

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 כי תשא *Parashat Ki Tisa*
Shabbat February 19th 2022, יח' אדר א' תשפ"ב / 18 Adar 1 5782
Perasha Page 484 Haftarah 1160 in Artscroll

Shabbat Prayer Times

מנחה Minha (Main Synagogue)	5:30 p.m.
הדלקת נרות Candle Lighting	5:33 p.m.
שחרית מנין החייד"א (ותיקין) Shaharit Ha'Hida Vatikin	6:10 a.m.
שחרית Shaharit (Main Synagogue)	9:00 a.m.
תהלים Tehilim	4:35 p.m.
מנחה Minha	5:05 p.m.
שבת טוב Shabbat Ends	6:37 p.m.



Shabat Zemanim- Netz- נץ- 7:11 am, Keriat Shema- שמע- 9:51 am, Shekia- שקיעה- 5:53 pm

Weekday Services

שחרית <i>Shaharit Sunday</i>		שחרית <i>Shaharit Weekdays</i>	
ותיקין Vatikin	6:35 a.m.	ותיקין Vatikin	6:35 a.m.
מקדימים Makdimim	8:00 a.m.	מקדימים Makdimim	6:30 a.m.
קבועים Kebuim	9:00 a.m.	קבועים Kebuim	8:00 a.m.
		מנחה Minha	5:45 p.m.
		ערבית Arbit	18 minutes after Sunset

Mazal Tov

- To: **Isaac and Risa Oziel** on the birth of a grandson, born to their son David and Lauren
- To: **Joe & Shully Elmaleh** on the birth of a new granddaughter to their daughter Adina and Shua and big brother Meir Waknin from St Louis, Missouri

Hazak U'Baruch

Thank you to Jeff and Kalaya Essebag for sponsoring the brand new set of Talmud for our downstairs synagogue. The set is donated in memory of his parents Armando and Mercedes Essebag z"l.

Birthdays this week

Renee Oziel, Clara Serruya, Yonatan Yechiel Ohana, David Ohayon, Jack Benquesus, Chemaya Keslassy, Tziporah Rothenberg, Rachel Levy, Maurice Benzacar, Ney Bendayan, Matthew Keslassy, Ilan Hyams, Esther Azoulay, Sarina Raquel Rothenberg, Daniel Cohen, Armand Bensimon, Elie Azulay



Nahalot

Shalom Saban ז"ל 18 Adar 1 / Shabbat February 19th
Jacob Goldlust ז"ל 20 Adar 1 / Monday February 21st
Messod Sabah ז"ל, Messody Elmaleh ז"ל 21 Adar 1 / Tuesday Feb. 22nd
Habiba Abtan ז"ל 23 Adar 1 / Thursday February 24th
Mazaltob Bensimon ז"ל, Messod Benzacar ז"ל 24 Adar 1/Friday Feb. 25th

Nahalot for the following week

Salomon Bitton ז"ל 29 Adar 1 / Wednesday March 2nd

Synagogue News

Early Risers, Early Gainers

Join Rabbi Kadoch at 8:30 am Shabbat mornings prior to Shoharim in the main synagogue for an informative shiur on Hilchot Shabbat. Start your day with an infusion of Torah.

Open to everyone - (coffee and tea available).

Shabbat Kiddush

Kiddushim bring everyone together on multiple levels and we are thrilled to welcome everyone back to SKC for a congregational Shabbat Kiddush.

Anyone interested in sponsoring all or part of a kiddush or even helping us enhance the weekly kiddush is asked to call the office at 905-669-7654 x200 or send an e-mail to social@kehilacentre.com.

Kiddush this week is sponsored by Mr. & Mrs. Oren and Raquel Hyams and by Mr. & Mrs. Sam and Sandy Hyams in honour of their son and grandson, Ilan, reading the parasha

Seuda Shelishit

Over the past few months, the Divre Torah during Seuda Shelishit have tackled interesting and thought-provoking topics such as:

- Leaving negative reviews online
- Adding a name for a sick person
- Stepping and walking on graves
- Carrying weapons on Shabbat

This week's topic: **Poaching a job from another business**

Seuda Shelishit this week is sponsored by

- The Bensimon family, in memory of Mazaltob Bensimon ז"ל
- The Saban family, in memory of Shalom Saban ז"ל
- The Abtan family, in memory of Habiba Abtan ז"ל

Sephardic Community Challah Bake

In honour of Rosh Chodesh Adar II - March 2, 2022 @ 7:30pm at the Sephardic Kehila Centre.

Hosted jointly by all the Sephardic Synagogues in the GTA. Come out for an inspiring and fun filled evening, and learn about the challah for Purim from our Moroccan customs.

To register, please go to <https://www.kehilacentre.com/event/challah-bake.html>

Megilat Ester

Come and study Megilat Ester with Rabbi Kadoch on Wednesday night at 8pm. The class has been sponsored in memory of Mrs. Alegria Benmaman ז"ל by her loving grandchildren. See back flyer above for more details.

Sunday Morning Gemara

On Sunday February 27th, the habura that learns Gemara every Sunday morning will be starting a brand new Masechet, Tractate Sanhedrin. Beli Ayin Hara, the group has finished 3 tractates since it's started learning and is looking for more men to join. Sundays at 7:15am.

Esther in Two (Season Two)

Thank you to Dr. and Mrs. Adam and Esther Ohayon for sponsoring the 2nd season of Esther in Two in memory of Abraham Shelomo Edery ז"ל and Yosef Amram Edery ז"ל. Ten short (2-minute) episodes consisting of inspiring ideas and lessons on the Megila will be published in the weeks prior to Purim. Stay tuned!

Tefilot and Piyutim

The young boys of the community, led by Adam Ohayon, continue learning the songs and melodies that make our services unique. To have your child participate, bring him 30 minutes before Minha on Shabbat afternoon.

Shabbat Kids' Program

We encourage parents to bring their children to the centre and feel comfortable that they are in a safe and healthy environment with program of activities to entertain and educate children of the community while their parents pray.

The kid's program is located in the Lower Level Social Hall (Restaurant) and will run from 10:00 am until 12:00 pm (noon) on Shabbat.

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.

Weekly Shiurim

Monday - Study of the Amida (men and women) @ 8 pm ONLINE
Wednesday-Torah Learning-Limud Torah BACK TO BASICS @8pm
Thursday - Weekly Parasha (men and women all ages) @ 8 pm
Zachary Benatar
Monthly on Mondays @ 2:45pm: Parasha (men and women)

COVID-19 Update - February 2022

Government rules have been relaxed as of January 31st, 2022 and all programs are running normally and in person.

We wish to remind everyone, however, that the wearing of masks is still mandatory within SKC and we ask everyone to respect this and wear a mask while in the building. Masks are available at the security desk for those who do not have one..

Social Committee

We will be having an online introductory meeting the evening of Sunday February 27th @ 8 PM to bring everyone together, discuss our activities calendar and plan future programs. If you are interested in participating, please let Sultry in the office know at 905-669-7654 x200 or send a message to social@kehilacentre.com.

Ki Tisa - Coin of fire

Rabbi David Kadoch

This week's Parasha begins with the mitzva of ;מחצית השקל; the commandment for each Jew to give a half-shekel to the Mishkan as a donation. The rich and the poor equally gave only a half shekel, in order that one should not feel or claim that he contributed more to the Mishkan than his counterpart. Rashi famously comments on the superfluous word מרה when it writes על הפקודים. He writes that Hashem showed Moshe a coin of fire in the heavens and told him "like this they need to give."

One begs to ask the significance of showing him an image made out of fire? Why couldn't have it been suffice to show him an image of a plain coin. To this there are many answers and I'd like to share with you a few which are connected to the mitzva of tzedakah.

1. Fire has the ability to provide for many people at once. I can use one fire to cook food for one person or for a hundred people and the fire will not decrease as a result. From here we learn that one who gives tzedakah will not find his possessions decrease nor will he lose anything himself.
2. Sometimes a poor person can only part with a little of his money for charity. Nonetheless, if his giving is filled with fiery passion and intention, then even his small giving is considered large in the eyes of God.
3. Hashem was telling Moshe that Bene Yisrael cannot just give the Machatzit HaShekel, rather, they first have to "burn" all other obstacles and negative character traits that may harm their quality of giving the Shekel, so as to be able to do the mitzva with a full, complete heart.
4. The Noam Elimelech writes beautifully that fire contains a positive and a negative quality. God forbid, fire can burn and destroy but on the other hand it is able to cook, to heat and to illuminate. If one uses his money for charity, kindness and other forms of chesed, one will see tremendous positives from his giving. However, if one uses his money without any association for mitzvot, that money can be extremely detrimental and can cause huge damage to a person Chas VeShalom.

May we merit to give tzedakah wholeheartedly, with the proper passion and intentions and through that, Hashem will bless us with abundance of wealth and kindness.

Parashat Ki Tisa: Preserving the Eternal Bond

Rabbi Eli Mansour

**** This Week's Parasha Insight with Rabbi Eli Mansour Dedicated By Steven Levy & Chaby Orfali and Families In Loving Memory of Eliyahu Ben Sinbol ****

Parashat Ki-Tisa tells the tragic story of Het Ha'egel – the sin of the golden calf. The people created and worshipped the calf while Moshe was still at the top of Mount Sinai receiving the Torah from G-d. Before Moshe came down from the mountaintop, G-d informed him about what the people the done, and Moshe begged G-d to rescind His decree to annihilate them. When Moshe returned to the people and saw them worshipping the golden calf, he threw down the stone tablets which bore G-d's inscription of the commandments, shattering them into pieces.

Startlingly, this incident – Moshe's shattering the stone tablets – is referred to again later in the Torah, when it expresses praise for Moshe Rabbenu. The final verse of the Torah describes the singular greatness of Moshe Rabbenu, noting the outstanding things that he did "Le'eneh Kol Yisrael" – "in the view of all Israel." Rashi explains that this refers to Moshe's decision to break the Luhot (tablets).

We must wonder, of all the remarkable things which Moshe did, why is this incident chosen as the accomplishment for which he is to be

primarily remembered? Why did the Torah want to leave us specifically with this "memory" of Moshe Rabbenu?

The answer emerges from a comment of the Gaon of Vilna (Lithuania, 1720-1797) in his Imreh Noam commentary to Masechet Berachot. He explains that the Luhot created by G-d were, in a sense, part of G-d Himself. As such, they represented the bond between G-d and Am Yisrael – like the wedding ring which a wife wears as a constant reminder of her bond to her husband. The Luhot's presence in our midst signifies our relationship with G-d, just as the ring on the wife's finger expresses their permanent bond of mutual love and devotion.

When Moshe later recalls the sin of the golden calf (Debarim 9:17), he says that before he threw down the tablets, "Va'etpos" – he "grabbed" them. At first glance, it seems difficult to understand what this means. Wasn't Moshe already holding the Luhot? Why did he need to "grab" them? The Gaon explains that Moshe grabbed the Luhot away from G-d, as it were. G-d wanted to end His relationship with the people, and thus He sought to take back the Luhot. But Moshe refused to allow this to happen. He "grabbed" onto the Luhot, the symbol of Am Yisrael's bond with Hashem, insisting that it continue despite the people's grave sin.

Moshe shattered the tablets in order to frighten the people and make them aware of the gravity of their sin. However, as the Talmud teaches, even the "Shibreh Luhot" – the broken chards of the first set of tablets,

were preserved and stored forever in the Aron along with the second, permanent set of tablets. This demonstrates the eternity of our bond with G-d, that although we might occasionally fall and act wrongly, and our relationship with Him is "shattered" because of our misdeeds, it can still be repaired and restored. This is why Moshe "grabbed" the tablets away from G-d – because even though they needed to be shattered, their presence among the nation would reflect their enduring bond with Hashem.

And thus the Torah's final words of praise for Moshe refer to his shattering the Luhot. He refused to relinquish them, because he refused to allow the special bond between G-d and Am Yisrael to be permanently broken. He firmly believed that no matter what happens, Am Yisrael is always capable of picking up the pieces, of rebuilding and recovering from even the gravest failures, and in this way, Moshe ensured that our nation's special relationship with Hashem will endure forever. Truly, this was Moshe's greatest moment, the moment which demonstrated more than any other his unbridled commitment to Am Yisrael and to their everlasting connection to G-d.

TORAH STUDY
WITH
RABBI KADOCH



מגילת אסתר - Megilat Ester

In memory of Alegria Benmaman ז"ל - ז"ל - אלגריה בת ריקה ז"ל - ז"ל
Sponsored by her loving grandchildren

Study the holy text of Megilat Ester using various commentary
Beginning Wednesday night February 2nd until Purim - 8PM



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