

# 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

פרשת ויקהל-פקודי Parashat Vayakhel/Pekude  
Shabbat March 13th 2021, אדר תשפ"א / 29 Adar 5781  
Perasha Page 516, Haftarah 1164 in Artscroll

### Shabbat Prayer Times

מנחה Mincha	6:00 p.m.
הדלקת נרות Candle Lighting	6:02 p.m.
שחרית מנין החיד"א (ותיקין) Shacharit Ha'Hida Vatikin	5:30 a.m.
תהלים Tehilim	5:25 p.m.
מנחה Mincha	5:55 p.m.
שבע טוב Shabbat Ends	7:05 p.m.

### Weekday Services at Medrash Torah Vehayim

שחרית Shacharit Sunday	
ותיקין Vatikin	6:50 a.m.
מקדימים Makdimim	8:00 a.m.
קבועים Kebuim	9:00 a.m.
שחרית Shacharit Weekdays	
ותיקין Vatikin	6:50 a.m.
מקדימים Makdimim	6:45 a.m.
קבועים Kebuim	8:15 a.m.
מנחה Mincha	6:00 p.m.
ערבית Arbit	18 minutes after Sunset

Shabbat Zemanim- Netz- נץ- 6:35 am, Keriat Shema- קריאת שמע- 10:29 am, Shekia- שקיעה- 6:21 pm

### Birthdays this week

Farzad Amirian, Malka Cohen, Violeta Malinowicz, Perla Azulay, Clara Serruya, Amram Essebag

### Mazal Tov

Adam and Hagit Halioua on the birth of a baby girl  
Proud Grandparents: Mr. and Mrs. Marc & Madeleine Halioua and Mr. and Mrs. Victor & Rita Levy  
Proud Great-Grandmother: Mrs. Anna Halioua

Orital Saban and Yair Hadar on their recent engagement in Israel  
Proud Parents: Mr. and Mrs. Ze'ev & Helene Saban and Mr. and Mrs. Shlomo & Shoshana Hadar  
Proud Grandmother: Mrs. Messoda Ohayon

Isaac and Fanny Queroub on the the engagement of their granddaughter **Annaelle Gabay to Eitan Sharbat** in New York.

Proud Parents: Mr. & Mrs. Meir Gabay and Mr. & Mrs. Baruch Sharbat

Happy Anniversary to: **Armand Bensimon & Esther Bensimon, Simon Keslassy & Sol Keslassy**  
**Dov Levy & Dorrie Levy**

## Nahalot

Salomon Bitton ז"ל 29 Adar / Shabbat March 13th  
Yaakob Azuelos ז"ל, Peres Karalou ז"ל, Chola Benchetrit ז"ל 1 Nissan/  
Sunday March 14th  
Joseph Edery ז"ל, Zisel Boim ז"ל, Rachel Vaturi ז"ל 2 Nissan/ Mon.Mar.15  
Menahem Benadiba ז"ל 3 Nissan/ Tuesday March 16th  
Molly Citron ז"ל 4 Nissan/Wednesday March 17th  
Esther Cohen ז"ל, Mercedes Bensimhon ז"ל 5 Nissan/Thurs. March 18th  
Marie Elmaleh ז"ל, Rahel Esseis ז"ל, Hananiah Cohen ז"ל 6 Nissan/

Friday March 19th

### Nahalot for the following week

Albert Zrihen ז"ל 7 Nissan / Shabbat March 20th  
Miriam Toby ז"ל 8 Nissan / Sunday March 21st  
Hanna Cohen ז"ל, David Gershon ז"ל 9 Nissan / Monday March 22nd  
Maryse Benisti ז"ל, Shalom Abraham ז"ל, Alegria Moryoussef ז"ל -  
10 Nissan / Tuesday March 23rd  
Haim Amiel ז"ל, Mimon Wanunu ז"ל 11 Nissan / Wednesday March 24th  
Samuel Elfassy ז"ל, Robida Assayag ז"ל 12 Nissan / Thursday Mar.25th  
Lucy Bensimon ז"ל 13 Nissan / Friday March 26th

## Synagogue News

### Downstairs Synagogue Renovations

We are absolutely floored with the response to our appeal for funds to renovate the downstairs synagogue and we have exceeded our goal thanks to the incredible generosity of the community. We have finished installing the tiles and with the additional donations, we are now planning to enhance the synagogue further with a new Hechal and upgraded fixtures. We are grateful to the individuals who have helped and donated their time and money to get to this point and if you wish to make a contribution to help us achieve our new goal, please contact Rabbi Kadoch or Avi Azuelos privately as soon as you can. All contributions will receive a full tax receipt. Tizku Lamitzvot and thank you to everyone in advance.

### Clock Change

Clocks move forward one hour forward Sunday morning at 2am.

### Summer Scheduling

After changing the clocks one hour ahead, we will now be running the summer schedule for both: weekday Minha/Arvit services and Friday night Shabbat services.  
The new weekday schedule begins this Sunday and the new Friday night schedule begins next Friday, March 19th.

### Rosh Hodesh Nisan

Rosh Hodesh Nisan will take place on Sunday Mar.14th (Motzei Shabbat)

### Shabbat HaGadol Derasha x2

Due to this year's Hebrew calendar alignment, Rabbi Kadoch will be giving TWO Shabbat HaGadol lectures.

Saturday March 20th: "The Laws of Erev Pesah on Shabbat"

Saturday March 27th: "Breaking the Matza"

The lectures will take place in the main synagogue at 6:30pm.

Men and women are welcome to attend.

### Prayer Restrictions and Registration

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=bDVheFIZRnhuckVI=TE1NYnBxa2R6QT09>. Meeting ID is 759 7458 7379

Passcode 12345



## Torah Bites By Rabbi Kadoch

Vayakhel-Pekude - Democracy in the desert

ראו, קרא ה' בשם, בצלאל, בן אורי בן חור למטה יהודה" (להל:)

See, Hashem has called by name, Betzalel, the son of Uri, the son of Hur, from the tribe of Yehuda." (35:30)

A lot can be learned from this verse in the way leaders are chosen. Yes, I said chosen. Democracy has been around for hundreds of years, if not many more. Truth be told, the appointment of Betzalel to construct the mishkan was arguably the first appointment through a democratic process in Jewish history. From this moment onward, leaders not connected to the throne or priesthood, were appointed based on merit, wisdom and through the approval of the community. The Talmud in Berachot 55A quotes a medrash describing the appointment of Betzalel.

God approached Moshe and asked him if he felt Betzalel was suited to oversee the building of the mishkan. Moshe humbly answered, "If it good in the eyes of God, all the more so it should be good in my eyes." Nonetheless, God instructed Moshe to ask the opinion of the people. As expected, the people responded verbatim: If the decision is good in your eyes and in the eyes of God, of course it is good with us." From here Rabbi Yitzchak learns a rule: One may only appoint a leader over the community if he consults with the community.

Self-appointed positions of power will find failure and no support. Dictatorships fall and fascists wilt. No support from the community results in eventual collapse and defeat. Lack of endorsement from the community means true leadership is impossible. When building the mishkan, the House of God for the next hundreds of years, crucial decisions and im-plementations need to be made. These decisions must have full support from the community abroad, so Hashem ensured that everyone was on board. But even Moshe couldn't convince everyone as first. The Da'at Zekenim explains that there was a group of Jews who were upset at the appointment of Betzalel; being that he was from Moshe's family. They claimed that all the leaders of Am Yisrael came from Moshe's family and that seemed unfair. Moshe came to God with the complaint and God's response was that the mishkan served as a kapara (atonement) for the Golden Calf and the murder of Hur (who was killed for his refusal to participate). Who better to come and build the mishkan than his grand-son, Betzalel? The building of the mishkan was the greatest project un-dertaken until that point in history. Appointing the right project leader for the job was crucial for its eventual success and sustainability. The prerequisites for the position, aren't so much the knowledge one has (which Betzalel had of course) or prior experience, but rather the support and endorsement from the entire community. Albeit there will always be people who oppose and find the biggest democracies undemocratic, the appointee should know that he has the community behind his back and more importantly; God's approval.