

Congregation
Chevra Kadisha B'nai Jacob-Beit Hazikaron

www.ckbjbh.org

Saturday, May 2, 2009 - 8 Iyar

Parshat Acharei Mot Kedoshim

The Torah reading for Acharei Mot is on page 636 in the new Artscroll Chumash and on page 480 in the Hertz Chumash

The Torah Reading for Kedoshim is on 656 in the new Artscroll Chumash and on page 497 in the Hertz Chumash

The Haftorah for Acharei Mot is on page 1773 in the new Artscroll Chumash and on page 494 in the Hertz Chumash

Shabbat Services

Saturday Morning	8:45a.m.
Mincha Services	7:45p.m.
Shabbat ends	8:52p.m.

Weekday Services

Morning Services	7:00a.m.
Evening Services	7:30p.m.
Next Friday	7:30p.m.

Rabbi Asher Jacobson

Cantor Yitzhak Epstein

Reverend Benjamin Even-Hen

Rabbi Dan - Youth Director

Steve Goldstein - Executive Director

Yossi Milo - Choir Master

Parnassim

Sisterhood President

Brotherhood President

Les Schiller - President

Dr. Wm. Steinman - 1st Vice President

Gary Polachek - 2nd Vice President

Gary Trestan - 3rd Vice President

Robert Feldstein - Honorary Vice President

Pearl Rothenberg - Secretary

Martin P. Rosenthal - Treasurer

Jerry Sherman

Allan Tannenbaum

Morton Tannenbaum

Sally Raicek

Ralph Brookman

The Congregational Kiddush today will be in the Raicek Hall

Sponsored by

Claudia and Gary Polachek in honour of the Bar Mitzvah of their son Nathaniel Polachek

Toda Rabbah to the following sponsors

Shoshana Samuels in honour of Natey Polachek's Bar Mitzvah and in honour of the Polachek Family

Tina and Martin Rosenthal in honour of the Bar Mitzvah of Natey Polachek

Lori Einhorn in honour of the yahrzeit of her beloved father Moshe Yehuda Haller

Sidonia Newman in memory of the 'fallen people of the Shoah'

Lieba and Rabbi Jacobson in honour of the Bar Mitzvah of Natey Polachek

Liesbeth and Steve Goldstein in honour of the Bar Mitzvah of Natey Polachek

Simone Bensimmon Bitton in appreciation to Rabbi and Lieba Jacobson and in honour of Mayer Dray, the best taxi driver in Jerusalem

William Steinman in honour of the yahrzeit of his beloved mother Gloria Steinman

Barbara Steiman in honour of her mother Esther Matin's 80th birthday

Shalosh Seudot today will be in the Raicek Hall sponsored by Irene Romer in memory of her beloved husband Paul Romer

BAR MITZVAH

Mazel Tov to Nathaniel Polachek on the occasion of his Bar Mitzvah and to his parents Claudia and Gary Polachek

Grandparents: Mona and Sol Polachek, Ety and Agustin Litvak

Siblings: Hannah and Jacob

Kiddush luncheon for invited guests is in the Singerman Auditorium

BABY SITTING FOR CHILDREN AGES 2-5 FROM 10:00 - 12:00

JUNIOR CHEVRA CLUB FOR AGES 6-12 FROM 10:00 - 12:00

PARSHA CLASS: With Rabbi Asher Jacobson will be held on Wednesday May 6, 2009. Everyone is welcome to attend.

LUNCH & LEARN: With Rabbi Asher Jacobson every Thursday from 12-1 p.m. at the Windsor on Peel St., Downtown. The topic is "Talmudic Ethics in the Business World". To register, please contact Ron Mayers by email: ron.mayers@vmd.desjardins.com.

THE CHEVRA CHESED COMMITTEE: A NEW SHUL INITIATIVE-THE CHEVRA CHESED COMMITTEE (CCC)

Please let us know if you or another member of the synagogue is not well or feels isolated and could use a personal connection-a phone call or a hospital or home visit. Contact Iona at 514 482-3366 and a member of the Chevra Chessed Committee will be in touch with you.

THE KABALLAH OF MICHELANGELO: Presented by Rabbi Asher Jacobson. This series will open your eyes to the Jewish mysticism hidden in the heart of the Vatican and placed in the frescos of Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel. The dates are Thursdays May 7, May 14, and May 21 at 7:30 p.m. The cost of the three lectures is \$18.00. Call the office at 514-482-3366 to reserve.

PRAYER BOOKS: We are in the process of replacing our Chumashim and Prayer Books in both our Sanctuary and Daily Chapel. We encourage our members and guests to help us with this worthy project by making donations to our Prayer Book fund (\$36.00 minimum) through our synagogue office. A printed label will be permanently attached inside the front cover bearing the name or names of the donour as well as the individual being honoured, memorialized or thanked.

“Parshat Acharei Mot Kedoshim”

With this (*b'zot*) shall Aaron come into the holy place (Lev. 16:2) There are three ways to avert an evil decree: *tzom* (“fasting,” repenting of one’s sins); *kol* (“voice,” through prayer) and *mamon*. (“money.” i.e. giving to charity). The numeral equivalent of each one of these is 136. The numerical value of the Hebrew word *zot* is 408, the sum total of all the above. In other words, with “this,” by using these three methods, G-d permits us to “come into the holy place.” (*Nachal Kadumim*)

You shall not curse the deaf (*cheresh*) Lev. 19:14 The word *cheresh* is an acronym standing for “*chaim ra'im shelcha* – your unfortunate life.” The Torah warns us against cursing or imprecating ourselves when faced with a difficult situation. For as the Zohar explains, “There are three ways a person brings about his own adversity, one of which is by cursing himself.” (*Siftei Kohen*)

And you shall love your neighbour as yourself (Lev. 19:18) The Midrash relates that although many people have love and affection for others, human nature is such that “a person dislikes another who is of the same profession as he.” The Torah therefore emphasizes through the words “as yourself” that a person must make every effort to love his fellow man even if they are in the same field of work. (Our Sages)

And you shall love your neighbour as yourself; I am G-d (Lev. 19:18) This verse may also be read: “and you shall love your neighbour –as you are yourself.” G-d holds us to the same standards by which we judge other people. If we show love for our fellow man, G-d will show the same love for us. (*Otzar Hachaim*)

You shall fear, every man, his mother and his father (Lev. 19:3) The obligation to fear and honour one’s parents applies not only when one is too young to stand alone and needs their guidance and support. Rather, the *mitzvah* applies even later, when one has matured and become a “man,” for even then parents must be afforded the proper honour (*Ketav Sofer*)

You shall not stand idly by the blood of your neighbour (Lev. 19:16) This prohibition also applies in the spiritual sense. If one encounters someone in danger of “drowning,” it is forbidden to stand by and do nothing. Rather, we are obligated to do all in our power to save him. If you ask, “Who am I to engage to saving souls?” Rashi comments that “It is forbidden to watch someone die when you can rescue him.” The fact that you have become aware of the other person’s situation is proof that you will be able to save him (*Likutei Sichot*)

You shall be holy, for I am holy (Lev 19:2) “Holy, but not removed from the world,” comments the *Ktav Sofer*. Man is enjoined to imitate G-d, the source of all holiness, Who actively involves Himself in all aspects of His creation. G-d wants us to live a holy life within the physical world, not to be ascetic.

YAHREZIT FOR THE WEEK MAY 2-8

Ida Antecol, Jenö Salamon, Moishe Kravitz, Cyril Cohen, Joseph Adler, Avrum Leib Katz, William Gasco, Sheva Brandes, Margit Friedman, Sydney Levine, Mel Astroff, Elliot Green, Rose Leibman, Jean Abrahamson, Joseph Rudner, Jack Ilovitch, Frances Beatrice Cohen, Esther Rudner, Ida Harris, Sylvia Slatkoff Shragie, Estelle Mintz, Jenö Salamon, Celia Abramson, Laja Nisker, Beulah Migicovsky, Mitchell Leiberman, Celia Richler, Helen Shugar, Saul Kugler, Anna Landsman, Jennie Rubin, Kusiel Kaplansky,

Jewish News and Views

Courtesy of CIJR's daily "ISRANET BRIEFING" <http://www.isranet.org>

"There is no other country in the world that has been attacked seven times in 60 years, and that is in addition to two intifadas and an incessant war on terror.... Israel has faced existential threats, expulsion and wars, but when the history books judge us, we will be a proof that it's possible to surpass expectations and go beyond available resources.... We asked you all to come here today in order to salute you.... We can safely say after 61 years that you have brought great victories both on the battlefield and with the young generation you have groomed. One can only be proud of your achievements."--President *Shimon Peres*, during the annual Independence Daycelebration, hailing those who fought for Israel's future. At the ceremony, 120 soldiers received citations for excellence. (*Jer. Post, April 29*)

"The message to Israel and the leaders of the Arab countries in the Middle East, who are very worried about Iran getting a nuclear weapon is that there are a group of senators, a bipartisan group, that accept engagement with Iran, support it, but understand that there have to be not just carrots but sticks, and these sanctions are a big stick."--U.S. Senator *Joe Lieberman*, telling reporters that the Obama administration must set "a clear plan of action for the months ahead that has goals and schedules and teeth, with a clear and credible set of benchmarks, milestones by which we can measure Iranian behavior, and an explicit timeline by which the Iranians understand that we must start seeing results". (*Jer. Post, April 27*)

"As far as I'm concerned, this is absolutely a huge priority. There is no more dangerous country in the world today than Pakistan.... Clearly we can't do this alone. We're part of a global community that recognizes the same issues."--Defence Minister *Peter MacKay*, stating that Canada is prepared to act in Pakistan to integrate development and diplomacy with military action, the way it did in Afghanistan. MacKay acknowledged that Pakistan is in a difficult situation given that many members of its spy agency, Inter-Services Intelligence, are sympathetic to the Taliban. (*Canwest News Service, April 25*)

MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE FOUND AT AUSCHWITZ--(*Osweicim, Poland*) Workmen demolishing a wall that was once part of the Auschwitz death camp in Poland found a hand-written message signed by seven prisoners packed in the mortar between two bricks. Dated September 20, 1944, the note lists the names and camp ID numbers of seven prisoners, aged 18 to 20. "They were young people who were trying to leave some trace of their existence behind them," said Auschwitz museum spokesman *Jaroslaw Mensfelt*. Only two survived the camps: *Bronislaw Jankowiak*, who emigrated to Sweden and died there in 1997, and *Albert Veissid*, who currently resides in *Allauch* near *Marseilles*, France. (*Agence France-Press, April 28*)

REPUBLICAN CROSSES FLOOR TO DEMOCRATS--(*Washington*) Pennsylvania Senator *Arlen Specter* has switched to the Democratic Party, almost giving the Democrats the ability to build a filibuster-proof majority in the Senate. (A filibuster is the act of obstructing legislation by indefinitely prolonging debate to delay the bill's progress; only a 60-seat majority can prevent this by passing a motion to immediately end the debate.) The Specter announcement, coming on the eve of the president's 100th day in office, secured the Democrats a 59th seat in the Senate, counting two independents who caucus with the party. If Democrat *Al Franken* prevails in the contested Minnesota senatorial election, the president will have the necessary 60-person majority in the Senate. (*Wall Street Journal, April 28*)

FUNDS FOR PA AND HAMAS?--(*Jerusalem*) Senior Israeli officials are concerned at the prospect that the U.S. may approve funding for a Palestinian Authority government that includes Hamas. The Obama administration had asked Congress for minor changes in U.S. law that would allow the continued provision of funds to the PA even if Hamas officials became part of a Palestinian unity government. Israeli officials are very troubled by the possibility of US funds going to a government that includes Hamas. (*Jer. Post, April 27*)

TRIAL BEGINS FOR BRUTAL MURDERER--(*Paris*) *Youssouf Fofana*, the 28-year-old accused leader of a group of twenty-seven young people charged with participating in the torture and killing of *Ilan Halimi*, a young French Jew, declared "Allah will be victorious" as he entered juvenile court to stand trial. He is charged with premeditated murder, demanding ransom, and acts of torture and barbarism, and faces a possible maximum sentence of life imprisonment. Halimi was found on February 13, 2006, naked, handcuffed, and covered with burn marks. He died on the way to the hospital after being held captive for more than three weeks.. (*AP, April 29*)