



CONGREGATION TIFERETH BETH DAVID JERUSALEM

Shabbat Bulletin

כ אייר התשפ"ב
שבת פרשת בהרShabbat Parshat Behar
May 20 - 21, 2022 / 5782

Please print this bulletin before Shabbat.

Chazan Sheini
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SHABBAT SHALOM • שבת שלום

Shabbat Parshat Behar

Haftara: Yirmiyahu 32:6 - 32:27

Friday, May 20

- 4:30pm Daf Yomi on Zoom
- 6:25pm Early Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat - Main Sanctuary
- 6:30pm Minha et Kabbalat Chabbat - Minyane Sépharade - Chapel
- 6:50pm Plag Hamincha
- 7:00pm Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat - Main Sanctuary
- 8:05pm Candle Lighting
- 8:24pm Sh'kiah

Shabbat, May 21 / 20 Iyar

- 8:00am Shacharit - Hashkama Minyan
Please note that the Hashkama Minyan currently requires masks to be worn by all daveners. This policy will be re-evaluated in a few weeks.
- 8:40am Chumash Shiur with Rabbi Freundlich
- 9:00am Shacharit - Main Sanctuary
- 9:00am Shacharit - Minyane Sépharade - Chapel
- 9:05am Sof Zman Kriyat Sh'ma
- 10:00am Kef Club Shabbat Programs for Kids - Lower Level Classrooms
- 6:50pm Plag Hamincha
- 7:15pm Pirkei Avot Shiur with Rabbi Freundlich - Main Sanctuary
- 7:40pm Minha et Seoudah Shleesheet - Minyane Sépharade
- 7:55pm Mincha, Seoudah Shleesheet and Maariv - Main Sanctuary
- 8:25pm Sh'kiah
- 9:19pm Havdala
- 10:00pm Daf Yomi on Zoom

COMMUNITY NEWS

Mazal Tov to **Faigie Friedman** and Arlene Singer and their families on the birth of a great granddaughter on Wednesday, May 18. Proud parents are Meaghan & Jason Friedman. Sharing in their simcha are many delighted grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins. Lovingly remembered at this time is Faigie's beloved husband Dr. Shulom Friedman z"l.

Mazal Tov to **Barbara & David Zukor** and their family on the birth of grandson Jonah Koby Zukor on Monday, May 9. Proud parents are Tara & Hillel Zukor. Sharing in their simcha are Jonah's big brother Jake, great grandmothers Edith Zukor and Edith Glickman and many delighted aunts, uncles and cousins. Jonah is the great great grandson of the late Nathan Dermer z"l.

Condolences to **Georgette & Raphaël Cohen** and to **Allegría & André Elbaz** and their families on the loss of their beloved sister and sister-in-law Rachel Kessous z"l who passed away on Monday, May 16. Funeral took place on Wednesday, May 18. Shiva continues until Tuesday, May 24 in Suite 705 (code 120) at 6795 Korczak Cr. in Cote St. Luc; 4:00pm-7:00pm daily. Minyanim at Chabad Cote St Luc - Shacharit at 8:00am and Mincha/Maariv at 7:50pm.

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING SPONSORS

Rabbi Freundlich's Shabbat Sermon is sponsored by **Haviva & Brian Smith** in memory of Brian's beloved mother Sara Smith z"l (Sara bat Shimon Gedalia HaKohen v'Bluma - 23 Iyar).

Seudah Shleesheet is sponsored by Rona Rozansky, **Scott & Ryva Rozansky**, Shawn & Robin Rozansky and Marlee Rozansky and their families to mark the conclusion of the daily recitation of Kaddish for beloved husband, father, father-in-law and grandfather Stephen Rozansky z"l (Zalmen Eliya ben Avraham Moshe - 20 Tammuz).

This Shabbat Bulletin is sponsored by **Adele & Jeff Altmann** and family in memory of Jeff's beloved father Gabor Altmann z"l (Yaacov Moshe ben Yitzhak Issac v'Esther - 18 Iyar).

Rabbi Freundlich's *Pirkei Avot Shiur* on Shabbat is sponsored by **Baila & Jerrold Aspler** and family in memory of Baila's beloved mother Chaya Salit z"l (Chaya bat Menachem Mendel v'Baila Hinda - 20 Iyar).

NEXT SHABBAT!

On Shabbat Parshat Bechukotai, May 27 and 28 Tifereth Beth David Jerusalem welcomes **Rabbi Zolly & Rebbetzin Penina Claman** Come and join us for a weekend filled with divrei Torah, shiurim and social gatherings to get to know the Clamans.



Schedule of Drashot and Programs:

Friday, May 27: Drasha after Kabbalat Shabbat (Mincha at 6:45pm)

Shabbat, May 28:

8:40am Parsha Shiur, 9:00am Sermon in Hashkama Minyan, 11:00am Sermon in Main Sanctuary,

6:00pm Daf Yomi with Rabbi Claman plus separate Women's Meet & Greet with Rebbetzin Claman

7:00pm Halacha Shiur

8:00pm Mincha with Seudah Shleesheet Drasha by Rabbi Claman

Sunday, May 29 at 9:45am: Yom Yerushalayim Lecture by Rabbi Claman

UNVEILING

A monument in memory of **TBDJ Member Kreina Munk z"l** mother and mother-in-law of Ralph & Ketty Munk and Zev & Susan Munk will be unveiled at **2:30pm on Monday, May 23** in the Tifereth Jerusalem #3 Section (C-21) of the Baron de Hirsch Cemetery on de la Savane.

Mincha/Maariv: 8:10pm Sunday to Thursday

Shacharit

Sunday and Monday: 8:00am and 9:00am

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday: 7:00am and 8:00am

Thursday: 6:50am and 8:00am

On Friday, May 27

Candle Lighting is at 8:13pm

Mincha is at 6:45pm / M. Sépharade is at 6:30pm

Mon., May 23, 10:00am	<i>Tehilim Shiur</i> with Rifki Freundlich on Zoom
Tues., May 24, 12:00pm	<i>Lunchtime Halacha Shiur</i> with Rabbi Freundlich on Zoom
Wed., May 25, 12:15pm	<i>Parsha Shiur</i> with Rabbi Freundlich on Zoom
Wed., May 25, 8:00pm	<i>An Evening with United Hatzalah</i> featuring Guest Speaker Gavriel Friedson - TBDJ Social Hall and Zoom Social Hall - see flyer on page 4
Thurs., May 26, 12:30pm	<i>Parsha Shiur for Women</i> with Rifki Freundlich on Zoom
Shabbat, May 27 & 28	Shabbat Probeh with Rabbi Zolly Claman
Mon., June 6, 12:00pm	<i>Baily Road Diner</i> Shavuot Lunch
Shabbat, June 17 & 18	<i>Special Farewell Shabbat for the Freundlich Family</i>

SHAVUOT LECTURE SERIES WITH RABBI FREUNDLICH!

Adam and Eve, Two Mysterious Trees and a Deceptive Talking Snake

It's possibly the world's most famous biblical story, but this is no children's tale. Why would G-d create a tree and then command Man not to eat from it? Was Man really destined to live forever? And what in the world did the snake really want anyways? Join Rabbi Freundlich for a Three Day Shavuot textual journey into this essential, yet perplexing, episode to discover the Origins of our Desire and why Torah is the Tree (and Spice) of Life.

Shiurim will be divided over six sessions over Shavuot.
Plus a shiur for women with Rifki Freundlich on Monday afternoon!
Detailed schedule to follow.

Rabbi Akiva's Students

Ask a child about the days of the annual Sefirat HaOmer period leading up to Lag Ba'Omer, the 33rd day of the Omer count. Ask why we are sad, why we don't shave, listen to music or celebrate simchas. The younger ones will tell you that is a sad time on our calendar because Rabbi Akiva's 24,000 students died during this period as a result of not being nice to each other. The older ones will add the word "respect" to their answer - there was no mutual respect between the students. Some of the children will also tell you that Rabbi Akiva's students were "bad" and they were punished.

I am always saddened to hear the word "bad" used in association with Rabbi Akiva's students. While I appreciate that on a child's level an idea is communicated and taught in a certain way, I always find it necessary to tell the students that I find it hard to believe that students of the great teacher Rabbi Akiva, all of whom learned Torah on such a high level, were "bad". Rather, I advise them, the students were lacking in a certain behavioural trait and that we can learn from their mistakes.

At this time of the year, I reflect on the enormity of the tragedy of Rabbi Akiva losing his 24,000 students. Rabbi Akiva started his own personal Judaic learning at the age of 40 and these students were a product of his teaching and instruction. Imagine losing all your beloved students. Such great numbers! It is an astounding blow. Somehow, Rabbi Akiva found the strength to rebuild his academy with the five brilliant students that were left with him following the passing of the 24,000.

Rabbi Yehonasan Geffen explains what these students did to merit such a severe punishment. *The Talmud explains that they were punished because they did not give sufficient honor to each other. However, the Midrash offers a different explanation. It states that they died because they were unwilling to share their Torah with others. How can these two seemingly contradictory Rabbinic sources be resolved? In truth, it is possible that both failings emanate from the same source: They both came about as a result of a slight lack of appreciation for the importance of Torah. The root of their failure to attribute sufficient honor to their fellow Torah scholars was a lacking in some small way in appreciation of the importance of Torah and the accompanying honor one must give those who learn it.*

Rabbi Gefen reminds us that: *Of course, it should not be forgotten that Rabbi Akiva's students were surely on an extremely high level and their actual failings were very small. However, because of their lofty level, they were judged very severely.*

Rabbi Jack Abramowitz' thoughts enhance this idea: *Imagine a brand-new shirt, sparkling white. The tiniest spot on it is a glaring stain. When you've had the shirt for a while and it's getting kind of dingy, the spot doesn't show as badly, and it won't bother you as much. By the time the shirt is all gray and covered with oil and grease from working on your car with it on, you don't even care if you drip soup on it because who's going to notice? Spiritually speaking, people are also like that. Most of us are gray and stained, or at least a little dingy - a tiny spot like not extending sufficient honor to our colleagues is barely going to show. But the righteous are like new white garments - a little stain in really going to stand out. It totally ruins it. So, a defect that's minor to you and me is glaring in truly great people.* Rabbi Abramowitz teaches that the righteous are held to high standards - *We see elsewhere in Chumash (and throughout Tanach) that the righteous are held to higher standards and therefore Rabbi Akiva's students may have been punished harshly for even a minor flaw because of their greatness.*

The expectations from Rabbi Akiva's students were greater. Still, it is difficult to comprehend such a harsh punishment for a possible minor flaw in their behaviour.

Rabbi Joel Zeff expounds on the lack of respect that the students had for each other brought in Tractate Yevamot 62b. *The Maharsha explains that the students should have been deferential towards each other out of respect for their Torah knowledge. Since the Torah is the source of life, they were punished by being deprived of life. The Tashbeitz (1:172) adds that their behavior caused a terrible chillul Hashem - a desecration of Hashem's holy name - as people would say "Woe to one who has learned Torah..." (If this is the way Torah scholars act!). The same episode is recounted in Breisheet Rabba (Parshat Chayei Sarah), which states that the students died because they were stingy with each other. The Meam Loaz (Parshat Vayeitzei) explains that this - the stinginess - means that they refused to share their Torah insights with each other.*

There is a wonderful informative website called Mi Yodea where I found the following written about the behaviour of Rabbi Akiva's students. *Having checked various sources, I will share with you the comments made by our sages: They were disappointed and dissatisfied with the success of others in Torah studies. They looked grudgingly at each other, and their selfishness was their downfall. They were jealous of each other and lacked unity. They were not greeting each other with respect nor accepted others' opinions and felt that they were right in all aspects. So they were punished and they died. The author of these words then writes: But to this viewpoint, I have the following questions - how could all the students commit the same sin at the same time? Rabbi Akiva taught to love and care for each other so how could his students miss this important lesson? Was it not the failure of the greatest teacher in Jewish education? Why mourn for such students who did not learn the basics from their teacher? Is there capital punishment for those who disrespect each other? If Rabbi Akiva was not able to influence his students, then wasn't death deserving for the students?* These questions are indeed difficult ones. The author did not provide any answers.

We learn from The Talmud that the students all died within one short period. Why this emphasis?

The Davar Yom BeYomo (58a) explains that the Torah informs us that the Jews merited to receive the Torah because of the extraordinary unity they displayed at Har Sinai. The Torah alludes to this by describing their encampment using the verb "camped" (Shmot 19:2) in the singular form, as Rashi adds, באיש אחד בלב אחד - *like one person, with one heart.* As written above, the students of Rabbi Akiva were not united. As a result, they did not merit that year to "re-receive" the Torah at the holiday of Shavuot.

Their deaths immediately before Shavuot remind us for all posterity of the vital need for Jewish unity and respect as a precondition for accepting the Torah - *Kabalat HaTorah.*

It is a somber and tragic period in our history. The Torah is our crown and the students of Torah, the jewels in the crown. There is no doubt that Rabbi Akiva's students were exceptional Torah scholars. While I strongly believe that they were not bad people and lived strong Torah lives, their behavioural challenges became a negative social norm within their multitudes, rather than a problem that was confined to a few lone cases. This behaviour endangered the very fabric of the strong Torah environment that was cultivated by Rabbi Akiva, to the point of punishment.

Baruch Hashem, Rabbi Akiva merited to recreate the transmission of Torah through his five students who were spared the divine punishment. And we are the beneficiaries of that gift as we continue the tradition.

Shabbat Shalom,

Rev. Amiel



From the Ukrainian Border to Israel: An evening with United Hatzalah

Israel's leading volunteer Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Network
committed to saving lives 24/7/ 365

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25
AT 8:00 PM

TBDJ Social Hall & Zoom Link available



FREE EVENT / REGISTER TODAY
<https://jlive.app/events/2259>

Guest Speaker
GAVRIEL FRIEDSON

Director of International
Emergency Management & Global Ambassador

Moderated by: Dr. Emmanuel Moss

Gavriel Friedson has been saving lives since the age of fifteen. Over the course of nineteen years on the job, Friedson has distinguished himself through more than 10,000 emergency calls, ranging from acute medical crises to multiple casualties and catastrophic events. He has been the first medic on the scene at a number of terrorist attacks during his years as a first responder. This year, Gavriel assisted with medical rescue flights helping evacuate Ukrainian refugees to Israel.

EVENT PARTNERS





MONDAY | JUNE 6 | 12 PM

1950's Dairy Lunch • 2nd day of Shavuot • Following services

🎵 Ice Cream • Soda Floats • Delicious Food 🎵

✦
✦
**Limited
Seating
Available**

\$36 ages 16+ | \$18 ages 4-15 | 3 & under are free

We regretfully must limit this year's event to **members only.**

Registration is first come, first served. Assigned seating.

REGISTRATION BEGINS MONDAY, MAY 23 AT NOON!

WWW.TBDJ.ORG/BRDINER5782



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as we say thank you & l'hitraot to

The Freundlich Family

Join us for a special Shabbat in honour of our beloved
Rabbi and Yoetzet Halacha, Yechezkel & Rifki,
and their beautiful family!

June 17 & 18, 2022

Shabbat Parashat Beha'alotcha

More details to follow

