

# 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 Yitro פרשת יתרו  
Shabbat February 6th 2021, כ"ד' שבט תשפ"א / 24 Shvat 5781  
Perasha Page 394, Haftarah 1154 in Artscroll

### Shabbat Prayer Times

מנחה Minha	5:15 p.m.
הדלקת נרות Candle Lighting	5:16 p.m.
שחרית מנין החיד"א (ותיקין) Shacharit Ha'Hida Vatikim	6:30 a.m.
מנחה Minha	5:10 p.m.
שבע טוב Shabbat Ends	6:21 p.m.

### Weekday Services at Medrash Torah Vehayim

שחרית Shacharit Sunday	
ותיקין Vatikim	6:45 a.m.
מקדימים Makdimim	8:00 a.m.
קבועים Kebuim	9:00 a.m.
שחרית Shacharit Weekdays	
ותיקין Vatikim	6:45 a.m.
מקדימים Makdimim	6:45 a.m.
קבועים Kebuim	8:15 a.m.
מנחה Minha	5:30 p.m.
ערבית Arbit	18 minutes after Sunset

Shabat Zemanim- Netz- נץ- 7:28 am, Keriat Shema- קריאת שמע- 10:51 am, Shekia- שקיעה- 5:36 pm

### Mazal Tov

Rachel Willinger on the occasion of her Bat Mitzvah

### Birthdays this week

Benjamin Ohana, Leon Shulman, Daniel Stein, Shulamit Elmaleh, Cynthia Schlar, Esther Toby, Meyer Benchetrit and Helene Saban

### Nahalot

ז"ל Sarah Ruth Michael ז"ל 25 Shevat / Shabbat February 7th  
ז"ל Anna Hakoun ז"ל, ז"ל Rabbi Yosef Azuelos ז"ל 26 Shevat / Monday February 8th  
ז"ל Mordechai Levy ז"ל, ז"ל Victor Haim Benisty ז"ל 27 Shevat / Tuesday February 9th  
ז"ל Shimon Reboh ז"ל 28 Shevat / Wednesday February 10th

### Nahalot for the following week

ז"ל Victor Chaim Benisti ז"ל 1 Adar / Shabbat February 13th  
ז"ל Chaya Nacson ז"ל, ז"ל Yitzhak Nahmias ז"ל, ז"ל Isaac Medina ז"ל, ז"ל Albert Benzacar ז"ל 2 Adar / Sunday Feb 14th  
ז"ל Joseph Anidjar ז"ל, ז"ל Shimon Mashiah ז"ל, ז"ל Messod Saban ז"ל 4 Adar / Tuesday February 16th  
ז"ל Rahel Nacson ז"ל 5 Adar / Wednesday February 17th  
ז"ל Mair Cohen ז"ל 6 Adar / Thursday February 18th  
ז"ל Victor Totah ז"ל, ז"ל Mercedes Buzaglo ז"ל, ז"ל David Igelman ז"ל 7 Adar / Friday February 19th

# Synagogue News

## Rosh Hodesh Adar

Rosh Hodesh Adar is Friday February 12th and Shabbat February 13th.

## Special Shiur by Reuben Benquesus

Join us this Monday evening for a special Torah class given by our very own Reuben Benquesus in honour of Hodesh Adar and Purim. The class is titled "Our Soul is Our Scroll - The Secret of the Megila"

When: Monday Feb. 8th @ 8:00pm.

Link: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/332445469>

(Rabbi Kadoch's Mishle Class will be postponed to next Monday as a result of this special shiur)

## COVID-19 Restrictions Update

Given the new government of Ontario restrictions, the SKC and SKC office will be closed to all until February 11, 2021, except for prayer services. If you need to reach the office, please do so by e-mail at [social@kehilacentre.com](mailto:social@kehilacentre.com) rather than telephone to ensure a timely response. Payments should be mailed to the synagogue or put in the drop-off box in the lobby.

## Megilat Esther Reading Sign-up

Please click the links below to sign up to our multiple Megilat Esther reading services. Members of the SKC or the Iraqi Community may sign up. Please make sure to input your full name, email address and phone number for tracking purposes.

**Men use this link:** <https://signup.com/go/JMpJNkZ>

**Women use this link:** <https://signup.com/go/FXBSGfQ>

## 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 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.

## 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 Monday at 2:45 p.m.**

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75974587379?pwd=bDVheFZRnuckVITE1NYnBxa2R6QT09>. Meeting ID is 759 7458 7379  
Passcode 12345

## **Torah Bites** By Rabbi Kadoch

### **Yitro 5779 – Tora is eternity**

**כי נר מצוה ותורה אור (משלי ו:כג)**

**A mitzva is a candle, and Tora is light (Proverbs 6:23)**

I remember reading an excerpt in the recent publications of the works of Rabbi Shimshon Pincus that caught my attention with regards to the above verse. Why does Shlomo Hamelech differ between a candle and light? What is the difference exactly and how do connect specifically to both "mitzva" and "Tora?"

All the mitzvot and the kedusha found within them, the spiritual elements and beauty that engulf this world, including the holidays and tefilot we recite are referred to as a "candle." However, as great as these areas of our Jewish life, it pales when in comparison to the Tora which represents a powerful "light." The candle provides illumination when it's dark. Mitzvot, compared to the candle, provide the light necessary to brighten this world, darkened with impurities. The true light, the light emanating from HaKadosh Baruch Hu however, is that of the Tora and can only be attained through the study of it.

Our Hachamim teach us (based on a pasuk from Yeshayahu) that an Am Ha'aretz will not merit tehiyat hametim. The reason for this is because the resurrection is meant for individuals who use the light of the Tora; and that same "light" is what brings a person back to life during tehiyat hametim. A person who doesn't use the light of Tora can't expect it to bring him back to life at the end of days. The statement of our Sages is strongly worded: Only Tora can bring a life of eternal bliss. A man that spends part of his day engaged in Tora study and his full day living Tora values is ensured that the reward of eternal bliss is on its way.

That solves the men, but what about the women? The Gemara in Berachot asks a puzzling question: "How do women acquire their merit?" Isn't it obvious that countless righteous women have many merits from mitzvot that they also do during their life? Why would the Gemara feel the need to ask this question? Rav Pincus explains that tehiyat hametim can happen only to a person who is attached to the Source of Life, i.e. Hashem. Such attachment can only be attained through Tora learning, so the question becomes: How do women, who are exempt from Tora learning, attain special Tora merits? The answer is by sending their children to learn Tora and by allowing their husbands to learn in the Bet HaMedrash. Through this act of hesed, they are now connected to the light of Tora; the same light which will bring them back to life in the end of days.

As we read this week the portion of Matan Tora on Har Sinai, it's always good to remind ourselves that we each have a portion and responsibility in the commandment of limud Tora. What our Hachamim remind us is that the reward is now much greater than we thought.