There is a FREE plan to supplement the Medicare Part D prescription drug plan? There are workarounds for low-income seniors who are not eligible for food stamps? A speaker from LiveOn NY, the foremost advocacy group for seniors in NYC, will educate us about what benefits to which you or your loved ones may be entitled, and when and how to apply. If you think you may already know everything you need to, you may be surprised! Please register: <https://www.psjc.org/event/pai-benefits-and-entitlements-for-seniors.html#>.



Order your Shalach Manot
by March 4 to guarantee an upgrade in your bag!

Get ready for Purim!

<https://www.psjc.org/campaign/shalach-manot-2019.html>



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Board Meeting

Tuesday, February 26 | 7:15PM

PSJC Board meetings are open to members in good standing.

PAI Book Club - "In The Time Of The Butterflies" By Julia Alvarez

Wednesday, February 27 | 9:30AM

It's Friday Music Class

Friday, March 8, 15, 22 and 29 | 10:00AM

Come sing and play with Abe every week for a fun-filled music class that combines your favorite Shabbat and children's songs, with a story, movement and more. Taught by a professional music instructor, our open-space, informal class allows children ages 0 - 3 and their grownups to explore music and Shabbat! Each class ends with a snack and open-play so that caregivers can connect with each other. We look forward to having you join us! \$15/drop-in class* or \$120 for a 10-class series (paid in advance) RSVP: https://www.psjc.org/sing_play_connect

Rabbi Rachel Isaacs and Melanie Weiss

Friday, March 1 | 6:30PM

PSJC alum Rabbi Rachel Isaacs and Mel Weiss come back to Brooklyn to share their experiences of "diaspora" Judaism in the US, via their work at the Maine Center for Small Town Jewish Life.

Parashat Hashavua

Saturday, March 2 | 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.

Purim Spiel and Newsletter Parodies

Monday, March 4 | 7:00PM-9:00PM

Get ready to make merry! The Not-Quite-Ready-For-Purim-Time Players welcome singers who want to participate in PSJC's Purim Spiel celebration of Queen (Esther and Freddie M) to join us for a first rehearsal. Two more rehearsals are scheduled: Sunday, March 10, 2:00PM-5:00PM and Sunday, March 17, 2:00PM-5PM. Megillah reading with accompanying Purim Spiel starts after 6:00PM on Wednesday, March 20. Contact Elizabeth if you are interested in participating or for more information (davening@psjc.org). AND if you are feeling funny and literary, the Spring Newsletter is happy to receive silly, parody articles and items. Send to davening@psjc.org by the end of March.

Rosh Hodesh Adar II Minyan

Thursday, March 7 | 7:00AM

Friday, March 8 | 7:00AM

Hebrew Cooking with our fabulous Shlichim and Shinshinim

Sunday, March 10 | 4:00PM-6:00PM

We will use our Hebrew to cook delicious food and then share those treats at a meal. It is a great way to hang out with friends, meet new people, hone your cooking skills, practice your Hebrew and have a great time with our Shinshinim. Great for children and adults alike. Contact Rabbi Carie Carter at rabbicarie@psjc.org to let us know you are coming.

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.



Parashat Tetzaveh

Triennial: Exodus 29:19-30:10 | Etz Hayim p.513; Hertz p.346

Haftarah: Ezekiel 43:10-27 | Etz Hayim p.1280; Hertz p.995

D'var Torah: On Your Heart

Following the description of the structure of the Mishkan in Parashat Terumah, our parashah, Tetzaveh, leads off with a description of the Kohen Gadol's "sacral vestments" - the *choshen hamishpat* (breastplate of decision), the *ephod*, a robe, a fringed tunic, a headdress, and a sash.

Classical commentators go to great lengths to explain the symbolic meaning of the different elements, but their overall purpose is to elevate the *kedusha*/holiness of Aharon, the Kohen Gadol. A key aspect of *kedusha*/holiness is setting something apart - making it distinct and special - so that it prompts greater feelings of carefulness, respect, and honor. Thus the sacral vestments are not only different from regular clothing, but also made with great care out of precious materials to be both beautiful and awe-inspiring.

But there were also specific elements of the sacral vestments that God commanded be included, not because of what they would communicate to the masses, but because of what they would communicate during the intimate moment in the Holy of Holies when the Kohen Gadol communes with God. On his shoulders and on his chest, the Kohen Gadol is instructed to wear precious stones engraved with the names of the 12 tribes of Israel. The Torah says that two lazuli stones would sit on the shoulder straps of the Kohen Gadol's *ephod*, each bearing the name of 6 tribes. Aharon would bear the names "*al shtei k'teifav*" - on his two shoulders - to be a "remembrance before God." Similarly, the *choshen hamishpat* had 12 stones embedded within it, each one bearing the name of a single tribe.

And thus the names of the tribes would also be "*al libo*" - on Aharon's heart - "to be at all times a remembrance before God."

But the text is ambiguous about who these stones are meant to remind. According to Exodus Rabbah 38:8, which Rashi refers to in his commentary, the stones were there to remind God of Israel's righteousness. The Netziv, however, in his commentary HaEmek Davar, says that they were there so that Aharon would always have Israel in mind during his prayers.

I cannot read about Aharon having the tribes of Israel "on his shoulders" and "on his heart" without being reminded of the second paragraph of the Shema that tells us to "put these words on your heart" and "write them on your doorposts and gates." Medieval Karaites (a group that broke off from mainstream Judaism) and some modern reformers argued that texts like this are not meant literally - that we err when we affix text-bearing mezuzot to our door-frames or bind text-bearing tefillin to our arms and heads. And it seems obvious that God wants more than just scrolls in magic boxes; God desires that our homes are marked with Torah, that we think about it, talk about, value it, and act on it.

But the *p'shat* - the simple meaning - here in Tetzaveh is that the Kohen Gadol is to LITERALLY WEAR A TEXT-BEARING RITUAL OBJECT ON HIS BODY. The Torah is clear - values, stories, and concepts are not enough. They are more impactful when they are *embodied within ritual objects and practices*. And lest we think that rituals and ritual objects like these are only needed for children or the "common folk" - Tetzaveh makes clear that both Aharon, the Kohen Gadol, AND HASHEM need them.

It is with that in mind that the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs and Women's League for Conservative Judaism collaborated this year to promote the "World Wide Wrap" back on Superbowl Sunday. And it makes me proud to work at the Conservative Yeshiva in Jerusalem and at Camp Ramah, where the communal embodiment of Torah is both taught, valued and lived. Shabbat Shalom.

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>.

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.