

Beth El-Norwalk



Congregation Beth El Pesach Guide 5782

How is this Pesach different from all others?

15–22 Nisan 5782 April 15-23, 2022

Dear Beth El family,

It finally feels like our modern redemption is approaching, and many of us will be returning to in-person seder experiences this year. Whether you're planning for a seder (or two!) in-person, or you prefer to participate virtually, Pesach takes planning!

This year, the sedarim fall on Friday and Saturday evenings, April 15th and 16th, and the last 2 days fall on Thursday night, Friday and Shabbat, April 22nd and 23rd.

In this Guide, you'll find information about:

1. Food and prepping your kitchen
2. Disposing of chametz
3. Planning your seder
4. Siyyum for the Firstborn
5. Holiday services

Please also mark your calendar for our next congregational dinner, Passover In Person, on Friday, April 22. Details and registration will be available soon!

What shall we eat?

➔ **What to eat, and how to clean?** Everything you need to know is in the [Rabbinical Assembly Pesach Guide](#). If you have any questions along the way, please get in touch with Rabbi Paskind.

All About (Getting Rid of) Chametz

- **Sell it.** This year, we will again sell our chametz through the [Rabbinical Assembly's online platform](#). It is customary to make a donation at this time, and you are encouraged to Venmo the synagogue (@Congregation-BethElNorwalk) and earmark it "Passover donation".

Your chametz will return to you at the end of the holiday on Saturday, April 23 at 9:30pm.

→ **Remove it from your home.**

- a. *Search for it.* After nightfall on Thursday, April 14, we search our homes for chametz. Any chametz still to be eaten should be put together in one designated area. You may prepare a candle (or flashlight), a feather or old toothbrush, and a small bag. Place pieces of chametz, (usually pieces of bread) in ten different places around the house. Chametz is hidden so that the searcher will have something to find, and the blessing will not be said in vain. Turn off the lights, and light the candle or flashlight. In the room in which the search will begin, one should say,

"Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu melech ho'alom asher kidshanu bemitzvotav vetzivanu al bi'ur chametz."

"Praised are you God, Ruler of the Universe, who has sanctified us with the commandments, and commanded us to burn chametz."

Using the lit candle, search the house for chametz, and use the feather or toothbrush to sweep it into the bag. It is fun to divide the responsibilities so that one person handles the candle, another the feather, etc. When all the chametz has been found and gathered, the following is said:

"Any leaven that may still be in the house, which I have not seen or have not removed, shall be as if it does not exist, like the dust of the earth."

- b. *Burn it.* The next morning, April 15, the chametz that was found in the search is burned. Recite the following before burning or disposing of this chametz:

"All leaven and anything leavened that is in my possession, whether I have seen it or not, whether I have observed it or not, whether I have removed it or not, shall be considered nullified and ownerless as the dust of the earth."

The mitzvah of searching for chametz includes the search on Thursday night, the renunciation of the ownership of chametz made at night, and the burning or disposing of the chametz on Friday morning.

We'll be burning chametz in the Beth El parking lot on Friday, April 15 at 9am.

Last time to eat *chametz*: 10:40am

***Chametz* must be disposed of by 11:47am**

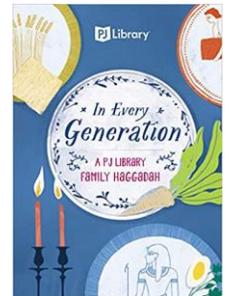
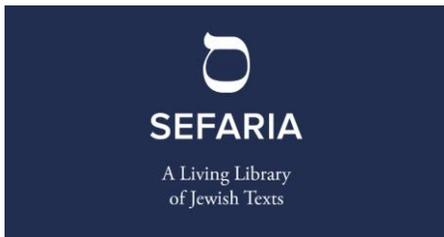
Plan Your Seder

“All who are hungry, let them enter and eat”. However you’re managing the virus this year, Pesach is a time to celebrate together, and we want to help.

→ Seder Matching

- a. If you’re looking to attend a virtual or in-person seder, let me know.
- b. If you’re hosting a virtual or in-person seder and would like to welcome fellow congregants, let me know.

→ **Online Haggadot.** If you will be sharing a seder using technology, or you don’t have access to your stash of haggadot, I recommend these free downloadable haggadah texts (click on ‘em!):



Wait ... there’s a bit more!

- **Siyyum for first-borns.** We’ll join Rabbi Mordy Schwartz for a Conservative Movement-wide siyyum on Friday, April 15 at 8:00am on Zoom. Register [here](#).
 - Our morning minyan will meet at 7:30am that day in order to conclude in time for the Siyyum.
- **Yom Tov/Holiday services.** Join us in the sanctuary or on Livestream—10am on Yom Tov (Saturday 4/16, Sunday 4/17, Friday 4/22, and Saturday 4/23 with Yizkor), and 8am on Zoom on weekdays, as usual.

Wishing each of you a *Chag Kasher v’Sameach, a zissen and kosher Pesach,*

Rabbi Ita Paskind