

SEPHARDIC KEHILA CENTRE



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ABIR YAAKOB CONGREGATION

שבת שלום ברוכים הבאים
Shabbat Shalom *Welcome to our Synagogue*

Chief Rabbi
Haham Amram Assayag
Hazan
Rabbi David Kadoch
Shaliach Tzibur
Marc Kadoch

Shabat Vayishlach פרשת וישלח

Shabbat December 17th, 2016, יז' כסלו תשע"ז / 17 Kislev 5777

Perasha Page 170, Haftara 1141 in Artscroll

Shabbat Prayer Times

שיר השירים Shir Hashirim	4:10 p.m.
מנחה Mincha	4:25 p.m.
קבלת שבת Kabalat Shabbat	4:40 p.m.
הדלקת נרות Candle Lighting	4:23 p.m.
שחרית מנין החיד"א (וטיקין) Shaharit Ha'Hida Vatikim	6:50 a.m.
שחרית (Main Synagogue) Shaharit	8:30 a.m.
תהלים Tehilim	3:25 p.m.
מנחה Mincha	3:55 p.m.
שבת טוב שבוטע Shabat Ends	5:30 p.m.

Ereb Shabbat, Friday December 23rd, 2016

Shir Hashirim 4:15 p.m. (Candle Lighting 4:27 p.m.)

Weekday Services at Medrash Torah Vehayim

שחרית *Shaharit Sunday*

וטיקין Vatikim 7:10 a.m.

מקדימים Makdimim 8:00 a.m.

קבועים Kebuim 9:00 a.m.

שחרית *Shaharit Weekdays*

וטיקין Vatikim 7:10 a.m.

מקדימים Makdimim 6:45 a.m.

קבועים Kebuim 8:15 a.m.

מנחה Mincha 4:25 p.m.

ערבית Arbit 5:05 p.m.

Shabat Zemanim- Netz- נץ- 7:47 am, Keriat Shema- קריאת שמע- 9:24 am, Shekia- שקיעה- 4:42 pm

Kiddush

This Shabbat Kiddush is sponsored by **The Kiddush Group**
Everyone is welcome

Seuda Shelishit

This Shabbat Seuda Shelishit is sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Joe and Esther Azoulay in loving memory of her mother Mrs. Luna Cohen ז"ל and by Mr. and Mrs. Meyer and Suzy Benchetrit in loving memory of her father Mr. Pinhas Ouaknine ז"ל and by Mr. Armando D. Cohen, Mr. Solomon Cohen, Mrs. Alegria Igelman and Mrs. Sol Pinto in loving memory of their mother Mrs. Messody Cohen ז"ל, and Dr. Paul Senechal in loving memory of his grandfather Mr. Jorge Ger Senechal ז"ל.
Everyone is welcome.

Nahalot

Freha Soudry ז"ל, Jorge Ger Senechal ז"ל 17 Kislev/ Shabat December 17th

Yehuda Bensalmon ז"ל 19 Kislev/ Monday December 19th

David Zrihen ז"ל, Messody Cohen ז"ל, Pinhas Ouaknin ז"ל 20 Kislev/ Tuesday December 20th

Luna Cohen ז"ל, Abraham Azagury ז"ל, Mordechai Azuz ז"ל, Esther Nahmias ז"ל 22 Kislev/ Thursday December 22nd

Esther Cohen ז"ל, Mary Perez ז"ל 23 Kislev/ Friday December 23rd

Nahalot for the following week

Denise Allal ז"ל 25 Kislev/ Sunday December 25th

Perla Keslassy ז"ל 26 Kislev/ Monday December 26th

David Kirshner ז"ל 28 Kislev/ Wednesday December 28th

Isaac Nezry ז"ל 1 Tebet/ Shabat December 31st

Dear Members..

December 31st is the final date for the Synagogue office to receive payments for donations and issue a tax receipt for the 2016 year. Please call the office now to pay your outstanding pledges before the end of the year. If you have already paid your balance, we wish to thank you for all your continuous support.

Abir Yaakob News

Kiddush Group

Due to the generosity of some members during Simchat Torah last year, our Kiddush Club was well funded and we had the pleasure of enjoying wonderful kiddushim all this time.

Shabbat Kiddush is a wonderful opportunity for us to connect with our friends, meet new members and enjoy great food! The fund that was started last year is now near depletion.

Please help us continue this wonderful tradition by becoming a Kiddush Club Sponsor.

Please contact the office at 905-669-7654 ext. 253 or maurice@kehilacentre.com

Get Involved!

The Kehila is looking to hire young men or women during the winter break to assist in up-dating our database information, please contact Isaac Cohen.

The Sephardic Kehila Centre is delighted to announce the formation of Brotherhood and Sisterhood committees and are inviting you to join! This is your chance to develop programs and fundraising events that will enhance the Kehila experience.

For more information, please contact the office at 905-669-7654 ext 253 or email maurice@kehilacentre.com

MIMI'S Light

Mimi's Light was created 20 years ago by Max Benaim in honour of Mimi Benadiba. With Chanukah approaching, we are reminded of our many dear friends that are in their homes or hospitals that aren't able to light the Chanukah candles. We seek volunteers to add to our current roster of miracle workers! If you know anyone in need of assistance please contact Max at (416) 918-0676 and together we will make Mimi's Light shine bright!

Bnei Akiva

A reminder that Bnei Akiva is on Winter Break now. We'll be back on January 7!

Keep a look out for the Bnei Akiva bulletin in the shul showing future programming!



By Haham Amram Assayag

Perashat Vayishlach

On the 25th of Kislev the eight days of Hanuka begin:

We know that the reason for celebrating eight days of Hanuka is to commemorate the miracle, which occurred with the oil of the Menorah in the Bet Hamikdash. Our teacher, Rabbi Yosef Karo, in his commentary on the Tur, raises the following difficulty with this reason: Since there was enough oil to burn for one night, nothing miraculous happened on the first night. The miracle happened during the following seven nights, therefore Hanuka should be observed for seven days and not eight.

This question enlarged the rabbinic literature on Hanuka through the great amount of answers produced by the Hachamim of each generation. Rabbi Yosef Karo himself offers three answers:

Upon realizing that there was oil only to burn for one night, the Kohanim decided that it would be better if the Menorah was lit every night for a short while rather than having it lit for one whole night. They therefore divided the oil to burn one eighth of the night, but instead it burnt the entire night. This miracle occurred also the first night, thus eight days.

After they filled all the cups of the Menorah, the Kohanim found that a miracle had happened and the jug of oil had remained full.

This answer is a variation of the previous where he suggests that they lit the Menorah the first night and the next morning, the Kohanim found the cups of the Menorah full of oil even after burning the whole night.

Rabbi Hayim Yosef David Azulay (Rav Hida) considers that the eighth day of Hanuka a day of commemoration to the dedication of the new Mizbeah that they had to build, because the Greeks contaminated the previous one.

The Peri Hadash (Rabbi Kiskiya de Sila) is of the opinion that the first day of Hanuka there was no miracle of oil but it was a festive day for the purpose of celebrating the military victory of the Macabi's by G-d's inspiration.

If you have a Mazal Tob that you would like to share with the congregation or if you have a change of address or email please call

Maurice Benzacar at (905) 669-7654 Ext. 253 or e-mail maurice@kehilacentre.com

Please be advised that the cutoff time for insertion in the bulletin is Wednesday.

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Parashat VaYishlah: "Son of Your Maidservant"

In the beginning of Parashat Vayishlah, we read that Yaakov Abinu was gripped with fear when he learned that his brother, Esav, was approaching with an army of four hundred men. He offered an impassioned prayer to G-d, prepared for the prospect of battle by dividing his family and belongings, and sent Esav a generous gift of appeasement. Many commentators raised the question of why Yaakov was afraid. Many years earlier, when he first fled from Eretz Yisrael to escape from Esav, G-d appeared to him in a prophetic vision and guaranteed to protect him and bring him back home safely (28:15). If G-d gave him an explicit promise of protection, what did he have to fear?

One answer is that Yaakov was not afraid for his physical safety, or for that of his family. Rather, he feared for his children's spiritual wellbeing. The Torah tells that when Yaakov divided his family and possessions, he said, "If Esav comes upon the first camp and strikes it, the remaining camp will find refuge" (32:8). Curiously, Yaakov uses different grammatical forms in the two instances of the word "Mahaneh" ("camp") in this statement. In the phrase "upon the first camp," Yaakov employs the feminine form ("Ha'mahaneh Ha'ahat"), whereas in the second phrase - "the remaining camp" - he uses the masculine form ("Ha'mahaneh Ha'nishar"). The reason, perhaps, is that the first instance of the word "Mahaneh" refers specifically to his four wives. Yaakov's fear was that Esav might kill or capture his wives, which would result in the remaining camp, his children, becoming "refugees," lost and without direction. Yaakov understood that the education and religious development of a child depends primarily upon his or her mother. The mother is the one who guides, directs and inspires the children, and instills within them an awareness of love for G-d. Yaakov thus feared that if "Ha'mahaneh Ha'ahat" - his children's mothers - would be lost, then the "Mahaneh Ha'nishar," his children, would lose their source of guidance and direction, and would be unable to continue their spiritual growth.

In one of the chapters of Tehillim which we recite as our Hallel prayer, King David proudly proclaims to the Almighty, "Ani Abdecha, Ani

Abdecha Ben Amatecha" - "I am Your servant, I am Your servant the son of Your maidservant" (Tehillim 116:16). Revealingly, David attributes his sense of "Abdecha," his subservience to G-d, to his mother, to the fact that she was G-d's "maidservant." David's father was Yishai, who, as Hazal teach, was one of only four people in history who never committed a single sin throughout their lives. And yet, although he had a remarkably saintly and pious father, he gave the credit for his religious growth specifically to his mother. It was her example, devotion and nurturing that turned him into G-d's loyal servant.

While of course fathers also play a vital role in children's education and development, the primary role is played by the mothers.

By being G-d's "maidservant," faithfully devoting herself to the laws and values of Torah, the mother is uniquely capable to raise committed, G-d-fearing Jews who will bring pride and glory to their parents, to their community, and to the entire Jewish Nation.

Shiur Bites

By Rabbi Kadoch

It was once told of a Satmar Chasid who approached the Rebbe with assistance in finding his son some help with his studies. The man wasn't well off, so he asked the Rebbe if he knew of anyone to teach the boy "below cost." The Rebbe recommended a certain person for the job, however, when the father approached the potential teacher with the request, the teacher responded "I'm very sorry, I'd love to help but I'm just very tied up right now and I have no time. I'm sorry." The father returned to the Rebbe and informed him what happened and the Rebbe immediately found someone else to teach the child.

Months passed and the holidays arrived. After services, each person lined up to wish Chag Sameach to the Rebbe as was customary. When it came turn for the teacher to shake the Rebbe's hand, the Rebbe refused to extend his own hand to be shaken. The teacher assumed he must have done something wrong and quickly asked the Rebbe: "What did I do wrong? What was my sin?"

The Rebbe answered him (based on this week's Parasha): "You should know, that I was always bothered with Rashi's commentary in the story of Yaakov fighting the Angel of Esav. Why did Rashi describe the "Ish" (man) who fought with Yaakov at night to be the Angel of Esav yet in Parashat Vayeshev (next week's Parasha), when Yosef is looking for his brothers and encounters an "Ish" - there, Rashi describes him as the Angel Gavriel? How would Rashi know that without any apparent difference in the text? Why would he explain two exact words

with almost polar opposite meanings?"

The Rebbe continued, "But now, because of you, I understand. At the end of the story of Yaakov fighting the angel, he asked the angel to bless him, but the angel said "I don't have time, because dawn has risen." It seems to me that a person who doesn't have time to bless or help out another person must possess the qualities of the Angel of Esav. However the second "Ish", who was approached by Yosef for help, replied to Yosef "What are you looking for? How may I help you?" - - This certainly is the quality of the Angel Gavriel."

Today we live in the "I'm busy" world. Although we probably have more time than we can imagine due to technological advancements, it's all too easy to just say "I have no time" and generally people believe it because they themselves probably use the same excuse (myself included).

We have to understand, that while our lives our busy, and we do have to say "no" sometimes, - that Hashem would rather us try and find time to assist people in need. Simply cutting out social media or one television program per week can save you hours on end. The ways of Esav is to say "we don't have time" because they'd rather surf the web or flip channels than help their friend. The ways of the Jews is "How can I help you?"

Let us train ourselves to find time for others and emulate our Heavenly angels.

Shabbat Shalom.

Weekly Classes at Abir Yaakob

A red brushstroke graphic with the word "NEW" written in white, slanted capital letters.

Avot U'Banim - Saturday Nights at 7pm

In conjunction with Kollel Yismah Moshe, Abir Yaakob conducts a Father-Son learning program every Motsae Shabbat at 7pm. In addition to the learning of Torah, the boys get to learn a Sephardic piyut (song) and hear a story from Rabbi Kadoch. It culminates with food and prizes. Skating following the learning. Sponsorship opportunities available at \$150 and \$250. Contact Rabbi Kadoch for more information.

This weeks sponsor is **Victor Arrobas** in honour of the **JDOHSS Flames Basketball team** for their success.

Brunch and Learn - Sunday mornings at 10AM (following Shaharit)

Join Hacham Assayag every Sunday morning at 10AM for a special breakfast and open-ended learning session.

Topic: The underlying reasons behind the Minhagim.

Tefila begins at 9AM. For more information contact Hacham Assayag.

Daf Yomi

Please join us for Gemara Daf Yomi with Haham Assayag, daily immediately after Arbit.

Tuesday Night LIVE with Tomer Malca

Please join Tomer Malca on Tuesday nights in the Midrash at 7:30 p.m. for a shiur on relevant halacha topics of the day.

Night Yeshiva - Thursday Nights at 8pm

Attention high school and university boys: Come and enjoy a learning session followed by an intense game of basketball. Every Thursday beginning at 8pm. Special activities and trips take place bimonthly. For more information contact Yossi Azulay or Isaac Nacson.

Ladies Shiur - Wednesdays at 8pm

Parashat HaShavua, Halacha and more. Ladies are invited to join Rabbi Kadoch every Wednesday at 8pm for an hour of Torah learning and discussion. For more information or for email reminders, contact Rabbi Kadoch at davkadoch@gmail.com

Life Matters - Thursdays at 9pm

Join Hacham Amram Assayag every Thursday night for a discussion on deep and profound insights on life and Torah values. Refreshments to be served. For more information contact Max Benatar.

Upcoming Events

In-House Kehila Boys Shabbaton - Grades 5-8 - January 27-29

Kehila Boys between Grades 5-8 are invited for an exciting in-house Shabbaton at the SKC. You will enjoy two delicious Shabbat meals with fun and games followed by a Motsae Shabbat activity and a Sunday RAPTORS GAME!

To sign up, contact Rabbi Kadoch by January 1st 2017. Cost \$100/\$120 (non-member)

In-House Kehila Girls Shabbaton - Grades 6-8 - January 20-22

Kehila Girls between Grades 6-8 are invited for an exciting in-house Shabbaton at the SKC. You will enjoy two delicious Shabbat meals with fun and games followed by a Motsae

Shabbat activity and a Sunday RAPTORS GAME! To sign up, contact Rabbi Kadoch by December 24th 2017. Cost \$100/\$120 (non-member)

Oneg Shabbat - Friday December 30th

The entire Kahal Kadosh is invited to the house of Haham Amram and Rabbanit Shoshana Assayag for an Oneg Shabbat in celebration of Hanukah. Divre Torah, singing and good conversation will accompany delicious treats. Friday December 30th from 8pm-10pm.

Hope to see you there! (To host an Oneg Shabbat this winter, please contact Rabbi Kadoch)

Bakashot are back! Saturday January 21st @ Magen David 8-10pm

Everyone is welcome to a night of musical liturgy and Moroccan treats as our own Rabbi David Kadoch and Hazan Aviv Ouanounou lead the Bakashot of Parashat Vayehi.

Abir Yaakob will host Bakashot Shabbat Zachor on Saturday March 4th.

Hanukah Bingo - Saturday December 24th

Come and enjoy our yearly Hanukah event with Bingo, prizes and lots of oily foods. It's fun for the whole family! Plus we will light the first candle of Hanukah. Don't miss it! Saturday night December 24th at 7:30. Details to be provided by either Isaac, Michael or Adam.