

DC Minyan

Dvar Torah & Dvar Tefillah

Resource Guide

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Need further information? Have a resource not included on this sheet?

Please let us know! Email dvartefillah@dcminyan.org or dvartorah@dcminyan.org

Online Resources

The Almighty Google (www.google.com)

Divrei Torah

Dvar Torah sites: (Sites with a weekly Dvar Torah as well as an archive of previous Divrei Torah. They provide great leads for ideas and sources.)

- Yeshivat Har Etzion: www.vbm-Torah.org/parsha.htm
- Orthodox Union: www.ou.org/Torah/archive.htm
- OU parasha summaries: www.ou.org/Torah/tt/aliyaharchive.htm
- United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism: www.uscj.org/torah_sparks_weekly5467.html
- Jewish Theological Seminary: www.jtsa.edu/Conservative_Judaism/JTS_Torah_Commentary.xml
- Bar Ilan University: www.biu.ac.il/JH/Parasha/eng
- Kolel: The Adult Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning: blog.kolel.org
- Aish HaTorah: www.aish.com/tp
- American Jewish University: judaism.ajula.edu/Content/InfoUnits.asp?CID=1701
- Torah.org www.torah.org/learning/parsha/parsha.html
- Shamash: shamash.org/tanach/dvar.shtml
- Torah Online: www.jr.co.il/hotsites/j-Torah.htm
- Divrei Torah from British Chief Rabbi Jonathan Sacks: www.chief Rabbi.org/CR_Covenant_Conversation.aspx

'How to Write a Dvar Torah' Sites:

- United Synagogue Youth: www.usy.org/yourusy/reled/dt/how.asp
- Tips from Jewcy.com: www.jewcy.com/faithhacker/so_you_want_to_write_a_dvar_torah_that_doesnt_suck
- National Federation of Temple Youth: www.nfty.org/resources/rc/writingdvreitorah

Divrei Tefillah

Dvar Tefillah Websites

- Tifereth Israel Congregation: www.tifereth-israel.org/DvarTfila/DvarTefila.html
- Webyeshiva: <http://blog.webyeshiva.org/category/halacha/tefillah> (videos on tefillah and halacha)
- Chabad: www.chabad.org/library/article_cdo/aid/862308/jewish/Jewish-Prayer.htm
- Donin, Hayim Halevy, *To Pray as a Jew: A Guide to the Prayer Book and Synagogue Service* (books.google.com/books?id=mYjdhwOsAHMC&dq=To+Pray+as+a+Jew:+A+Guide+to+the+Prayer+Book+and+Synagogue+Service&printsec=frontcover&source=bn&hl=en&ei=qHPKSr-)

[2M4jWlAfL1LiSAw&sa=X&oi=book_result&ct=result&resnum=4#v=onepage&q=&f=false](https://books.google.com/books?id=2M4jWlAfL1LiSAw&sa=X&oi=book_result&ct=result&resnum=4#v=onepage&q=&f=false))

- Feuer, Avraham Chaim, *Shemoneh Esrei*
(books.google.com/books?id=OcQu8NRoWFMC&dq=Shemoneh+Esrei+feuer&printsec=frontcover&source=bl&ots=q5E9BpEEYX&sig=cehH3gOoDtj-V-6A5-fuuqv-4wo&hl=en&ei=T3PKSuvNFM-rlAfIy7SSAw&sa=X&oi=book_result&ct=result&resnum=1#v=onepage&q=&f=false)
- Hoffman, Lawrence, A., *My People's Prayer Book: Traditional Prayers, Modern Commentaries*
(books.google.com/books?id=knOzNBFD8R0C&printsec=frontcover&dq=Lawrence+Hoffman&ei=9QPKSqqkCpGCNJORgN8D)
 - NOTE: This version for Shabbat is the tenth of ten volumes Hoffman has written on the subject – search Google books for “My People’s Prayer Book” for other volumes available online
- Zahavy, Tzvee, *Studies in Jewish Prayer* (www.zahavy.com/studies.html)

Additional Online Resources

Primary sources:

- Mechon-Mamre - JPS 1917 edition of the Tanach: www.mechon-mamre.org
- Soncino Online Talmud: www.come-and-hear.com/talmud
- E-daf Talmud (page by page, in GIF format): www.e-daf.com
- Shulchan Aruch (Jewish law): www.torah.org/advanced/shulchan-aruch
- Snunit: www.snunit.k12.il (a Hebrew portal for educational information, full text of a lot of rabbinic literature)
- Mikranet (primary and secondary sources in Hebrew: www.mikranet.org.il)

Background information on Torah and Judaism:

- www.myjewishlearning.com
- www.jewfaq.org
- www.jewishencyclopedia.com
- www.chabad.org
- www.askmoses.com
- www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org
- www.halakhah.org

Publications useful for writing a Dvar Tefillah (not available online)

- Hammer, Reuven, *Entering Jewish Prayer*
- Hammer, Reuven, *Or Hadash, A Commentary on Siddur Sim Shalom*
- Hoffman, Lawrence A., *The Way Into Jewish Prayer*
- Kirzner, Yitzhak, *The Art of Jewish Prayer*
- Mandelkern, Solomon, ed., *Concordance of the Bible*
- Steinsaltz, Adin, *A Guide to Jewish Prayer*

Selected Siddurim and Sifrei Kodesh

- The Artscroll Siddur
- Siddur Sim Shalom (w/ commentary)
- Koren Siddur (w/ commentary)
- Mikraot Gedolot (Biblical text with numerous commentaries)
- Tehillim Rabbah (Midrashic commentary on the book of Psalms)

Batei Midrash and Libraries

DC Beit Midrash Library www.dcbaitmidrash.org

- Books only available Monday nights when Beit Midrash is in session

DC JCC Library www.washingtondcjcc.org

- You need not be a member to use the library, but cannot take out books if you're not a member (and photocopying facilities are not available to the public)

Adas Israel Library www.adasisrael.org/library/Default.htm

- You need not be a member to use library
- Cannot take out books, but there is a photocopier

George Washington University Hillel Library www.gwhillel.org

- Contains numerous parsha related books
- Call ahead to schedule visit

University libraries

- Georgetown University library.georgetown.edu
 - Very good Judaica collection.
 - You don't need to be a student to use the library; just bring a photo ID. You can't check books out if you're not a student there, but there are plenty of photocopy machines.
- George Washington University www.gelman.gwu.edu
 - You have to be a student (but not necessarily a GW student, any student ID will get you in) to enter the library.
 - Has more there than you might expect!
- University of Maryland College Park www.lib.umd.edu
 - Good Judaica collections
- You can get a library consortium card to use at all the DC universities if you are already a student at one of them. Plenty of resources, copiers, etc. www.wrlc.org

Library of Congress www.loc.gov

- This is useful in that they've got most everything, but you can't check out books.
- If you've never been there before, you need to get a LoC reader card, which is a fairly easy and quick process (for more info on Reader Registration process see www.loc.gov/rr/security/readerreg.html), then you can go to the reading room you need and request your books, you tell them where you're sitting and the books are delivered to your desk in about an hour or so, then you can use the books there and/or make photocopies.

DC Minyan Member libraries

Some members of our community have generously offered to share their resources with other community members preparing Divrei Torah and Tefillah. A few have said that they would lend out their books and others have said that they'd prefer for someone to come over and use the book in their homes. If there's a book that you are looking for and haven't found easily, email dvartorah@dcminyan.org or dvartefillah@dcminyan.org and we will try to find a community member who can provide you with it.