

# 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  
Shaliach Tzibur  
Marc Kadoch  
Parnas  
Avi Azuelos

*Parashat Miketz פרשת מקץ*  
Shabbat December 19th 2020, א' טבת תשפ"א / 4 Tevet 5781  
*Perasha Page 222, Haftarah 1143 in Artscroll*

### Shabbat Prayer Times

מנחה Minha	4:25 p.m.
שיר השירים Shir Hashirim	4:40 p.m.
הדלקת נרות Candle Lighting	4:24 p.m.
שחרית מנין החיד"א (ותיקין) Shacharit Ha'Hida Vatikim	6:50 a.m.
מנחה Minha	4:25 p.m.
שבוע טוב Shabbat Ends	5:31 p.m.

### Weekday Services at Medrash Torah Vehayim

<i>שחרית Shacharit Sunday</i>	
ותיקין Vatikim	7:10 a.m.
מקדימים Makdimim	8:00 a.m.
קבועים Kebuim	9:00 a.m.
<i>שחרית Shacharit Weekdays</i>	
ותיקין Vatikim	7:10 a.m.
מקדימים Makdimim	6:45 a.m.
קבועים Kebuim	8:15 a.m.
מנחה Minha	4:30 p.m.
ערבית Arbit	18 minutes after Sunset

Shabbat Zemanim- Netz- נץ- 7:48 am, Keriat Shema- שקיעה- 9:25 am, Shekia- שקיעה- 4:42 pm

### Nahalot

Yosef Mouyal ז"ל, Allan Martin Krane ז"ל, Yaakov Totah ז"ל 5 Tevet / Sunday December 20th  
Rabbi David Benguigui ז"ל, Yaakov Roditi Gulerson ז"ל, 6 Tevet / Monday December 21st  
Rica Nezry ז"ל 7 Tevet / Tuesday December 22nd  
Abraham Benchetrit ז"ל 10 Tevet / Friday December 25th

### Nahalot for the following week

Dina Youssefian ז"ל, Moise Nahmany ז"ל 11 Tevet / Shabbat December 26th  
Joel-Yoel Malinowicz ז"ל, Armando Essebag ז"ל, Iech Elmaleh ז"ל 12 Tevet / Sunday Dec.27th  
Malka Shemesh ז"ל, Jack Brodsky ז"ל, Zohra Kadoch ז"ל 13 Tevet / Monday December 28th  
Shlomo Esseis ז"ל 14 Tevet / Tuesday December 29th  
Hanna Trojman ז"ל 16 Tevet / Thursday December 31st

**Fast of Asara B'Tevet**

Fast of Asara B'Tevet will be on Friday Dec 25th

**Shiur Sponsorships**

We wish to acknowledge the generous sponsorship of the rabbi's Shiurim

- Salomon Nezry, in memory of his mother, Rica Nezry z"l
- Oren Dishy, in memory of his father, Ramy Dishy z'l

**Prayer Restrictions and Registration**

With the recently announced York Region restrictions on synagogues we have moved to a registration system for all minyanim. You must register to attend Tefila services at SKC by using the following link

==> <https://signup.com/go/YgWbLRd>. If you do need help registering or do not have a computer, please call Sulty in the office at 905-669-7654 x200 for help. People who do not register, will not be allowed to pray in the building.

We would like to remind everyone that masks are mandatory from the moment that you step into the building and should not be removed or lowered while you are praying. If you cannot wear a mask, we recommend that you pray at home.

We also ask that everyone respect social distancing restrictions at all times in order to minimize any risks and preserve safety.

Please do not congregate in the building or in front of the building after Tefila. Not only does this increase the risk to all but people have reported our congregants to the authorities because of this.

**Avot Ubanim - POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

**Weekly Shiurim**

- Monday - Mishle/Proverbs (men and women all ages)
  - Tuesday - Halacha (university-aged boys)
  - Wednesday - Parashat HaShavua (Post-Seminary Girls)
  - Thursday - Parashat HaShavua (men and women all ages)
- All classes at 8:00pm.  
Sunday - Gemara Masechet Sotah 7:15am

Link <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/450150709>

**Weekly Shiur by Zachary Benatar**

Join us weekly for inspirational words of wisdom on Judaism by Zachary Benatar. Only half an hour weekly. Gain a deeper understanding of the world through Hashem's eyes. We look forward to having men and women tune in.

**Every Tuesday at 2:45 p.m.**

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75974587379?pwd=bDVheFIZRnRnVITE1NynBxa2R6QT09>

Meeting ID is 759 7458 7379

Passcode 12345

**Miketz – The End (ketz) of Darkness**

“וַיְהִי מִקֵּץ שְׁנַיִם יָמִים” **“And it was at the end of two years”**

The previous parasha, Parashat Vayeshev, ended with the verse: "And the butler did not remember Yosef and forgot him." Yosef was thrown into a pit, rolling among nomadic caravans, sold to a slave and finally put in jail in Egypt. Even after he helps the butler minister, the minister forgets him. What a terrible feeling it was to feel forgotten, abandoned. All the troubles of the world fall on you one by one. But God does not forget.

This week we will read the story of "Miketz". In the name of the parasha, the word 'end' appears, ie, [קֵץ]. The holy Baal Shem Tov expounds the name of the parasha from the verse קֵץ שָׁם לְחֹשֶׁךְ "He sets bounds for darkness" (Iyov 28:3)

God is the end of the darkness, the blackness, the gloom, the fall from bad to worse. He takes Yosef out of prison, installs him as the governor of Egypt and from there begins his redemption, he meets his brothers and the dreams he dreamed in his youth - come true.

The portion of Miketz is always read Hanukah, and here, too, God has put an end to the darkness. The people of Israel have come out of decrees of destruction and spiritual slavery in place of redemption. There is no doubt that Yosef was in prison, and for him it was very difficult to see the light coming out of this great darkness. The same is true of the Hanukah story in which people died of sanctifying God in horror stories such as the seven sons of Hannah.

Today, the people of Israel are in darkness, spinning like a blind person who cannot find his way out. What happens to our nation as a whole often can be attributed to our own personal lives. Many times, one can experience difficulty, sadness, and a lack of understanding of why this difficulty has come to me. But the emuna lies in the fact that God does not forget. God is here and turns the world in our favor and our redemption is the one that can help us deal with the difficulties.

On Hanukah we remember the miracle of the victory of light over darkness. It is not a coincidence that Hanukah take place during the shortest days of the year, i.e. the height of darkness. So on Hanukah, which seems to be the height of the exile, the height of darkness, where everything is hidden and dark, and there seems to be no one who remembers us, we light a candle; a small candle that illuminates a small light of faith. And after that we light another candle that adds more light, and another one ... And so the light grows and illuminates our lives with faith, believing that God has not forgotten us.

Let's look at the candles. Think of the good things; about the small gifts God gave you. Let the light fill you with an inner light that

reminds us that God never forgets. He remembers us even when we feel in the prison of Egypt, and he will put an end to the darkness, soon in our day, Amen.



הַרְבֵּנִים דֵּט אַר אַנְטוֹ  
VAAD HARABONIM OF TORONTO



בעזה"ש

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בס"ד

Beis Din

Rabbi Dovid Schochet

Rabbi Moshe Mordechai Lowy

Rabbi Yoseph Oziel

זאת חנוכה תשע"א

December 17, 2020

To the Members of the Community:

The number of Covid-19 cases in the GTA has sky-rocketed over the past few weeks. As a result, both Toronto and York Region are under lockdown. Our community is not immune. Many people have tested positive for the virus and some of them are suffering terribly.

The Covid-19 pandemic is a genuine סכנה. Of course, having בטחון (trust in Hashem) is essential and תפילה (prayer) is our greatest weapon. However, the Torah tells us very clearly that in such a situation, ונשמרתם מאד לנפשותיכם – you must guard your lives very carefully. During this Pandemic, that means our השתדלות (efforts) are to obey Health Care professionals and strictly comply with all Covid-19 restrictions and measures. These include wearing tight-fitting masks, social-distancing, limits on gatherings, etc. Every effort must be made to avoid both חילול השם and the very real possibility of spreading the virus, ח"ו.

We all look forward to the day when this Pandemic is behind us and families and shuls return to their regular routines. For now, however, we must behave in a manner appropriate to these extraordinary and dangerous times.

**BEIS DIN**

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