

# SEPHARDIC KEHILA CENTRE

## ABIR YAAKOB CONGREGATION



President  
Meyer Keslassy  
Vice President  
Jean-Claude Abtan

שבת שלום      ברוכים הבאים  
*Shabbat Shalom      Welcome to our Synagogue*

Rabbi Emeritus  
Haham Amram Assayag  
Rabbi  
Rabbi David Kadoch  
Shaliach Tzibur  
Marc Kadoch  
Parnas  
Avi Azuelos

*Parashat Emor* פרשת אמור  
Shabbat May 18th, 2019 יג אייר תשע"ט / 13 Iyar 5779  
Parasha Emor Page 672 Haftarah 1176 in Artscroll

### Shabbat Prayer Times

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| מנחה Mincha  | 6:45 p.m. |
| שבת קבלת שבת Kabalat Shabbat Mizmor Shir LeYom HaShabbat | 7:30 p.m. |
| נרות הדלקת נרות Candle Lighting                          | 8:27 p.m. |
| שחרית Ha'Hida Vatikin (שחרית מנין החייד"א (ותיקין))      | 4:50 a.m. |
| שחרית (Main Synagogue/Barechu):9:35                      | 8:30 a.m. |
| Rabbi's Shiur - Mesilat Yesharim                         | 6:45 p.m. |
| תהלים Tehilim  | 7:30 p.m. |
| מנחה Mincha  | 8:00 p.m. |
| שבת שובע טוב Shabbat Ends                                | 9:30 p.m. |

Erev Shabbat Friday May 24, 2019  
Mincha 6:55 p.m. (Candle Lighting 8:27 p.m.)

### Weekday Services at Medrash Torah Vehayim

|                                 |           |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| <i>שחרית</i> Shahaarit Sunday   |           |
| ותיקין Vatikin                  | 5:10 a.m. |
| מקדימים Makdimim                | 8:00 a.m. |
| קבועים Kebuim                   | 9:00 a.m. |
| <i>שחרית</i> Shahaarit Weekdays |           |
| ותיקין Vatikin                  | 5:10 a.m. |
| מקדימים Makdimim                | 6:45 a.m. |
| קבועים Kebuim                   | 8:15 a.m. |
| מנחה אשרי Mincha Ashrei         | 6:50 p.m. |
| ערבית Arbit                     | 7:20 p.m. |

Shabat Zemanim- Netz- נץ- 5:49 a.m. Keriat Shema- קריאת שמע- 8:56 a.m. Shekia- שקיעה- 8:40 a.m.

### Mazal Tov

To our members and friends, Daniel and Yael Amar on the birth of a baby boy to their daughter Audrey Batel and husband Michael Mordechai.

### Kiddush

This Shabbat Kiddush is sponsored by:  
Rabbi. & Mrs. David and Joyce Kadoch and Mr. & Mrs. Menahem and Rachel Azulay in honor of their sons Jonah Azulay and Avi Kadoch reading of Perek שלישי.  
Everyone is welcome.

### Seuda Shelishit

This Shabbat Seuda Shelishit is sponsored by:  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert and Vivian Benmergui in loving memory of her mother Judith Kay ז"ל  
Everyone is welcome.

### Nahalot

Judith Kay ז"ל, 13 Iyar / Saturday May 18  
Chana Assayag Levy ז"ל, Shimon Darvishpour ז"ל, 15 Iyar / Monday May 20  
Yosef Danieli ז"ל, Raphael Elfassy ז"ל, Sultana Keslassy ז"ל, Jane Esther Benisti ז"ל 17 Iyar / Wednesday May 22  
Freha Zrihen ז"ל, 19 Iyar / Friday May 24

### Nahalot for Following week

Abraham Kozai ז"ל, Alicia Hassan ז"ל, 20 Iyar / Saturday May 25  
Maryvonne Esther Bittan ז"ל, 22 Iyar / Monday May 27  
Simha Lugassy ז"ל, 25 Iyar / Thursday May 30

To increase participation during Tefila, this bulletin should not be read during the conduction of prayer services.  
This bulletin must be discarded in a proper Geniza. 7026 Bathurst Street Thornhill, Ont. L4J 8K3  
Tel: (905) 669 7654 Fax: (905) 669 5138

## **Condolences**

Our deepest and most sincere condolences to Mr. Joseph Bitton on the passing of his father, Mr. Moise Bitton ז"ל. Burial and Shiva will take place in Gibraltar. May his Neshama rest eternally in Gan Eden, Amen.

### **Pirke Avot:**

Hazak U'Baruch to **Yaacov Shelomo Benquesus** who read the Perek שני superbly last Shabbat.

This Shabbat we're looking forward to listening to **Jonah Azulay and Avi Kadoch** who will read Perek שלישי.

## *Upcoming Perek Readers:*

Perek 4 - Mordechai Kadoch and David Lalou

Perek 5 - David Boussidan

Perek 6 - Elie Azulay

### **Save the Date:**

The SKC, in conjunction with Ohr Yisrael, is thrilled to welcome HaGaon Rabbi Zamir Cohen, founder of the world renowned Hidabroot Kiruv Organization, and one of the biggest public speakers in Israel, for a Shabbaton May 31st - June 1st. HaGaon Rabbi Zamir Cohen will also give a special lecture on Sunday June 2nd at the SKC in honour of Yom Yerushalayim.

Rabbi Zamir Cohen will address the attendees in Hebrew during Shabbat but there will be other classes given by Rabbi. David Kadoch and Rabbi Yisrael Yakobov for the English speakers.

Stay tuned for a flyer with more details.

### **Mesilat Yesharim, Rabbi Kadoch Shiur continues this week**

The weekly summer Shabbat class resumes this Shabbat @6:45 p.m.

Rabbi Kadoch will begin the classic Jewish book of study, Mesilat Yesharim.

Men and women are invited to join. Every Shabbat, 45 minutes before Tehilim.

### **Bnei Akiva**

Shabbat Shalom Kehila SNIF!!! Bnei Akiva's Kehila SNIF is back and is sad to announce that there are only 3 more SNIF's left. We will make them the 3 greatest weeks of your life! This week at SNIF we have a special theme:

**Lashon Hara!** This SNIF is open to both Parents and Chanichim to come learn and join us for the true SNIF experience!!

This weeks SNIF is at 6:45pm!

Walking groups are available upon request. Please email Etan: [etan@bneiakiva.org](mailto:etan@bneiakiva.org).

### **Cemetery Plots**

The SKC is pleased to announce the availability of Pardes Shalom cemetery plots to our members. In order to accommodate the limited availability of these plots, we ask all interested members to contact **Sol Benchetrit** <[solbench@hotmail.com](mailto:solbench@hotmail.com)>

## *Torah Learning Opportunities at the SKC*

**Daily** - Halacha with Rabbi Aboudi - between Mincha and Arbat

**Sundays** - Gemara Masechet Megila with Rabbi Kadoch - 7:15am-8am, Lower Level Synagogue, Coffee will be served.

**Tuesdays** - Tuesday Night Live on the Parasha with Tomer Malca, 8PM, Medrash, beer and wings, men only.

**Wednesdays** - Mishmar with Yossi Azulay, 7PM, Lower Level Synagogue gymnasium, pizza and drinks, middle school boys.

**Thursdays** - Halacha with Rabbi Kadoch for men - following Arbat.

**Thursdays** - Advanced Gemara with Shimon Benmerqui, 7:15pm, Lower Level Synagogue High School / University boys.

**Shabbat** - Noam Elimelech on the Parasha with Rabbi David Kadoch, 815am-845am, Lower Level Synagogue, coffee and hot chocolate, men only

**Shabbat** - Mesilat Yesharim Mussar with Rabbi Kadoch - 45 minutes before Tehilim, men and women.

*Shiurim Online: If you wish to access any of the Torah classes given during the week by Rabbi Kadoch, Tomer Malca or Rabbi Dabush, you can listen to them at anytime by accessing them on our website: [bit.ly/skctorah](http://bit.ly/skctorah)*

*If you have a Mazal Tov that you would like to share with the congregation or if you have a change of address or email please contact the office at (905) 669-7654.*

*Please be advised that the cutoff time for insertion in the bulletin is Wednesday at 4:00 p.m.  
This bulletin is printed courtesy of Print Three Concord (905) 738-5682.*

# Torah Bites By Rabbi Kadoch

## Emor 5779 – Look forward to studying Torah

וספרתם לכם ממחרת השבת (כג:טו)

“And you shall count from the day after the day of rest” (23:15)

The Tora gives us a mitzva to count the days from the second day of Pesah until the holiday of Shavuot. The root of this commandment, says Sefer HaHinuch, is that the essence of the Jewish people is the Tora, and for the Tora the entire world and Israel were created. The Jews were redeemed from Egypt in order to accept the Tora and Sinai and to fulfill it. The counting of the days from the exodus from Egypt until the day of the accepting of the Torah is an expression of the importance of the Tora for the Jewish people. Just as a person who is enslaved and knows that he will be liberated on a certain day will count each day until he finally gets his freedom, so too, we count the days until we receive the Tora. Counting the days shows that our entire being has a strong desire to finally reach the end of the time we are counting.

The greater your appreciation of the Tora, the more you will realize how important the Tora is for us as a nation. Study it individually, we will have great joy and pleasure when we devote ourselves to it. Every year when we count the days between Pesah and Shavuot, we once again repeat this message daily for the forty-nine days.

Commentators mention that each of those days is for working on one of the 48 tools for acquiring the Tora that are listed in the sixth chapter of Pirke Avot. In their totality, they comprise the traits and attributes that make up the complete person. Rabbi Baruch Ber Leibowitz, Rosh Hayeshiva of Kamenetz once remarked “What can compare to my situation? I wake up in the morning and it’s as though I have all the hachamim waiting for me at my bedside to study them. I can’t wait to wash my hands and arise to my riches!”

This is the purpose of the count. May we be zoche to count with such enthusiasm.

# Perasha Insights By Rabbi Eli Mansour

## Parashat Emor: Preparing for Matan Torah

One of the topics discussed in Parashat Emor is the Misva which we observe each night during this period between Pesach and Shabuot – the Misva of Sefirat Ha’omer, to count the forty-nine days from the 16th of Nissan until Shabuot.

The meaning of this Misva can be understood by considering the name of the Yom Tob it leads to – “Shabuot.” Rather than refer to this Yom Tob as “Zeman Matan Toratenu” (“the time of the giving of the Torah”), as we refer to Shabuot in our prayers, the Torah instead refers to this holiday as “the holiday of weeks.” Why?

The answer is that we need to prepare for this Yom Tob during the weeks leading to the event of Matan Torah.

The Jewish holidays do not merely commemorate historical events. Their role is not simply to help us remember what happened. Rather, the spiritual forces that were at play at the time these events transpired resurface each year at the time we commemorate those events. This means that on Shabuot, we not only recall the event of Matan Torah, but we experience it anew. Each year, it as though we return to Sinai and once again accept upon ourselves the Torah.

And this is why the weeks leading up to Shabuot are so crucial. If the celebration was only commemorative, there wouldn’t be much to prepare for. But since Shabuot is about reexperiencing the event of Matan Torah, we need to prepare for it. Just as our ancestors needed to undergo a growth process after leaving Egypt to prepare for Matan Torah, we must likewise prepare ourselves during these weeks after Pesach so we will be ready to properly accept the Torah anew on Shabuot.

The Mishna in Pirkeh Abot (6:6) teaches that “the Torah is acquired through forty-eight things.” There are forty-eight indispensable attributes that we must master in order to properly “acquire” the Torah, and the Mishna proceeds to list all forty-eight. It has been suggested that the forty-eight days of the Omer correspond to these forty-eight attributes, as on each day of the Omer we should try to focus on one attribute so we can properly prepare for Matan Torah. The forty-ninth and final day of the Omer, the day before Shabuot, is when we are to try to review all that we’ve learned and gained the previous forty-eight days, so we enter Shabuot fully prepared to accept the Torah.

We obviously cannot go through all forty-eight in this context, so we will simply point out two: “Ema” and “Yir’a” – reverence and fear.

Torah, unlike all other disciplines, must be studied with a certain aura of reverence. When it comes to all other fields, it makes no difference what one wears while he studies, in what kind of environment he studies, and what his mood is as he studies. Torah, however, must be learned with a degree of fear, with a feeling of reverence.

The reason can be understood from the Talmud’s statement that since the destruction of the Bet Ha’mikdash, G-d is present wherever Torah is studied. The Shechina (divine presence) used to rest in the Bet Ha’mikdash, and now rests wherever a Jew studies Torah. If we approach Torah learning with this awareness, we will naturally study with “Ema” and “Yir’a.” When the Kohen Gadol completed the special Yom Kippur service, during which he entered the holiest chamber of the Bet Ha’mikdash, he would make a special feast, celebrating his having survived this experience. This is the level of fear evoked by being in Hashem’s presence in the Bet Ha’mikdash – and this is how we should approach Torah learning, as well. We need to realize that as we study Torah, we are like Kohanim serving G-d in the Bet Ha’mikdash.

How fortunate we are to have received such a precious gift – the Torah, through which we are able to live in G-d’s presence. May we always cherish this great privilege and commit ourselves to take full advantage of the opportunity we have to draw close to the Creator through the study of His Torah.



**SEPHARDIC KEHILA CENTRE  
PRESENTS**

# **THE 21ST ANNUAL HILULA OF RABBI SHIMON BAR YOHAI**

Traditional auction of candles and fabulous items.

Dinner graciously sponsored by the Benquesus, Keslassy and Serruya families.

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**THURSDAY MAY 23 - 2019, 6PM  
MAIN BANQUET HALL**

Admission is FREE with registration

905-669-7654 x200 or

<https://www.kehilacentre.com/event/hilula2019>