

SEPHARDIC KEHILA CENTRE

ABIR YAAKOB CONGREGATION



President
Meyer Keslassy
Vice President
Jean-Claude Abtan

שבת שלום
Shabbat Shalom

ברוכים הבאים
Welcome to our Synagogue

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

פרשת עקב Parashat Ekev
Shabbat August 24 2019 כג תמוז תשע"ט / 23 Av 5779
Parasha Ekev Page 980 — Haftarah Page 1197 in Artscroll

Shabbat Prayer Times

מנחה Mincha	6:25 p.m.
נרות הדלקת נרות Early Candle Lighting	7:20 p.m.
חרית מנין החיד"א (ותיקין) Shacharit Ha'Hida Vatikim	5:30 a.m.
שחרית Shacharit (Main Synagogue/Barechu:9:35)	8:30 a.m.
Rabbi's Shiur - Mesilat Yesharim	6:05 p.m.
תהלים Tehilim	6:50 p.m.
מנחה Mincha	7:20 p.m.
שבע טוב Shabbat Ends	8:53 p.m.

Erev Shabbat Friday August 30th 2019
Mincha 6:25 p.m. (Early Candle Lighting 7:20 p.m.)

Weekday Services at Medrash Torah Vehayim

שחרית Shacharit Sunday	
ותיקין Vatikim	5:48 a.m.
מקדימים Makdimim	8:00 a.m.
קבועים Kebuim	9:00 a.m.
שחרית Shacharit Weekdays	
ותיקין Vatikim	5:48 a.m.
מקדימים Makdimim	6:45 a.m.
קבועים Kebuim	8:15 a.m.
אשרי מנחה Mincha Ashre	6:20 p.m.
ערבית Arbit	6:50 p.m.

Shabat Zemanim- Netz- נץ- 6:32 a.m. Keriat Shema- שקיעה - 8:08 p.m. 9:20 a.m. Shekia-

Mazal Tov

To Mr. and Mrs. Yoav and Sarah-Joy Yosipovich on the occasion of their forthcoming wedding.
Proud Parents: Mr. and Mrs. Pinchas and Hana Yosipovich and Mr. and Mrs. Claire and David Freedman.
Proud Grandmother: Mrs. Allegra Levy

Kiddush

Please join us for Shabbat Kiddush sponsored by:
Mr. and Mrs. Pinchas and Hana Yosipovich and Mr. and Mrs. Claire and David Freedman in honour of their children's Yoav and Sarah-Joy Shabbat-Hatan
Everyone is welcome.

Seuda Shelishit

Please join us for Seuda Shelishit after Mincha services sponsored by:
Mr. and Mrs. Isaac and Sylviane Bendelac in the memory of his father Mojluif Bendelac ז"ל
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel and Anita Chai in the memory of his mother Leah Chai ז"ל
Mr. Simon Mouyal in the memory of his mother Zamila Mouyal ז"ל
Mr. and Mrs. Jenö and Judith Gal in the memory of their daughter Mindel Adina Gal-Kurz ז"ל and his mother Freidel Stefania Gal ז"ל

We will be making a Siyum on Masechet Temura during Seuda Shelishit, Everyone is welcome.

Nahalot

Alice Feldman ז"ל 22 Av / Friday August 23
Leah Chai ז"ל, 23 Av/ Saturday August 24
Mojluif Bendelac ז"ל, Rachel Perez ז"ל 24 Av/ Sunday August 25
Zamila Mouyal ז"ל, 26 Av / Tuesday August 27
Mindel Adina Gal-Kurtz ז"ל, Yael Brigitte Nahmias ז"ל, 27 Av / Wednesday August 28
Mercedes Benmergui ז"ל, 28 Av / Thursday August 29



Synagogue News:

Nahalot for next week

Yvette Ayache ז"ל, 1 Elul / Sunday September 1
Abraham Shvartsman ז"ל, 2 Elul / Monday September 2
Sarah Benatar ז"ל, 3 Elul Tuesday September 3
Ezra Totah ז"ל, Shamil Kardashov ז"ל, 4 Elul / Wednesday September 4
David Cohen ז"ל, Osvaldo Faierman ז"ל, 6 Elul / Friday September 6

Mishmara

Mrs. Esther Berdugo ז"ל sister of our member Max Benaim will take place at Petah Tikva Congregation, this coming Sunday, August 25, starting with Minha at 745pm Services at Pardes Shalom will be held on the same Sunday at 10am.

Welcome Back

We would like to welcome back all our youngsters who have been away in Jewish summer camp. We hope your experience was inspirational and energizing.

Nesia Toba

We would like to wish farewell to some of our high school graduates who are travelling abroad to spend a year of study in Eretz Yisrael: Avraham Arrobas, Perlita Azulay, Atara Biba Benquesus, Ariel Cohen, Malka Cohen, Puli Shulman
Wishing you all much Hatzalah in your year of spiritual growth!

Save this Date

Sefer Torah Dedication in memory of Jack Buzaglo ז"ל, September 8th, 2019.

Upcoming Dinner In memory of Jack Buzaglo ז"ל, date to be announced.

Rabbi Yoel Gold Lecture

The Sephardic Kehila Centre, in partnership with Petah Tikva Congregation, is proud to announce that we will be bringing in world-renowned and inspiring speaker, Rabbi Yoel Gold on Sunday, September 15th, as part of a Special Elul program. Please see the flyer on the back of the bulletin for more information

High Holidays Tickets

High Holiday Tickets will be available Monday August 26th, 2019 for pickup. Accounts must be fully paid to receive tickets and, for security reasons, no one will be admitted for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services without tickets."

Ladies Tehilim Group

Women are invited to join the Tehilim group Tuesdays at 10:00a.m. and every Shabbat at 6:00pm Lower Level Restaurant.

Mesilat Yesharim, Rabbi Kadoch Shiur continues this week

The weekly summer Shabbat class resumes this Shabbat @6:20 p.m.
Rabbi Kadoch will continue the classic Jewish book of study, Mesilat Yesharim.

HATANIM

If you are interested in being a Hatan for Simhat Torah please contact our Parnas Avi Azuelos. Available Hatanim are:

- Hatan Mesayem (Vezot Haberacha)
- Hatan Mathil (Bereshit)
- Hatan UIAsher Amar
- Hatan Maftir

Security Committee

The SKC is searching for volunteers to serve on a Security Committee, we ask all interested contact Joseph Mamane at 905-669-7654 Ext 200 or email at joseph.mamane@kehilacentre.com.

New and exciting Torah classes @ SKC

Daily - Halacha - between Minha and Arbit.
Sundays 9:00 a.m - Navi with Rabbi Kadoch, Lower Level Synagogue, men, Coffee will be served.
Tuesdays Night Live 8:00 p.m with Tomer Malca in the Medrash
Wednesdays 8:00 p.m (beginning in September) - Ladies shiur with Rabbi Kadoch, Location TBA
Thursdays 9:00 p.m - Ohr HaHayim on the weekly Parasha with Rabbi Kadoch, Medrash, men
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

Parashat Ekev 5779 - Small Wonders

This week's portion is called Ekev. Simply translated, Ekev means, "if". The Torah promises its bounty of blessing upon the Jewish nation. Hashem will watch you, love you, bless your children and your flocks — in addition to five other verses all filled with various blessings. These blessings are only bestowed with one condition — "Ekev tishma'un," if you shall listen to the word of Hashem and fulfill his commandments. Rashi, who usually concentrates on the simple explanations and clarifies nuances in Hebrew terminology, deviates from his norm. In his only commentary to the opening line of the portion, he translates the word Ekev in an entirely different light. He explains that the word ekev translates as heel. Thus, he explains the verse homiletically. "If you will observe mitzvot that are ordinarily trampled on by the heel of your foot," then the blessings of Hashem shall follow. Many commentaries pose the following question: Rashi's usual modus operandi is to first explain a verse in its Pashut Peshat, simple explanation. That achieved, he then proceeds to expound the verse in a Midrashic light. In this case, Rashi uses only a Midrashic explanation. Why? I read an interesting answer from Rabbi Mordechai Kamenetzky, Rosh Yeshiva Yeshivat Torat Hayim in South Shore, based on a true story: Rav Eliyahu Lopian raised funds for his Yeshiva in England. He once visited one of England's wealthiest Jews. The man was known to contribute to any Yeshiva or Rabbi who asked. The man himself, however, was not the least bit observant. Other than his adoration of Rabbis and support of Yeshivot, the philanthropist had hardly a connection with anything Jewish. Rabbi Lopian went to visit the man out of respect, but decided not ask him for a contribution. Upon arriving at the mansion, Rav Lopian was greeted warmly, offered hot tea, and was shown to a place in the man's living room. Rabbi Lopian got to the point quickly. "I see that you are not an observant Jew. However, your magnanimity to Yeshivot and Rabbis is remarkable. Tell me, please, why?" The man settled back and began his tale. "My parents were very wealthy and equally religious. I was very rebellious. They wanted me to go to the Hafetz Haim's Yeshiva in Radin. I was not in the least bit interested, but I agreed to take an examination. I failed with flying colours and was ever the more happy for that. But I had one request. It was getting late and I had to sleep over. I asked if I could sleep in the dormitory for the evening. The Rabbi who had interviewed me did not know how to respond. I think he was afraid to have me in the Yeshiva even for a night and I could not blame him! He consulted with the Hafetz Haim. "The Hafetz Haim explained to us both, 'a boy that cannot be in the dorm for a year cannot be there for a night. But that does not mean he cannot stay in my home.' "The Hafetz Haim took me to his home. He fed me as if I was the most important visitor in the world. He made a bed for me and made sure I went to sleep. A few hours later, in the middle of the night, I heard the door of the tiny room open. The old man was muttering. 'Oy, it's too cold in here. What will I do?' With that he took off his jacket and put it on top of me and tucked it in. It may not have been the most spiritual act he ever did, but I will tell you one thing. That jacket still gives me warmth whenever I see old Rabbis! Perhaps Rashi is not taking issue. He is telling us the secret of spiritual survival. He is relating the formula that may be the secret to the Jew's existence and continuity. It's the small things that merit the blessings. It's the mitzvot we tend to forget. Those we trample with our heel. There are certain mitzvot that anyone who prides himself as a Jew would not forgo. Yom Kippur and Passover are high on the list. Mezuzah and Kosher rank quite high, too. But there are too many others that get trampled. Rashi explains the verse by stating that if the little mitzvot are ignored, it will not take long before the major mitzvot join the little ones on their trek to oblivion. The Torah promises us the bounty of its blessing if we observe the mitzvot. But Rashi gives us a lesson in assuring continuity. Rashi is telling us the Pashut Peshat (the simple meaning)! Don't tread on the little mitzvot. Watch the mitzvot that everyone tends to forget. If those heel commandments will be considered important, then all the mitzvot will ultimately be observed. That's not allegorical discourse. That's the fact!

Parashat Ekev - Defending Am Yisrael

In Parashat Ekev, Moshe Rabbenu recalls how after he spent forty days in the heavens receiving the Torah, he came down and saw the people worshipping the golden calf. He then later returned to the heavens to plead that G-d forgive Am Yisrael for their sin. The work Amudeha Shiba brings an obscure Midrashic passage that connects Moshe's pleas to G-d after the sin of the golden with the story of Eliyahu Ha'nabi. As we read in the Book of Melachim I (chapter 19), Eliyahu was forced to flee from Izebel, the queen of Israel who sought to kill him, and he came to Sinai. There he was provided with some food, which, the verse states, sustained him for forty days and forty nights. G-d then appeared to Eliyahu, and he reported to G-d that Am Yisrael had abandoned His covenant and worshipped idols. The Midrash interprets these verses to mean that after Eliyahu ate, he was shown a vision of Moshe Rabbenu spending forty days and forty nights atop Mount Sinai pleading with G-d for forgiveness on behalf of the Jewish People. G-d sharply chastised Eliyahu for reporting negatively to G-d about Am Yisrael, instead of advocating on their behalf, as Moshe had done.

To explain this Midrash, the Amudeha Shiba cites a famous passage in a different Midrashic source which teaches that when G-d wanted to create Adam, various groups of angels protested. One such group was the group which represented "Emet" (truth), and who argued that human beings should not be created, because they are dishonest. To silence their protest, the Midrash relates, G-d took hold of "Emet" and "threw them to the ground." One commentator (the "Zera Berech") explains this to mean that he sent the angels of this group down to earth, where they would derive benefit from human beings and thus come to appreciate the greatness of people, instead of objecting to their having been created. One of these angels was Eliyahu Ha'nabi. He was originally an angel, part of the "Emet" group, and he was sent to earth for the purpose of being shown the positive qualities of human beings.

This group of angels also consisted of the three angels who visited Abraham Abinu, who served them a lavish meal. They, too, had argued against the creation of man, and so they were sent to earth where they would benefit from the hospitality of a human being, and thus appreciate them. The effects of these angels' visit to Abraham were felt years later, when Moshe went to the heavens to receive the Torah. The Midrash relates that the angels initially protested, arguing that the Torah belongs in the sublime, pure domain of the heavens, and should not be entrusted to frail human beings. G-d responded by making Moshe Rabbenu appear like Abraham Abinu, and then reminding the angels of how they were once fed and cared for by a human being. They were sent to the world to see the greatness of human beings, and acknowledge the value of their being created and that they deserved G-d's Torah. And because of this experience, they were compelled to stop protesting the decision to give Beneh Yisrael the Torah.

The role of a Jewish leader — and, in a sense, of each one of us — is to advocate for the people, not to complain about them. Of course, at the appropriate time and in the appropriate manner, a leader is required to point out to the people their mistakes so they will improve. But in speaking to G-d, the leader's obligation is to pray on the people's behalf, to emphasize only their virtues, their merits, their good deeds and their good qualities. There are enough "prosecuting" angels in the heavens who argue against the Jewish Nation before the Heavenly Tribunal. They don't need our help. Our focus must instead be directed towards all that is beautiful about the Jewish People, and pleading to G-d to bless His beloved nation and shower them all with joy, success and prosperity.

SPECIAL ELUL LECTURE

The Difference Between Love & Respect and Why it Matters

Building your children's self-worth
and fueling their love of Hashem.



Special Guest Speaker:

Rabbi Yoel Gold,
world-renowned inspirational speaker

Petah Tikva
ANSHE CASTILLA CONGREGATION

Sunday, September 15th | Registration 7:30 pm | Talk begins promptly at 8:00 pm
\$18 per person | Men and Women welcome | Refreshments will be served
Petah Tikva Synagogue | 20 Danby Avenue

RSVP online at www.petahtikva.ca/rabbigold

This event is graciously sponsored by The Kadoche Family in memory
of their beloved son & brother, **Moshe Maklouf Hanania z"l.**
and in partnership with:

