

SEPHARDIC KEHILA CENTRE

ABIR YAAKOB CONGREGATION



President
Jean-Claude Abtan
Vice President
Eric Benchetrit

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 Shemot פרשת שמות
Shabbat January 9th 2021, כה' טבת תשפ"א / 25 Tevet 5781
Perasha Page 292, Haftarah 1147 in Artscroll

Shabbat Prayer Times

מנחה Mincha	4:40 p.m.
הדלקת נרות Candle Lighting	4:40 p.m.
שחרית מנין החיד"א (ותיקין) Shacharit Ha'Hida Vatikim	6:50 a.m.
מנחה Mincha	4:40 p.m.
שבת שבע טוב Shabbat Ends	5:48 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 Mincha	4:50 p.m.
ערבית Arbit	18 minutes after Sunset

Shabat Zemanim- Netz- נץ- 7:51 am, Keriat Shema- קריאת שמע- 9:32 am, Shekia- שקיעה- 4:59 pm

Nahalot

Mordejai Assayag ז"ל, Isaac Assor ז"ל 25 Tevet / Shabbat January 9th
Hillel Edery ז"ל 26 Tevet / Sunday January 10th
Moses Elmaleh ז"ל, Luna Benchabo ז"ל 29 Tevet / Wednesday January 13th
Rebecca Sabbah ז"ל, Yaakob Zeitouni ז"ל 1 Shevat / Thursday January 14th

Nahalot for the following week

Jack Benaïm ז"ל 3 Shevat / Shabbat January 16th
Jack Buzaglo ז"ל, 4 Shevat / Sunday January 17th
Gimol Bendelac ז"ל, Ethel Korman ז"ל, Abraham Yaakob Delmar ז"ל 5 Shevat / Monday January 18th
Simcha Soudry ז"ל 7 Shevat / Wednesday January 20th
Isaac Cohen ז"ל, Menasse Benzaquen ז"ל 9 Shevat / Friday January 22nd

Condolences

We regret to announce the passing of Mr. Yehuda Abtan z"l, in Israel; uncle of Patrick Abtan and Jean-Claude Abtan, and brother-in-law to Mrs. Perla Abtan.
May his Neshama rest eternally in Gan Eden.

Rosh Hodesh

Rosh Hodesh Shevat will be on Thursday January 14th

Hazak U Baruch

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to the people who have been leading Tefila services over the last month; the response from everyone has been incredibly positive and appreciative of the way the various minyanim have been going. A special thank you also goes to Moshe Wanunu and Jonathan Lalou for volunteering their time and efforts to read Torah in their respective minyanim.

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 in advance to attend Tefila services at SKC. If you need help registering or do not have a computer, please call Sultry 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=bDVheFZRnHuckVITE1NynBxa2R6QT09>. Meeting ID is 759 7458 7379
Passcode 12345

Shemot - Bathing "on" the Nile

ותרד בת פרעה לרחץ על היאר

"And Paroh's daughter went to wash herself in the river."

What seems to be a very ordinary moment in one's day, the Talmud in Masechet Megila explains that Pharaoh's daughter wasn't actually bathing in the Nile. She was, in fact, cleansing herself from the idol impurities of the house of her father. In other words, she was using the Nile River as a mikveh. This is odd. Without learning this Gemara, there is no implication of this explanation in the verse and one must wonder where the Amoraim (authors of the Gemara) came up with such an explanation. It seems that the literal explanation, the one that we've been accustomed to using our whole life, makes the most sense. However, if you look at the verse with more scrutiny, you will see that the grammar used isn't exactly textbook. The Torah should have used the words לרחץ ביאר (wash herself in the Nile) rather than לרחץ על היאר which literally means "wash herself on the Nile." "On the Nile" makes no sense in this context.

The Rabbis of the Talmud, with their tremendous wisdom, noticed this grammatical error and immediately sought to find a reason for it. They interpreted the words to mean that Batya went to cleanse herself with what was on the יאר. Let us look at the letters which are "on top" of the letters of יאר

Above the letter after yud is kaf.

Above the letter after aleph is bet.

Above the letter after resh is shin.

The three letters that come on top of the יאר are none other than כבש - a lamb. And as we all know, the lamb was the God, the avoda zara, of the Egyptians. This is the meaning of the Rabbis explanation: The daughter of Pharaoh went down to cleanse herself from avoda zara of the Egyptians. Another incredible proof how the Rabbis of old displayed a level of wisdom beyond any of our comprehension.

The lesson for us to be learned is how Batya was able to recognize what was hindering her progression towards the truth and she did what was needed in order to fix it. While it's unsure how much of a connection she had to HaKadosh Baruch Hu as the daughter of Par'oh, for us the message remains the same. We experience times in our life where we are forced to introspect and think, "is what I'm doing what God really wants?" If there's any shade of doubt in your mind then you need to cleanse just like Batya did. Not necessarily jump in to a mikve, but a step or two forward in the direction of Avodat Hashem. A beracha here, Birkat HaMazon there, prayer attendance, refraining from evil speech; there are so many things one can do to show Hashem that we really want to come close to him.