



SHABBATSHMOOZE

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HIGHLIGHTS IN JEWISH HISTORY
PARSHA : BEHAR / BECHUKKOTAI
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WHAT'S GOING ON
MAZELTOVS / SPONSORSHIPS

SHABBAT TIMES

FRIDAY

MINCHA	5.45pm
KABBALAT SHABBAT	6.15pm
CHILDREN'S SERVICE	6.15pm

SATURDAY

SHACHARIT	9.00am
TORAH READING	9.50am
CHILDREN'S SERVICE	10.30am
BROCHA FOLLOWING SHUL SERVICE	

MINCHA

FOLLOWED BY THE SEUDAH SHLISHIT	5.15pm
MA'ARIV & SHABBAT ENDS	6.34pm

WEEKLY SHUL SERVICES

SHACHARIT: MONDAY – FRIDAY	7.00am
SUNDAY & PUBLIC HOLIDAYS	8.00am
ROSH CHODESH	6.45am
MINCHA: SUNDAY – THURSDAY	5.45pm

PARSHA PAGES

MAFTIR: MATT ALMELEH (BAR MITZVAH)
HAFTORAH: LAWRENCE STEIN
TORAH: COHEN 764, HERTZ 531, L/T 630, A/S 696
HAFTORAH: COHEN 789, HERTZ 551, L/T 1178, A/S 1179

YOM YERUSHALAYIM

Friday 15 May– Iyar 28

In 1967, Israeli paratroopers completed the capture of the Old City of Jerusalem, restoring Jewish access to the Temple Mount, Judaism's holiest site.

Known as Yom Yerushalayim, this special day commemorates the reunification of Jerusalem and the establishment of Israeli control over the Old City following the June 1967 Six-Day War.

Israeli soldiers danced, sang, and wept at the Western Wall, a sacred site that had been the focus of Jewish prayers and longing for centuries. A large plaza was later cleared in front of the Wall, and just one week afterwards, during the festival of Shavuot, tens of thousands of Jews streamed to the site in an emotional expression of unity and return.

Today, the 28th of Iyar is celebrated as Yom Yerushalayim — marking the reunification of the Holy City, which has stood as the eternal capital of the Jewish people for over 3,000 years.

FROM THE RABBI'S DESK

Dear Friends

Is Anything Okay Here?

Have you heard the joke about the waiter at the kosher restaurant going around asking, "Is anything okay here?"

It plays into the stereotype of the eternally dissatisfied Jew, always finding something to kvetch about. Yet there is also a hidden strength in that dissatisfaction. It drives us to grow, innovate, and improve. It is part of the creativity and determination that have enabled the Jewish people to contribute so much to humanity and achieve excellence in so many areas.

Still, like all traits, it raises an important question: *Is it always a good thing?*

In this week's parsha, *Bechukotai*, Hashem promises tremendous blessings "if you walk in My statutes." The Torah describes abundant produce, flourishing vineyards, and seasons of plenty that overlap one another. Then comes an interesting phrase: "*V'achaltem lachmechem l'sova*" — "You will eat your bread to satisfaction."

At first glance, the phrase seems unnecessary. If there is abundance, surely satisfaction will follow. But perhaps the Torah is teaching us that these are actually two separate blessings. The first is quantity, having enough. The second is quality, the ability to truly feel content and fulfilled.

Because having more does not necessarily make us feel satisfied. So many people live with constant abundance, yet still feel lacking. The blessing is not only in what we possess, but in our ability to appreciate it.

That is the deeper message of *l'sova*. We should not always live with the instinct to ask, "Is anything okay here?" Sometimes we need the ability to look at what Hashem has given us and say: "*Yes. This is more than okay. This is enough. This is a brachah.*"

We do not want to lose the drive to create, build, and contribute. But alongside ambition, we must cultivate gratitude, the ability to recognize what we already have and appreciate what we have already achieved.

May Hashem bless us with abundance, both in quantity and in quality, and may we merit to feel truly satisfied with our lot.

RABBI HECHT

SCENE @ MARAIS ROAD SHUL

LAG BA'OMER



HIGHLIGHTS IN JEWISH HISTORY

SHABBAT MAY 9 2026 22 Iyar, 5786

SHABBAT COMMANDED (1313 BCE)

After the manna first fell to sustain the Israelites in the desert, Hashem commanded the Jewish people to observe Shabbat. On that Friday, a double portion of manna descended, since gathering manna would be forbidden on Shabbat.

The Lechem Mishneh, the two challot used at Shabbat meals, commemorate this double portion.

MON MAY 11 2026 24 Iyar, 5786

GERMANY SURRENDERS (1945)

In Rheims, France, Germany formally signed its unconditional surrender to the Allies, marking the official end of World War II in Europe after days of intense fighting across the continent.

TUES MAY 12 2026 25 Iyar, 5786

COLOGNE JEWS SAVED (1096)

During the First Crusade, the Jews of Cologne were saved when the local bishop ordered the city gates closed to the crusaders. In several regions, bishops who tried to protect the Jews were themselves forced to flee for safety.

WED MAY 13 2026 26 Iyar, 5786

SIX-DAY WAR (1967)

Amid threats of destruction from surrounding Arab nations, Israel launched preemptive strikes on 26 Iyar (June 5, 1967). Within six days, Israel defeated five armies on three fronts and reunited Jerusalem, including the Old City and Temple Mount. The miraculous victory sparked a worldwide Jewish awakening and renewed connection to Jewish identity, Torah, and mitzvot.

THURS MAY 14 2026 27 Iyar, 5786

IDOLATROUS PRACTICES ABOLISHED (C. 135 BCE)

Under Greek rule, Jews were humiliated through idolatrous decrees affecting their homes and animals. After the Hasmoneans defeated the Greeks, these practices were abolished, and the day was later marked as a holiday in Talmudic times.

FRI MAY 15 2026 28 Iyar, 5786

EICHMANN EXECUTED (1962)

Adolf Eichmann, one of the chief architects of the Holocaust and the "Final Solution," was executed in Israel following his conviction for crimes against the Jewish people and humanity.

In 1944 alone, he oversaw the deportation of approximately 400,000 Hungarian Jews to Auschwitz in less than five weeks.

PARSHA

BEHAR / BECHUKKOTAI

בהר / בחקתי

OUTLINE

THE SABBATICAL YEAR |25:1-7 |25:1-7

THE JUBILEE YEAR |25:8-34

PROHIBITIONS AGAINST TAKING INTEREST |25:35-38

JEWISH SLAVES OWNED BY JEWS |25:39-46

JEWISH SLAVES OWNED BY NON-JEWS |25:47 - 26:2

BLESSINGS FOR OBSERVING TORAH LAWS |26:3-13

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGLECTING THE LAWS |26:14-46

VALUATION OF DEDICATIONS TO THE TEMPLE |27:1-29

THE SECOND AND ANIMAL TITHES |27:30-34

THEMES TRUST

Refraining from agricultural work during the Sabbatical year demonstrates complete trust that God will provide sustenance and livelihood in return for performing this commandment (25:1-7).

REWARDS

God promises us rewards for following His commandments. Since the majority of the commandments involve physical objects, we are promised physical rewards in return (26:3).

CONFESSION

Verbally confessing your sins is not only a legal requirement, but can also aid in repentance. The outward expression surfaces your thoughts and feelings, pushing you to return to your true self (26:40).

INSIGHT

At Mount Sinai. What is the connection between the concept of the Sabbatical year and "Mount Sinai" that the Torah stresses how this commandment was given at Sinai? Weren't all the commandments given at Sinai? This teaches us: Just as in the case of the Sabbatical year, whose general laws and details were all stated at Sinai, the general laws and details of all the other commandments were also said at Sinai (*Sifra*).

A firstborn animal. By sacrificing the first of our flock to God we are showing our gratitude to Him for what He is giving us, starting with this first animal, and affirming our belief that all that we receive is a gift from God (*Rabbi Samson Raphael Hirsch, 19th century*).

REFLECTION

When we observe the commandments, this widens the channels to receive God's blessings, including deeper insight and understanding to cope with problems and to make the right judgments and decisions.

BIRTHDAYS

MAZELTOV TO THE FOLLOWING CONGREGANTS CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS

SAT 9 MAY

CELIA MAUERBERGER
NOAH MILLER
PHILIP RUBIN
KAYLA WILCK
.....

SUN 10 MAY

RAYMOND KAGAN
RAEL LEVITT
JEFF MELNICK
JUDD RAICHMAN
MARIA SHELL
HYLTON SOLOMON
ELISA WOZNICA
OMRI YEDID-LEVI
.....

MON 11 MAY

GARY BIEBER
BRENDA GETZ
HOWARD SOLOMON
.....

TUES 12 MAY

NICHOLAS ARELISKY
MIRANDA KAGAN
DARREN LEVY
CYNTHIA LIPSHITZ
JONAH OSRIN
BARRIE REINGOLD

WED 13 MAY

STEVE AMSDORF
ELISHEVA JUBILER
ZELDA RABKIN
HYMIE ZEIDEL
LESLEY SWARTZ
.....

THURS 14 MAY

AIMEE ASSENBAUM
KYLIE BRITZ
LEVI DUVEEN
GARTH KAHN
SIMON LEPS
BRADLEY MARSDEN
MARTHA MICHAEL
SUSAN SCHAPIRO
HANNAH FREDA STRUL
.....

FRI 15 MAY

HADASSAH FRIEDMAN
MEGAN FUCHS
CECIL GELBART
BENJAMIN HARMAN
DEBRA LEVIN
FAY RUTTENBERG
ALON SACHS

MAZELTOV TO THE FOLLOWING COUPLES CELEBRATING THEIR WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

SUN 10 MAY

ANTON & GINA ISRAELE

MON 11 MAY

STEPHEN & ANNETTE FOX

FRI 15 MAY

JULIAN & NATACHA ZETLER

YAHREITZ REMINDER

WE WISH LONG LIFE TO ALL THOSE OBSERVING YAHREITZS THIS WEEK
REMEMBER YOUR YAHREITZ COMMENCES THE EVENING BEFORE:

SAT 9 MAY - 22 IYAR

CECIL GELBART (GRANDMOTHER)
RUSSELL SCHIFF (AUNT)
AGGIE HIRSCH (HUSBAND)
BRENT HIRSCH (FATHER)
RAYMOND HIRSCH (FATHER)
CONNIE VALKIN (FATHER)

SUN 10 MAY - 23 IYAR

SUZANNE LUCK (FATHER)
GAVIN COHEN (FATHER)
REBBETZIN DEBBIE SUIZA (FATHER)
IRMA EDELSTEIN (MOTHER)

MON 11 MAY - 24 IYAR

BERNICE MILLER (FATHER)
MERLE KATZ (MOTHER)
RAEL KOPING (MOTHER)
LIONEL MELTZER (MOTHER)
HAROLD BERMAN (FATHER)
MICHAEL WENER (GRANDMOTHER)

TUES 12 MAY - 25 IYAR

JAQUELINE BERMAN (MOTHER)
ROY KURLAND (GRANDFATHER)
PEARL LAN (FATHER)
PAMELA MURINIK (BROTHER-IN-LAW)
BERTIE POSNIAK (MOTHER)
STEVEN SIMON (BROTHER)

WED 13 MAY - 26 IYAR

HELEN BERGER (FATHER)
ELKA ARELISKY (FATHER)
GERALD JACOBS (MOTHER-IN-LAW)
FAY RUTTENBERG (FATHER)
HILARY MARGOLIUS (UNCLE)
BERTHA LEVIN (HUSBAND)
JOAN KRUPP (MOTHER-IN-LAW)
RONALD LESSICK (MOTHER)
SHARON LEVY (FATHER-IN-LAW)
ABE SANK (BROTHER)
STEVEN SOLSKY (FATHER)

THURS 14 MAY - 27 IYAR

MIRELLE KATZ (GRANDFATHER)
MARTHA MICHAEL (DAUGHTER)

FRI 15 MAY - 28 IYAR

PHILLIP AVIV (WIFE)
HELEN BLIDEN (BROTHER-IN-LAW)
IRMA EDELSTEIN (BROTHER-IN-LAW)
ZELDA SMITH (FATHER)
RENE HURWITZ (HUSBAND)
LILY KESSLER (HUSBAND)
ADA JOFFE (BROTHER)
ESTHER KLUK (HUSBAND)
CHARLENE SHAPIRO (FATHER)
MAJORIE MILWIDSKY (HUSBAND)
STEVEN SIMON (MOTHER)

SAT 16 MAY - 29 IYAR

RAYMOND EDISON (MOTHER)
JEFFREY EDISON (MOTHER)
COLIN GORDON (FATHER)
HYMIE GORDON (FATHER)
MELVYN GREENSTEIN (MOTHER)
LAURA RADOMSKY (GRANDFATHER)
DEVORA KRUSS (FATHER)
ESTELLE LANDAUER (FATHER)
DOREEN ELLENBOGEN (MOTHER)

CONSECRATIONS: SUN 10 MAY

10.30 A.M.: KEILE GROSS - PINELANDS 2
11.00 A.M.: MOMPIE SAVEN - PINELANDS 2

WHAT'S GOING ON

LEARNING

PRACTICAL JEWISH LIVING

MON - THURSDAY 5.15-5.45pm

SHIUR AND DISCUSSION WITH RABBI HECHT

CURRENTLY EXPLORING THE LAWS OF SHABBAT

WEEKLY MENS' SHIUR WITH RABBI HECHT

TUESDAYS 4.00-4.45pm

NO SHIUR TUESDAY 12 MAY

PIRKEI AVOT – TIMELESS WISDOM FOR MODERN LIVING

EXPLORE ETHICAL INSIGHTS FOR CHARACTER GROWTH AND EVERYDAY LIFE IN THIS WEEKLY SHIUR

WEEKLY WOMENS' SHIUR WITH DEVORA KRUSS

WEDNESDAYS AT 10.30am

BAT MITZVAH CLUB WITH REBBETZIN HECHT

14, 19 MAY

SHAVUOT DINNER Thursday 21 May

DINNER GUEST: THE BATMAN RUNNER WITH ZIONIST FED

ANNUAL LATE NIGHT LEARNING-BOOKING DETAILS TO FOLLOW

A SHABBAT OF INSPIRING TORAH & JEWISH IDENTITY

We are honoured to **welcome** two outstanding Torah educators to our community this Shabbat.

Rabbi Shimon Yerucham Green, renowned Rosh Yeshiva, educator, and founder of Yeshivas Bircas HaTorah in Jerusalem's Old City and Yeshivas HaTurim in Phoenix, Arizona, **will deliver the Friday night Droshta**. Rabbi Green is widely respected for his deep scholarship, inspiring teaching style, and decades of impactful Torah education and outreach around the world.

We also look forward to hosting **Rabbi Reuven Spolter**, educator, speaker, and Director of English-Language Programs at Herzog Global. Founder of Kitah.org and creator of the online Mishnah Project, which has attracted over 700,000 YouTube views, Rabbi Spolter is known for bringing Torah and Tanakh to life in meaningful and deeply engaging ways.

Join Rabbi Spolter for a special **Shiur on Shabbat day** following the Kiddush Brocha, at 12:30pm in the Main Shul:

"The 4 B's That Build Jewish Identity"

MAZELTOV



MATT ALMELEH on his Bar Mitzvah, his parents **HAYLEY ALMELEH & AVRON ALMELEH**, brother **RYAN** and grandparents **LAWRENCE & MELANIE STEIN** and **MARCELLE ALMELEH**

JASON & NICOLE MAYO on the birth of their son and **JERRY & HILARY MARGOLIUS** on the birth of their grandson

BENJAMIN AMOILS & TALYA MICHAELS on the birth of their son

THANK YOU

BROCHA SPONSORED BY:

HAYLEY STEIN ALMELEH & AVRON ALMELEH on the occasion of their son **MATT'S BAR MITZVAH**.

CHOCOLATES SPONSORED BY:

RYAN ALMELEH on the occasion of his brother, **MATT'S** Barmitzvah

SHMOOZE & WHISKY SPONSORED BY:

LAWRENCE AND MELANIE STEIN on the occasion of their grandson, **MATT ALMELEH'S** Barmitzvah

WHISKY SPONSORED BY:

JERRY & HILARY MARGOLIUS & FAMILY on the birth of their grandson

CONDOLENCES

LEONIE SAREMBOCK on the loss of her Aunt, **BESSIE LONSTEIN**

BROCHA SPONSORSHIP

9 MAY – BEHAR-BECHUKOTAI - SPONSORED BY **HAYLEY STEIN ALMELEH & AVRON ALMELEH**

16 MAY – BAMIDBAR - AVAILABLE

22 MAY - SHAVUOT DAY 1 - AVAILABLE

23 MAY – SHAVUOT DAY 2 - SPONSORED BY **RAEL & NICCI BLOOM** on the occasion of their son **ETHAN'S** Bar Mitzvah

30 MAY – NASSO – SPONSORED BY **GAVIN COHEN & ADY COHEN** on the occasion of their son **DANNY'S** Bar Mitzvah

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CONTACT THE SHUL OFFICE

Are you aware of a congregant's illness or hospital stay? Perhaps you're aware of a milestone birthday or special occasion or maybe you're experiencing it yourself. Please let us know!

Please ensure ALL contact details are regularly updated with the shul office

Email: info@maraisroadshul.com or hillary@maraisroadshul.com
call 021 4397543

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