

Enhancing our Safety and Security

We are looking forward to seeing all of you during the High Holidays. On behalf of the Jewish Center I would like to wish you and your family a Shana Tova U'metuka- a sweet, meaningful, healthy and fulfilling year!

We expect our building to be very busy during the Yamim Noraim as we gather in multiple minyanim on several floors. In order to provide a safe and comfortable atmosphere for all, we would like to remind you of our procedures for these days and ask for your kind cooperation.

Please be sure to always bring the tickets you received in the mail. We will ask you to show your ticket. If you did not receive a ticket Security will have a roster of all who made reservations for seating over the holidays. This applies to everyone entering the building - if you do not have your ticket available your entrance into the building may be delayed while your name is checked against the list. Also, please be sure to allow for time to get through the security check, all the more so if you are not carrying a ticket.

The security staff is responsible for monitoring the entrances to the building and safety throughout the building. Unlike a doorman, the security agents' sole responsibility is to provide security. As such, the agent must be attentive to potential threats inside and outside of the building and to screen individuals who wish to enter. Jewish Center staff, usually dressed in a white shirt with the JC logo, will be readily available for assistance in non-security matters

One last point, if you notice anything unusual in or around the building, please inform the security personnel. Follow the New York City motto - if you see something say something.

Many thanks to the Security Committee for their continuing concern and capable leadership in ensuring our safety and well-being. Thank you to all the ushers, volunteers and CSS members who are helping to make this a warm, welcoming and smooth running period. And to all our members, we appreciate your understanding and assistance in helping us to follow these important security measures.

Jewish Center Minyan Guidelines

Medical Information

- Before attending a minyan, participants must satisfactorily complete an on-line registration form, including a survey regarding current symptoms and recent exposure.
- Participants will not be granted admission if:

- He/she has knowingly been in close or proximate contact in the past 14 days with anyone who has been tested positive for COVID-19.
 - He/she has tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 14 days.
 - He/she has experienced any symptoms of COVID-19 in the last 14 days including, but not limited to fever, cough, loss of smell or taste, sore throat, stomach issues or body aches.
 - He/she has been in a state with a high incidence of COVID-19 (per the list of states issued by NY State) within the past 14 days.
- Participants will have their temperature taken. Anyone registering a temperature above 99.4°F will not be permitted to participate.
- Anyone who is over 60 years old, or has a compromising condition or lives with someone who does is strongly urged to continue to daven at home and to consult with his/her physician to determine whether it is a good idea to join a minyan.
- Anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19 should not attend a minyan within 14 days of the positive test or within 72 hours of having a fever or respiratory symptoms, whichever is longer. Furthermore, anyone who has previously tested positive must also be cleared by a doctor for participation in a minyan.
- An absolute condition of attending these minyanim is for participants to affirm that they are symptom-free, that they will abide by the rules of distancing (spelled out below) and hygiene.
- If G-d forbid, a participant develops any symptoms, he/she must immediately contact Rabbi Levine or Aaron Strum with this information.

Masks, Distancing & Hygiene

- For any minyan held, please follow the guidelines for ingress, egress, usage of the restrooms shared prior to the minyan. These may differ based on the location of a minyan.
- All participants (except for members of the same nuclear home) will be socially distanced at least 6 feet in all directions. To the extent possible, locations for each attendee will be clearly delineated, with each participant standing behind a marker or sitting in a designated seat.
- Everyone, including baalei tefilla, at every minyan must wear a mask at all times. The mask must cover the mouth and nose and must be worn during the minyan and when entering and exiting the minyan location.
- Every participant should bring their own hand sanitizer.

Minyan Attendance

- Pre-registration is required. Registrants must daven in the service for which they have registered at all times.
- Regrettably, children under the age of 11 may not attend.
- Each participant will bring his/her own siddur/chumash and, as appropriate, talit.

Davening

- Services will be abbreviated.
- “Heicha Kedusha” (i.e., combined recitation of silent and repetition of the Amidah) will be used wherever possible.
- Singing or speaking loudly undermines the efficacy of masks, even outdoors. As such, no singing will be permitted during the service.
- To keep the service as expeditious as possible, there will be no divrei Torah.
- Shacharit will begin with Nishmat.
- When the Torah is read, the baal koreh will receive all aliyot.

Congregating

- As much as we would love the opportunity to speak with one another, we must insist that congregants disperse immediately upon the conclusion of services.
- Strict guidelines will be in place regarding ingress and egress from The Jewish Center building and any other minyan location. Please follow these protocols closely.