



**PARK SLOPE JEWISH CENTER**

August 30-September 6, 2019 | 29 Av – 7 Elul 5779  
Shabbat Rosh Hodesh Parashat Re'eh

<b>Friday, August 30   29 Av</b>				<b>Shabbat Rosh Hodesh Parashat Re'eh Saturday, August 31   30 Av</b>		
Kabbalat Shabbat with <b>Charlie Urich</b>   7:00PM Candle Lighting   7:14PM				Rosh Chodesh Elul Shacharit   10:00AM Advanced Talmud   1:30PM		
Sunday September 1 1 Elul	Monday September 2 2 Elul	Tuesday September 3 3 Elul	Wednesday September 4 4 Elul	Thursday September 5 5 Elul	Friday September 6 6 Elul	Saturday September 7 7 Elul
<b>Rosh Chodesh Elul</b>			Morning Minyan 7:15AM  HS Faculty Orientation 5:30PM		Kabbalat Shabbat with <b>David Rosen</b> 6:30PM  Candle Lighting 7:02PM	<i>Parashat Shoftim</i>  Shacharit   10:00AM  <b>Yael Lechtzin Bat Mitzvah</b>  Tot Shabbat   11:15AM  Book Club   1:30PM
<b>Park Slope Jewish Center</b> 1320 Eighth Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11215 (718) 768-1453 Office hours: M-Th 9:00AM-5:00PM, F 9:00AM-2:00PM www.psjc.org   email: office@psjc.org				Rabbi Carie Carter, Rabbi (rabbicarie@psjc.org) Ellen Brickman, President (president@psjc.org) Piper Panzeri, Synagogue Administrator (piper@psjc.org) Aileen Heiman, Director of Youth Education (aileen.heiman@psjc.org) For questions about Accessibility (inclusion@psjc.org)		

**HaMakom Yenachem:**

Our condolences go to:

**Stewart Pravda** and family the death of Stewart's father, **Morris Pravda**, z"l.

**Pete Segal** and family the death of Pete's father, **Cyrus Segal**, z"l.

**Yahrzeits observed 30 Av-6 Elul:**

**Alan Rothberger**, brother of Harriet Baron; **Barbara Stein**, mother of Elyse Meyerson; **Emma Gorelick**, great-aunt of Regina Sandler-Phillips; **Gerry Cohen**, father of Eric Cohen; **Harriet Harris Winston**, friend of Carol Diamond; **Helaine Landau**, mother of Lisa Landau; **Hyman Honig**, grandfather of Les Honig; **Isaac Halberstam**, father of Aron Halberstam; **Israel Wollin**, grandfather of Les Honig; **Jerome Levine**, uncle of Gavrielle Levine and Myron Levine; **Lillian Daffner**, great aunt of Stuart Baron; **Mark Smith**, nephew of Ann Smith; **Michael Pollack**, father of David Pollack; **Morris L. Drucker**, father of Ira Drucker; **Ronald Simon**, uncle of Ellen Simon; **Sylvia Altshuler**, mother of Lisa Altshuler. *May their memories be for a blessing.*

**Lulav & Etrog Sale**

Each set is already assembled together in a holder with the Lulav, Hadassim and Arovot as one. Along with each set you will receive a basic guide as a complimentary gift to express our appreciation to you. It will contain a list of all the Brachot (blessings) and Halakha (laws) of the four species.



**Order yours now: [www.psjc.org/lulav-and-etrog-sale.html](http://www.psjc.org/lulav-and-etrog-sale.html)  
Last day to order Friday, September 13**

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

### Our Annual Honey Sale

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.

Order now [www.psjc.org/honey](http://www.psjc.org/honey).



### Book Club - *The Prague Cemetery*

Saturday, September 7 | 1:30PM

Join us as we explore modern anti-Semitism's underlying ideology via the fictional memoir of the fictional author of *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion* as conveyed in the novel *The Prague Cemetery* by Umberto Eco (translated from the Italian by Richard Dixon). BPL has six print. Used hardcover copies are available on Amazon for \$5 (including shipping). An audiobook version is available from Audible.

### Hebrew School Parent Happy Hour

Sunday, September 8 | 4:30PM-6:30PM

If you're like us, you're equal parts looking forward to shipping the kids back off to school and activities and dreading all the scheduling gymnastics involved. It's exhausting-we get it. That's why we'd like to buy you a drink. We're throwing a happy hour at PSJC just for you. It's an opportunity for all the Hebrew School parents to mingle and get to know each other without kids in tow. Come meet a few fellow parents, make some connections and most importantly, kick back and relax with some liquid therapy. RSVP: <https://www.psjc.org/event/hs-parent-happyhour>

### Kabbalat Shabbat Potluck dinner and song with Judy Ribnick

Friday, September 13 | 6:30PM

### PAI Book Club - *The Other Americans*, by Laila Lalami

Wednesday, September 18 | 7:30PM

## Annual Membership Renewal 2019-2020

That means we have already begun planning for 5780! We hope you will join us for another great year at PSJC! 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](http://www.psjc.org) and log in to your account.

Tickets are available for pick up at the office if you renewed your membership after **Friday, August 16**

Please contact Peter by email [treasurer@psjc.org](mailto: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!

[https://www.psjc.org/hebrew\\_school\\_registration](https://www.psjc.org/hebrew_school_registration)

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



August 30-September 6, 2019 | 29 Av – 7 Elul 5779  
Shabbat Rosh Hodesh Parashat Re'eh

Attention all high school singers!

HaZamir: The International Jewish Teen Choir is a Jewish musical youth movement of choral chapters across the U.S. and Israel. Now entering its 27th year, HaZamir engages hundreds of Jewish teens annually who meet weekly to rehearse high-level Jewish choral music and create a pluralistic peer community.

Performances include a gala concert at Lincoln Center's David Geffen Hall and the Annual Gathering of Remembrance - A Living Memorial to the Holocaust at Temple Emanu-El. The first rehearsal and open house (for singers and parents) for HaZamir Brooklyn will be held at **Sunday, September 8 at 2:00PM | Congregation Beth Elohim (274 Garfield Place).**

For more information, please speak with PSJC Members Shayna Klainberg (Teen Leader), Joshua Klainberg (Parent Coordinator) or Freddie Brooks (Zamir Choral Foundation Board Member). You can also email Eric Spiegel (Conductor) at: [hazamirbk@gmail.com](mailto:hazamirbk@gmail.com)

### Shabbat Shmooze

Saturday, September 21 | 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 indicate which date(s) you prefer: **November 16, December 21** (Chanukah starts December 22 at sundown), **January 18, 2020, February 15, March 21, April 18** (Pesach ends April 16), **May 16, June 20, July 18** or **August 15** please email [shabbatshmooze@psjc.org](mailto:shabbatshmooze@psjc.org), with your preferred date (they occur on the 3rd Shabbat of the month). Members hosting homes needs to be walking distance from PSJC.

### Advanced Talmud

Saturday, September 28 | 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](mailto:aronrhalb@gmail.com).

**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).

Hebrew Free Burial Society is in need of tallitot to use for burial. If you have old tallitot you would like to donate, please consider bringing them to PSJC. We will collect them in the kiddush room this summer and send them to HFBS before Rosh Hashanah.



August 30-September 6, 2019 | 29 Av – 7 Elul 5779  
Shabbat Rosh Hodesh Parashat Re'eh

### Shabbat Rosh Hodesh/Parashat Re'eh

Triennial: Deuteronomy 15:1-16:17 | Etz Hayim p.1076; Hertz p.811

Haftarah: Isaiah 66:1-24, 23 | Etz Hayim p.1085; Hertz p.818

### D'var Torah: All Your Soul Desires

One of the great pleasures of visiting Israel for many kosher-keepers is the ready availability of kosher meat and meat restaurants. Whether we're talking about high-end cuisine or street food, the quality, variety, and value in Israel put Manhattan, Teaneck, Paris, Los Angeles, and Miami to shame. The poultry is raised locally, but the vast quantity of red meat on offer is a mix of domestically raised sheep and cattle and imports from South America or Central/Eastern Europe. Whereas in the past meat was likely to appear only for Shabbat and holiday meals, as Israel has developed into a wealthier country, meat consumption has gone up dramatically, even as Israelis continue to love their fresh fruit and vegetables.

But despite Israeli and Jewish love for meat, our Torah is far more ambivalent. A simple reading of Bereishit reveals that God's plan had been for humans and animals to eat the yield of seed-bearing plants and trees, and "every green herb." (Bereishit 1:29-30). It is only after the world has fallen so completely and God brings a flood to wipe it out that Noah and his family are given permission to eat meat. But this concession, perhaps necessary to keep humans from eating each other, came with the caveat not to eat either blood or limbs torn from a living animal. This move acknowledged our animal nature and placed us at the top of the food chain, but it also sought to "humanize" our consumption as well.

We see meat again being given as a concession when the Israelites were in the desert. God wanted the Israelites to eat only the manna, but they complained so bitterly about missing meat that God sent enough quail to kill them (Bemidbar 11:4-34).

With the building of the Mishkan and institution of the sacrifices, the consumption of meat was both limited, and elevated, further. One could only eat the meat of certain kosher animals (see Vayikra 11 Parashat Shmini, and Devarim 14:3-21 in our parashah), and only then when bringing them as a *korban shelamim* (peace offering) - the main course of a shared holy meal with the priests and God. And to the prohibition of consuming blood, the Torah added the prohibition of eating meat with milk - like blood, another symbol of life.

With everything trending in that direction, it may seem odd that in our parashah we find a verse that widens the consumption of meat. Deuteronomy 12:20 says "When the LORD your God expands your borders, as he has promised you, and you say, 'I shall eat some meat', because you long to eat meat; you may eat meat whenever you wish." We might have expected this to mean that altars would be set up throughout Israelite territory so that one would not have to travel to bring and consume sacrificial meat. But with the Torah's preference for a single sacrificial center, and its repeated injunctions not to do as the idol worshipers had done and build multiple altars, meat-eating becomes disconnected from sacrifices. Slaughtered properly, meat can be eaten whenever and by whomever.

And that brings us to today. There is a strong Torah-case to be made for vegetarianism as God's preferred way for us to eat. At the same time, the concession God makes to our nature seems to reflect the deep desire many people have to eat meat, and the great satisfaction they get from it. But even if we accept the latter argument, the rules of kashrut and the connection of meat-eating to Temple worship call upon us not to eat meat casually or with abandon.

This can express itself in any number of ways. There are many who, in imitation of Rav Kook, only eat meat on Shabbat. There are others who are particularly careful about the treatment of the animals when they are being raised, transported, and slaughtered. More humane treatment raises the price of the meat they consume, leading them to eat meat more rarely. Still, others try to stay conscious of what they are eating by witnessing or even conducting the ritual slaughter themselves. At the Conservative Yeshiva, multiple students study each year with Rabbi Shlomo Zacharow to do proper *shechita* (kosher slaughter).

When the Torah permits us to eat meat "*b'chol avat nafshecha*" (Devarim 12:20-21) we can translate it, as some do, to mean "to our heart's content." But we can also see in the Torah's use of "*nefesh*" (soul) as the source of this desire, a hint to bring a greater degree of soulfulness and elevated consciousness to our consumption.

This weekly commentary on the Torah portion is by **Rabbi Andy Shapiro Katz**, Conservative Yeshiva Director of *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>.