

# 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 Vayera פרשת וירא*  
Shabbat October 23rd 2021, יז' חשוון תשפ"ב / 17 Heshvan 5782  
Perasha Page 78, Haftarah 1134 in Artsroll

### Shabbat Prayer Times

מנחה Minha	6:05 p.m.
הדלקת נרות Candle Lighting	6:04 p.m.
שחרית מנין החיד"א (ותיקין) Shaharit Ha'Hida Vatikim	6:45 a.m.
שחרית (Main Synagogue) Shaharit	9:00 a.m.
תהלים Tehilim	5:05 p.m.
מנחה Minha	5:35 p.m.
שבת טובע שבוטע Shabbat Ends	7:05 p.m.

### Weekday Services at Medrash Torah Vehayim

*שחרית Shacharit Sunday*

ותיקין Vatikim	7:05 a.m.
מקדימים Makdimim	8:00 a.m.
קבועים Kebuim	9:00 a.m.

*שחרית Shacharit Weekdays*

ותיקין Vatikim	7:05 a.m.
מקדימים Makdimim	6:30 a.m.
קבועים Kebuim	8:00 a.m.
מנחה Minha	6:05 p.m.
ערבית Arbit	18 minutes after Sunset

Shabat Zemanim- Netz- נץ- 7:43 am, Keriat Shema- קריאת שמע- 10:22 am, Shekia- שקיעה- 6:20 pm

### Mazal Tov

Mr. & Mrs. David and Estrella Bensimon on the birth of a grandson, born to their daughter Amy and her husband Emin Yusufov

Avraham and Sarah on the birth of their first child, a baby boy who they named Yitzhak.

### Birthdays this week

Arie Avraham Oziel, Anne-Marie Abihisira, Rachel Elimelech, Sarah Dishy, Zachary Benatar, Leni El-Faks, Simha Bitton-Elmaleh, Yoel Azuelos, Aviv Sher, Charlie Gabay

### JNF Honouree

Join the Toronto Jewish community in honouring our very own Rabbi David Kadoch along with 18 other community leaders for the annual JNF Negev Dinner on Sunday November 14th. The leaders are being recognized for their incredible work and devotion to their respective community throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

The night will feature Israeli President Isaac Herzog and Professor Deborah Lipstadt, sharing an intimate dialogue on topics concerning the Jewish community. Don't miss this historic event!

For more information to donate or order meals go to [www.torontonegvdinner.ca](http://www.torontonegvdinner.ca).



RABBI DAVID KADOCH  
SEPHARDIC KEHILA CENTRE  
ALONG WITH 18 OTHER LEADERS

## Nahalot

Mercedes Melul ז"ל **18 Heshvan** / Sunday October 24th  
Mimon Cohen ז"ל, Menahem Serruya ז"ל, Harry Kay ז"ל **19 Heshvan** /  
Monday October 25th  
Salomon Abikhzer ז"ל **20 Heshvan** /Tuesday October 26th  
Isaac Bentolila ז"ל, Messoda Senor Elkaim ז"ל, Nina Keslassy ז"ל **21 Heshvan** /  
Wednesday October 27th  
Lily Medina ז"ל, Rachel Elgrichi ז"ל **22 Heshvan** /Thursday October 28th  
Hugo Faierman ז"ל, Haim Cohen ז"ל, Elazar Benschabat ז"ל **23 Heshvan** /  
Friday October 29th

## Nahalot for the following week

Luna Moyal ז"ל, Marcel Ohayon ז"ל, Samuel Benchimol ז"ל **24 Heshvan** /  
Shabbat Oct. 30th  
Yehuda Leon Sevi ז"ל **25 Heshvan** /Sunday October 31st  
Samuel Cohen ז"ל **26 Heshvan** /Monday November 1st  
Aliyah Serfaty ז"ל **27 Heshvan** /Tuesday November 2nd  
Claudine Touboul ז"ל **29 Heshvan** /Thursday November 4th

## Synagogue News

### Kiddush Is Back!

Kiddushim have long been an opportunity for everyone to socialize and see each other. We are thrilled to be able to welcome everyone back. We will need everyone to be mindful of social distancing and of COVID restrictions. Anyone who wishes to sponsor Kiddush to celebrate an occasion, should contact Sulty in the office at 905-669-7654 x200 or via e-Mail at [sulty@kehilacentre.com](mailto:sulty@kehilacentre.com).

**Kiddush, this week, is sponsored by The Sephardic Kehila Centre**

### Seuda Shelishit

We are holding Seuda Shelishit again, between Minha and Arbit on Shabbat, with some adjustments due to COVID restrictions. Anyone who wishes to sponsor Seuda Shelishit in memory of a loved one, should contact Sulty in the office at 905-669-7654 x200 or via e-Mail at [sulty@kehilacentre.com](mailto:sulty@kehilacentre.com).

**Seuda Shelishit, this week, is sponsored by the Moses and Mercedes Bendayan in memory of Isaac Bentolila z"l**

### Tahanunim during Minyanim

Message from Rabbi Kadoch:  
Beginning this week, the morning minyanim will be reverting back to the traditional custom throughout Morocco, reciting (only) "Anshe Emuna Avadu" on Mondays and "Tamahnu Meraot" on Thursdays.

### Early Risers, Early Gainers

Rabbi Kadoch will start a new shiur on Hilchot Shabbat at 8:30am Shabbat mornings prior to Shaharit in the main synagogue. Start your day with an infusion of Torah. Open to everyone - (coffee and tea available)

### NEW: Tefilot and Piyutim

Attention men and boys who wish to learn the Tefilot and new piyutim. This is your opportunity to learn from one of our esteemed paytanim, Dr. Adam Ohayon. Every Shabbat, 30 minutes before Minha in main banquet hall.

### Mishmar - Wednesdays and Thursdays

Boys 13 and older can join a successful night of learning, food and basketball led by Isaac Nacson. Speak to Isaac for more details.

### Youth Shabbat (Shabbat Parashat Vayera - Oct 23)

Boys of all ages are invited to the Upstairs Medrash with Rabbi Kadoch and Isaac Nacson for a special Shabbat Shaharit Tefila beginning at 9:30 am.

Private Kiddush will follow for all the boys following Shaharit. Lunch is for boys 13 and over.

### Finding Holiness Website - NOW LIVE!

We are happy to announce that Rabbi Kadoch's Finding Holiness podcast now has a website with all his shiurim archived and organized by topic.

Check it out at [www.findingholiness.com](http://www.findingholiness.com)

### Oneg Shabbat 5782

The Kahal Kadosh is invited to the home of Rabbi and Mrs. Kadoch for an Oneg Shabbat on Friday November 12th (Parashat Vayetze)

**Time:** 730pm - 930pm. **Where:** 138 Colvin Cres (off Mullen Dr or through Westminster Public School)

### Kid's Program Is Back

We are thrilled to celebrate the return of the kids' program. We have four young women from the community led remotely by Ashlene Azulay, who have gotten together to create a program of activities to entertain and educate children of the community while their parents pray. We encourage parents to bring their children to the centre and feel comfortable that they are in a safe and healthy environment.

The kid's program is located in the Lower Level Social Hall (Restaurant) and will run from 9:30 am until 11:30 am on Shabbat.

### NEW: Back to Basics Shiur continues this Wednesday

Let's start from the beginning. Wednesdays at 8pm, Rabbi Kadoch will give a Torah class on a series of subjects. See flyer at the end of the bulletin for more details.

### Weekly Shiurim

Monday - Study of the Amida (men and women) @ 8 pm  
Wednesday-Torah Learning-Limud Torah BACK TO BASICS @8pm  
Thursday - Weekly Parasha (men and women all ages) @ 8 pm  
Sunday - Gemara Masechet Sotah @ 7:15am  
Shabbat - Hilchot Shabbat (main synagogue) @ 8:30 am **Zachary Benatar**

Monthly on Mondays @ 2:45pm:

Parasha (men and women)

Join SKC Whatsapp group for link and times

## Parashat Vayera - פרשת לך לך

*Rabbi David Kadoch*

Our rabbis call Sefer Bereshit "Sefer HaYesharim," the Book of the Just. A "yashar" is someone who doesn't cheat, doesn't steal, doesn't act with malice – a straight shooter, a good person.

While I would take it as a compliment if someone described me as a yashar, when we are speaking about the Avot, points out the Netziv, it's a bit of an understatement. Why don't the sages call it the Book of Tzadikim? The Book of Avot?

The Avot lived surrounded by idolaters and evil doers whose lifestyle and beliefs were diametrically opposed to everything the Avot stood for. The lifestyle of Sedom was an anathema to Avraham. Nonetheless, the Avot never lashed out with hatred and/or violence. To the contrary, we find Avraham praying for G-d to spare Sedom, Avraham extending hospitality to wandering idol worshipers, Avraham making a treaty with Avimelech, etc. The Avot treated everyone they came in contact with -- even those with whom they had profound dis-agreements -- with respect and dignity, with "yashrut." That's an even harder challenge than having tzidkut in service of Hashem.

When Bilam saw Bene Yisrael camped in the desert, he exclaimed, "Tamot nafshi mot yesharim" -- I want to be able to go to the grave like the yesharim of that nation. Bilam was "setum ha'ayin," he certainly knew that he was not a real navi and did not have even a small percentage of the righteousness of the Avot. He did not even have the slightest inclination that he could be like them in that way. But he thought that at least he is a yashar, that he has derech eretz. However, when he saw Bene Yisrael and the mesorah of the Avot, he realized that even in this regard he was wrong. His conception of derech eretz was no match for the true yashrut that the Avot embodied.

## Parashat Vayera: We Never Lose by Following G-d's Will

*Rabbi Eli Mansour*

In the beginning of Parashat Vayera, we read of the angels who visited Abraham Abinu and informed him that his wife, Sara, would conceive and beget a son. The angel who spoke to Abraham said, "Shob Ashub Elecha...Ve'hineh Ben Le'Sara Ishtecha" – "I will return to you...and behold, your wife, Sara will have a son" (18:10).

The Or Ha'haim (Rav Haim Ben-Attar, 1696-1743) observes that the expression "Shob Ashub" ("I shall return") seems unnecessarily redundant, repeating two forms of the word "return." Why did the angel not simply say, "Ashub" – that he would return when Sara begets a child?

The Or Ha'haim explains based on the Kabbalistic concept that there are two different kinds of Neshamot (souls) – a male Neshama, and a female Neshama. Yishak, Sara's son, was born with a female Neshama. Whereas normally, of course, males are born with male souls and females are born with female souls, Yishak was an exception, and he initially came into the world with a female Neshama. As such, Or Ha'haim writes, Yishak was unable to produce children, as only a man with a man's soul is capable of impregnating a woman to produce offspring. At a later point, however, Yishak's Neshama changed to a male soul, thus enabling him to reproduce.

The Or Ha'haim writes that this change occurred at the time of Akedat Yishak, when Yishak was bound upon the altar and prepared as a sacrifice. As we read toward the end of Parashat Vayera, G-d tested Abraham by commanding him to offer his beloved son as a sacrifice, and Abraham complied, until an angel called out to him just before he slaughtered Yishak, instructing him not to slaughter his son, as this was merely a test. The Or Ha'haim writes that this angel was the angel who had informed Abraham that Sara would conceive. He had promised, "Shob Ashub" – that he would return twice: when Yishak is born, and then again when Yishak is "reborn," receiving a male Neshama.

The Or Ha'haim adds that this explains why the story of Akedat Yishak is followed by the brief listing of the offspring of Abraham's brother, Nahor (22:20-24). Already Rashi (22:20) comments that this section appears here to inform us of the birth of Nahor's granddaughter, Ribka, who would, of course, marry Yishak. Or Ha'haim develops this point further, explaining that now that Yishak received a male Neshama, he was able to reproduce, and thus the time came for him to marry. As it was the experience of Akedat Yishak that allowed Yishak to beget children, the story of the Akeda is followed by the birth of Ribka, with whom Yishak would produce offspring.

This insight of the Or Ha'haim teaches us that we never lose by fulfilling G-d's will, even when it appears that we do. At the time of Akedat Yishak, as Abraham prepared to sacrifice Yishak, it seemed that he would have no future, as his only son was now being killed. It appeared that his dreams of producing a large nation of devoted servants of G-d would never be realized. As it turned out, however, the exact opposite was true. It was precisely because of Akedat Yishak that Yishak was given the ability to produce children. If not for this experience, he would never have been able to father children, and thus Am Yisrael would never have come into existence. While Akedat Yishak at first appeared to spell the end of Abraham's hopes of producing Am Yisrael, it turned out to be the very event which facilitated the emergence of Am Yisrael.

We should never be deterred from fulfilling Hashem's will because of considerations like financial costs or inconvenience. Even when it seems as though we are losing because of Misva observance, we are, in fact, gaining far more than we could ever imagine.



# TORAH LEARNING - LIMUD TORAH BACK TO BASICS

Wednesdays  
Beginning Oct 13th

## IN PERSON

**WED.  
8PM**

Rabbi David Kadoch

- Gemara Berachot (30 min)
- Tanach w/ Rashi (20 min)
- Halacha Shulhan Aruch (20 min)
  - Open to learners of all levels
  - Refreshments to be served

Having your own sefer (book) is strongly recommended. Please contact Rabbi Kadoch if you would like to have him purchase a copy for you.

## VIDEO CONFERENCING

**WED.  
8PM**

Rabbi David Kadoch

- Also available via video conferencing
  - <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/450150709>

Shiur archives can be found on the the Finding Holiness podcast at [findingholiness.buzzsprout.com](http://findingholiness.buzzsprout.com)