

# SEPHARDIC KEHILA CENTRE

## ABIR YAAKOB CONGREGATION

President  
Jimmy Keslassy  
Vice President  
Isaac Cohen

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

Shabbat Bemidbar פרשת במדבר

Shabbat May 20th 2023, כ"ט אייר תשפ"ג / 29 Iyar 5783  
Perasha Page 726 Haftarah 1207 ויאמר לו in Artscroll

### Shabbat Prayer Times

מנחה Mincha (Main Synagogue)	6:45 p.m.
הדלקת נרות Candle Lighting - Early Shabbat	7:30 p.m.
הדלקת נרות Candle Lighting - Standard	8:14 p.m.
שחרית מניין החיד"א (וטיקין) Shahrar Ha'Hida Vatikim	4:50 a.m.
Shiur Hilchot Shabbat	8:30 a.m.
שחרית Shahrar (Main Synagogue)	9:00 a.m.
Shiur Mesilat Yesharim	6:50 p.m.
תהלים Tehilim	7:35 p.m.
מנחה Mincha	8:05 p.m.
שבת טוב Shabbat Ends	9:35 p.m.



Shabat Zemanim- Netz- נץ- 5:48 am, Keriat Shema- קריאת שמע- 9:31 am, Shekia- שקיעה- 8:41 pm

### Weekday Services

שחרית Shahrar Sunday	שחרית Shahrar Weekdays
וטיקין Vatikim 5:05 a.m.	וטיקין Vatikim 5:05 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 Mincha 7:00 p.m.
	ערבית Arbit Arbit immediately following Mincha

### Mazal Tov

Daniel Abtan and Ariel Segal on their recent wedding

Proud Parents: Mr. Patrick Abtan and Dr. Carolyn Boulos, Dr. Zindel Segal and Ms. Lisa Morrison

Proud Grandparents: Mrs. Perla Abtan, Dr. Norman Morrison

Mr. Jacques Esseis and Mrs. Susan Silverman on their recent marriage

Mr. & Mrs. Josh and Sarah Benchetrit on the birth of a baby boy

Proud Grandparents: Mr. & Mrs. Sol and Bella Benchetrit, Mr. & Mrs. David and Vania Monsonego

Proud Great-Grandparents: Mr. Albert Bitton, Mrs. Odette Monsonego

Gillian Piltz and Jory Hennick on their recent engagement

Proud Parents: Mr. & Mrs. Jay and Barbara Hennick, Ms. Rita Benzacar, Mr. David Piltz

Proud Grandparents: Mr. & Mrs. Maurice and Elise Benzacar, Mrs. Irene Grey, Mrs. Liane Piltz

### Happy Anniversary

♦Jean-Claude & Bryna Abtan ♦Aaron & Rivka Hadida ♦Nir & Dalia Shayo ♦Albert & Ruby Afriat

### Happy Birthday

Revital Bar-Yoseph, Zak Cohen, Assaf Goldberg, Ayal Cohen, Esther Abecassis, Meir Cohen, Daniel Melul, Samuel Joseph Toby, Isaac Abitbol, Alexander Savatti, Isaac Abecassis, Lucie Benchetrit

## Nahalot

Samuel Benchluch ז"ל, Jais Benchetrit Levy ז"ל, Abraham Halioua ז"ל  
**29 Iyar** / Shabbat May 20th  
Menahem Azulay ז"ל, Baruj Soudry ז"ל **2 Sivan** / Monday May 22nd  
Shimon Amar ז"ל **3 Sivan** / Tuesday May 23rd  
Makhlouf Benaksas ז"ל, Yitzchak Irving Gencher ז"ל **4 Sivan** /  
Wednesday May 24th  
Esther Ponte ז"ל, Simy Edery ז"ל, Sofia Faierman ז"ל **5 Sivan** / Thursday  
May 25th

## Nahalot for the following week

Yaakov Cohen ז"ל, Nissim (Remy) Benoualid ז"ל **8 Sivan** /  
Sunday May 28th  
Shalom Bitton ז"ל **9 Sivan** / Monday May 29th  
Aharon Shemesh ז"ל, Sarina Farache Sultan ז"ל, Leon Bendrihem ז"ל  
**10 Sivan** / Tuesday May 30th  
David Abitbol ז"ל, Leon Yehuda Oziel ז"ל, Gloria Goodis ז"ל, Elisabeth  
Pearl Kirschner ז"ל **12 Sivan** / Thursday June 1st  
Liora Saban ז"ל, Simy Benquesus ז"ל, Samuel Keslassy ז"ל, Ichoa Cohen ז"ל  
**28 Iyar** / Friday June 2nd

## Synagogue News

### Rosh Hodesh Sivan

Rosh Hodesh Sivan is this Sunday May 21st (Saturday night)

### Pirke Avot

This week's Perek Shishi will be recited by **Avraham Ohayon** Hazak  
U'Baruch!

### Shabbat Kiddush

Kiddushim bring everyone together on multiple levels and we are  
thrilled to welcome everyone to SKC for a congregational Shabbat Kid-  
dush. 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](mailto:social@kehilacentre.com).  
This week's congregational Kiddush is co-sponsored by  
**Mr. Patrick Abtan and Dr. Carolyn Boulos in honour of the Shabbat  
Hatan**

*Everyone is Welcome*

### Seuda Shelishit

Over the past few months, the Divre Torah during Seuda  
Shelishit have tackled interesting and thought-provoking topics.  
Join us after Mincha on Shabbat to hear this week's insight.  
This week's Seuda Shelishit is sponsored by

- ♦ **Mr. & Mrs. Jean-Claude and Bryna Abtan, in memory of her father, Yitzchak Irving Gencher z"l**
- ♦ **Mr. & Mrs. Marc and Madeleine Halioua, in memory of his father, Abraham Halioua z"l**
- ♦ **Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy and Kitty Halioua, in memory of his father, Abraham Halioua z"l**
- ♦ **Mr. & Mrs. Sol and Bella Benchetrit, in memory of his father, Jais Benchetrit z"l**

*Everyone is Welcome*

### Mesilat Yescharim - Back for another summer!

Men and women are invited for another summer to hear words of  
inspiration and Torah values from the book Mesilat Yescharim.  
Join Rabbi Kadoch every Shabbat, 45 minutes before Tehilim, to absorb  
the profound words of this masterpiece.  
**This week at 6:40 pm in the main synagogue.**

### Early Risers, Early Gainers

Rabbi Kadoch's Shabbat morning Shiur prior to Shaharit  
continues this Shabbat at 8:30 am.

### Tefilot and Piyutim

Come join the young boys of the community, led by  
Adam Ohayon, and learn the songs and melodies that make our services  
unique. Tefilot and Piyutim runs at the same time as Tehilim on Shab-  
bat. To have your child participate, bring him 30 minutes before Mincha  
on Shabbat afternoon.

### Shabbat Kids Program

We encourage parents to bring their children to the program knowing  
they are well taken care of by our experienced staff. We have a fresh  
new program and exciting activities to entertain the children. Kehila  
Kidz program is located in the Lower Level Social Hall (Restaurant) and  
will run from 10:00 am until 12:00 pm (noon) on Shabbat.

Please remember that your children are your responsibility while at SKC  
and that if they are not participating in the children's program, that they  
should be sitting with you. We appreciate your understanding and coop-  
eration.

### SKC Baseball Tryouts

LAST CALL TO MAKE THE TEAM

This Sunday at 12 noon behind New Westminster Public School  
See You There!

### SKC Sisterhood BOOK CLUB

Join us for weekly discussions on the learnings from  
***Life is a Test***, by Rebbetzin Esther Jungreis  
Saturdays May 13th, 2023 - July 1st, 2023 (5:00 pm).  
(Note: No classes will be held on May 27th and June 10th)  
Sephardic Kehila Centre (Ohr Haemet School Boardroom)

### CheeseCake Challenge 2023

Join us for an evening of cheesecake tasting and vote for SKC's best  
Cheesecake 2023! Everyone is welcome.

Bring the whole family!

1st Prize: \$150 and bragging rights

Monday May 22nd @ 8:00 pm. Lower level Social Hall.

Cost: \$10 per person

### Weekly Shiurim

Midrash by Night - Tuesday and Thursdays following Arvit

Parashat HaShavua - Thursdays @8pm HYBRID\*

Hilchot Shabbat - Shabbat at 8:30am Main Synagogue

Gemara Sanhedrin - Sundays at 7:15am Downstairs synagogue

**Zachary Benatar**

Weekly on Mondays @ 2:45pm: Parasha (men and women)

## Bar Mitzva Club

Learning and sports  
with Rabbi Pinto  
Tuesday nights  
6:10 - 7:45 pm

Sephardic Kehila Centre  
Lower level midrash

Sponsorships Available



## Bemidbar 5783 - A missing letter

*Rabbi David Kadoch*

It is often the way of Torah commentators to search for the small things that don't fit the norm. When something doesn't fit, then there must be a reason for it. The Torah is perfect and one subtle change from what (we think) is standard begs an explanation.

In the opening verses of the second chapter Hashem commands Moshe the children of Israel shall encamp each man by his division with the flag staffs of their fathers' house; some distance from the Tent of Meeting they shall encamp. The Torah then goes on to list the prince of each tribe. However, when listing the tribe of Zevulun, something is off. For every tribe, the letter "vav" precedes the word "mateh" - *וַיַּחַד מַטֵּה* but for the tribe of Zevulun the "vav" is omitted - *וַיַּחַד מַטֵּה זְבֻלֹן*. Why is this so?

The Ba'al HaTurim answers that we know that the tribe of Zevulun engaged in commerce and business and would be the main supporters of the tribe of Yissachar who constantly engaged in Torah. One could err to believe that because of this, Yissachar is more important than Zevulun and the latter are considered secondary to the former since they don't engage all day studying Torah. The Torah wished to prevent us from thinking this way and made Yissachar and Zevulun equal in all aspects of Jewish life; "mateh Yissachar, mateh Zevulun."

It reinforces the notion that both tribes working in tandem is what makes this arguably the most powerful duo of the tribes. Yaakov's blessing to both of them highlights the joint prosperity of Zevulun and Yissachar. Zevulun's success in maritime trade and commerce would bring wealth, which they would share with Yissachar, enabling them to focus on their scholarly pursuits and spiritual leadership.

In summary, Yissachar and Zevulun are considered equal due to their partnership, where Yissachar's wisdom and teachings are supported by Zevulun's financial contributions and entrepreneurial endeavors. Together, they exemplify the importance of collaboration, mutual support, and the understanding that different roles and talents can lead to shared success and prosperity. This is reminded to us with one missing letter.

## Shavuot- The Challenge – and Rewards – of Torah Commitment

*Rabbi Eli J. Mansour*

Tradition teaches that the souls of all Jews who would ever live until the end of time were present at Mount Sinai when the Torah was given. This concept actually finds halachic expression, in the concept of "Mushba Ve'omed Me'Har Sinai," which means that we are all considered to have vowed at Mount Sinai to observe the Torah. The Rabbis teach that a vow to observe the Torah does not add anything, since we in any event are bound by the oath we took at Sinai to fulfill all of G-d's commands.

On the other hand, the Gemara in Masechet Nidda tells of an additional vow that we all took, committing ourselves to observe the Torah. The Gemara teaches that before a child is born, the infant is forced to take an oath pledging to be righteous and avoid sin throughout his or her life. A number of Rabbis raised the question of why this oath is necessary, given that the child's soul had already taken this vow at Mount Sinai. If, indeed, we are all under the category of "Mushba Ve'omed Me'Har Sinai," then why is a second oath necessary before birth?

One answer that has been given is based on a Halacha relevant to employment. An employer is not permitted to change the terms of the agreement with the employee, making his work responsibilities more difficult, without the employee's consent. For example, if the arrangement described in the contract involves work to be done in a comfortable, air-conditioned building, the employer is not entitled to change his mind and force the employee to work outside in the scorching heat.

When we vowed at Sinai to fulfill the Mitzvos, we made this vow when we were just souls, without a body. But when an infant is born, the soul is placed into a body. Needless to say, observing the Torah is infinitely more difficult with a physical body. It is because of our bodies that we have needs that distract us from our obligations to G-d, and that we are so easily tempted and lured toward sinful conduct. The oath we made as souls at the time of Matan Torah does not require us to observe the Torah under the far more difficult circumstances of life with a human body. Therefore, just before birth, when the soul enters the infant's body, a new oath is needed, wherein the child promises to meet the great challenge of fulfilling the Mitzvos with a physical body.

As we prepare for Shavuot, when we reaffirm our acceptance of the Torah, we should remind ourselves that Torah observance is worth every bit of hard work and sacrifice that it entails. As any conscientious Torah-committed Jew knows, living a spiritual life in our physical world is very challenging, and is fraught with struggles. But we firmly believe that the benefits and rewards of our religious commitment are worth far more than anything that we are required to sacrifice for Torah observance. We accept the Torah fully aware of the difficulty involved – but also fully aware of the great benefits we receive by striving and working to serve our Creator to the best of our ability.



# Shavuot Schedule



## Thursday May 25th

8:28 Candle Lighting  
8:35 Minha  
8:55 Arbit  
12:00 Meldado/Keri'e Moed\*\*

\*\* Downstairs Synagogue

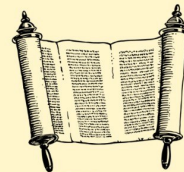
## Friday May 26th

4:40 Shaharit Vatin  
9:00 Shaharit Main Synagogue  
5:50 Megilat Rut and Azharot  
6:50 Minha  
7:10 Arbit  
7:13 Candle Lighting after

## Saturday May 27th

4:40 Shaharit Vatin  
9:00 Shaharit Main Synagogue  
6:50 Megilat Rut and Azharot  
7:40 Tehilim  
8:10 Minha  
Seuda Shelishit  
9:42 Shabbat/Hag ends

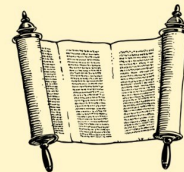
תזכו לשנים רבות  
נעימות וטובות



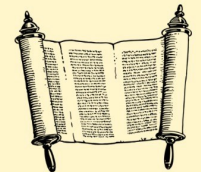
Tikun  
(Meldado)  
1200-445



Aseret HaDiberot  
w/ Rabbi Kadoch  
1230-130



Shiur  
w/ Rabbi Kadoch  
145-2:30



Self Learning  
2:45-4:45



ALL YOU CAN LEARN

# TORAH

FRIDAY (THURS NIGHT) @ MIDNIGHT  
Downstairs Synagogue



MELISSA LANTSMAN  
MP | THORNHILL

invite you to

## BREAKING THE CYCLE

A COMMUNITY DISCUSSION ON  
HOW TO ADDRESS ANTISEMITISM

Wednesday, May 24 • 8:00 pm  
Sephardic Kehila Centre - 7026 Bathurst St. Thornhill

with



MICHAEL MOSTYN  
Chief Executive Officer  
B'nai Brith Canada



MELISSA LANTSMAN  
Member of Parliament  
Thornhill

Register at [www.melissalantsman.ca/breakingthecycle](http://www.melissalantsman.ca/breakingthecycle)

## ANNUAL SHAVUOT Ice Cream Party

Shabbat,  
May 27th -  
after tefillah

Sponsored by Enny  
& Armando Cohen

\*Due to Shavuot falling on  
Shabbat, there will be no water  
balloon fight this year.

