

Golf Manor Synagogue SHABBOS BULLETIN



Vayikra/Zachor/Purim 8 b'Adar II 5779 • Friday, March 15, 2019

PURIM SCHEDULE:

SHACHARIS ON TA'ANIS ESTHER WILL BE IN THE CHAPEL. ALL OTHER MINYANIM WILL BE IN THE MAIN SANCTUARY.

TA'ANIS ESTHER:

6:30 AM — SHACHARIS
7:30 PM — MINCHA
8:20 PM — MA'ARIV,
FOLLOWED BY MEGILLAH.
MEGILLAH READING WILL
NOT BEGIN BEFORE 8:30.

PURIM:

6:25 AM — SHACHARIS
& MEGILLAH.
MEGILLAH READING WILL
NOT BEGIN BEFORE 7 AM.

ADDITIONAL MEGILLAH READING BEFORE MINCHA

(AT 5:15 PM) CAN BE
ARRANGED UPON REQUEST.
PLEASE BE IN TOUCH
WITH RABBI ALT
OR RABBI LAVENDA.

6 PM — MINCHA
6:15 PM — SEUDAH
8 PM — MAARIV, AD D'LO YADA
(SHKITYAH IS 7:50 PM)

In the Community

Mazel tov to the extended Bidnick family, on the marriage this week of Yehuda and Nechama (Bidnick) Levi.
Mazel Tov to Scott Miller and Sarah Wasnielewsky, on their engagement! Celebration at Preis this Sunday, March 17, 1:30-2:30 pm.
Mazel Tov to the Sanders family, on their conversion this week. Welcome to the tribe!
and the J—Sunday, March 24, 8:30am to 2:30 pm at the Mayerson JCC.

Spring Cleaning: The coatroom will be emptied out before Pesach. Please check for and remove any personal belongings.
Matanos/Levyonim: Please give generously—every dollar matters! The sooner funds are received, the easier it will be for the distribution to be determined.
and specify that it is for the Purim Seuda.

Shul Announcements
Second reading of Parshas Zachor—after kiddush, but not before 11:45 am.
The community is invited to our first annual **"Auchenoshan and Hamantashen"** Shabos Kiddush—this Shabos, in preparation for Purim. Come eat a hamantash and drink some really good, single malt Scotch!
The GMS Purim Seuda—catered by Kinneret Grill! \$20 per adult. Children ages 3-12 are \$10, and children under age 3 are free. If you would like to attend, please e-mail marilyn_horwitz@yahoo.com or pay directly at golffmanorsynagogue.org—click on the Donations tab

Sponsorships
Shalosh Se'udos is sponsored by Dr. Leonard & Marilyn Horwitz, in honor of Len's finishing mishnayos Seder Nezikin. Kiddush and Shabos Bulletin are available for sponsorship.

Refuah Sh'laima

- Bracha Leah
- Yosefa bas Rivka (Barbara Nagler)
- Eitan Chaim ben Elisheva (Joan Gross)
- Gavriel ben Pasha (Gary Walsh)
- Chana Rivka bas Ethel (Juanita Weiss)
- Nesanel ben Chaya Rochel (Hirsch Wise)
- Chaim Dovid Ephraim ben Chana
- Daisy bas Lulu (Mrs. Daisy Kattan)
- Dafna Miriam bas Malkah Esther
- Moshe Nechemiah ben Rivkah Z'ev Shmuel ben Malkah Rochel Paulina bat Sara Reuven ben Malkah

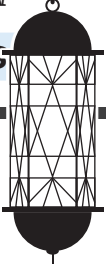
Classes / Activities

GMS Mishnayos Learning
This week: P'sachim, Chap. 4
Weeknights in the Chapel
after Ma'ariv
GMS Chess for Children (B/G)
in the Social Hall
OFF for Ta'anis Esther
Book Club Class in the Chapel Bldg.
Reading: **Eretz Yisrael: Lights on Orot**—Mondays..... 1-2 pm
anach Tuesdays (M/W)
Studying I Kings, Chapter 9
7:30-8:30 pm

The Coming Week

Shabos ends (40 min.).....8:25 pm
Mincha and Shalosh Seudos.....7:15 pm
Leitzanus—the Essence of Amalek
Rabbi Alt:
Pre-Mincha Shirur6:45 pm
PJL.....Rabbi Moshe Tzvi Crystal
Shacharis.....9:00 am
Chumash.....8:40 am
Candle Lighting (20 min)7:24 pm
Mincha / Kab. Shabos7:25 pm

Shabos



Serving Cincinnati Jewry since 1901

- Rabbi Yosef Alt RABBI
- Rabbi Stuart Lavenda RABBI EMERITUS
- Rabbi Hanan Balk RABBI EMERITUS
- Shmuel Plotsker, Esq. CHAIRMAN

6442 Stover Avenue, Cincinnati OH 45237
golfmanorsynagogue@gmail.com
golfmanorsynagogue.org
(513) 531-6654

Parshas Vayikra/Zachor and Purim

V'Dibartah Bam

OUR SHOPPING LISTS ARE FULL OF MISHLO'ACH MANOS bag stuffers, and our inbox is full of Cincy Shuls posts requesting kiddie costumes. Purim is upon us!

Rabbi Shalom Noach Berezovsky (August 8, 1911–August 8, 2000) served as the Slonimer Rebbe from 1981 until his death. He is widely known as the “Nesivos Shalom” for his teachings, which he published as a series of books titled *Nesivos Shalom*. He writes that many sources indicate that Purim is a day that is imbued with tremendous spiritual power.

Sefarim HaK'doshim (Kabbalistic writings) refer to Purim as being on a very high spiritual plane. The source for this is Tikunei Zohar (21, 57B), which states that the name “Purim” is related to “Yom Kippurim.” Purim is compared to the holiest day of the year, Yom Kippur—the day on which we are closest to Hashem, when our prayers are immediately accepted.

On Purim there is a special *halacha* that we do not scrutinize those who ask for charity as much as we would regularly. Rather, “all who stretch out their hands should be given.” (Shulchan Aruch, OC 694:3) The Nesivos Shalom quotes “a statement of the *tzadikim*.” This rule applies in the heavenly realm, as well—all who stretch out their hands to Hashem and ask Him for help on Purim are answered.

The Nesivos Shalom explains that both of these sources are manifestations of one idea.

In the time of Mordechai and Esther, a decree was passed to destroy all the Jews:

It was written, and it was sealed with the King's signet ring. Letters were sent by couriers to all the King's provinces, [instructing the people] to destroy, to slay, and to exterminate all Jews, young and old, children and women... (Esther 3:12–13)

Our Sages teach (Esther Rabba 3:10, Zohar) that whenever the words “the King” appear in the Megillah, they refer to Hashem, the King of Kings. In Heaven, Hashem had decreed our destruction; Haman was merely the wicked man who was destined to execute Hashem's heavenly decree. This was no ordinary decree—it was “sealed with the King's signet ring.” Hashem had very firmly established that our destruction was imminent.

But, as we know, things were turned around (“v'na-hafoch hu”). How could such a strong decree be reversed? Esther ordered: “Go gather all the Jews” (Esther 4:16); the fasting and prayer of an individual would not suffice. Only the joint fasting and prayer of the entire nation had the power to reverse Hashem's decree. A miracle occurred, and their prayers were able to ascend to a higher level than ever

before, and they were able to overturn even a decree that had been signed and sealed.

The spiritual breakthrough of Purim was not a one-time occurrence. The *Pri Etz Chaim* cites the Ariza”l, who said a unique light is revealed every Purim, one which is not revealed on other holidays or Shabbasos. The Ariza”l gets this idea from the Midrash (Yalkut Shimoni, Mishlei 9), which states that in the Messianic Era, all of the Jewish holidays will cease, but Purim will continue—as it is written:

These days of Purim shall never cease among the Jews; nor shall their remembrance perish from their descendants. (Esther 9:28)

We understand, from the words “shall never cease,” that the special light of Purim remains, in our days, and is accessible every year when Purim comes.

The mitzvos of Purim—*matanos l'evyonim* (charity to the poor), and *mishlo'ach manos* (food gifts for friends)—bring us together. When we gather together, as we did in the days of Mordechai and Esther, our prayers become super-charged. We gain access to Hashem's mercy and compassion in ways that are not available the rest of the year, even on our holidays.

I have a personal story that relates to this:

It was my last Purim in Israel. I had been studying in the Mirrer Yeshiva in Yerushalayim, and I planned to return to the States that coming Pesach. I was twenty-four, and I would begin shidduchim upon my return to America.

As we know, things were turned around. How?

I recognized that I was about to enter what might be a very difficult stage in my life.

I remember that Purim well. I made a few *mishlo'ach manos*, did what I had to do, and put a lot of focus on my *Shemoneh Esrei*. I approached each of the three *tefillos*, over the course of Purim, as a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. My request was two-fold: that Hashem bring my wife quickly, and that, whatever happened, He would make it clear to me whether any given shidduch was meant to be or not.

As soon as I arrived at Ner Israel in Baltimore, things happened very quickly. I met my future wife before Shavu'os. She was the first and last girl I dated! Throughout the process, it was clear that she was the right one. My Purim prayers had been answered!

Purim is a busy day; it's all too easy to let the davening opportunities pass us by. We can't afford to lose out on this once-a-year chance to send our prayers all the way up, breaking through all the barriers. We need to stop and approach each of the *tefillos* with excitement, to offer heartfelt prayers for peace and tranquility, health and wellbeing—for ourselves and all of K'lal Yisroel. And may we all merit that “All those who stretch out their hand will be given to.”

Good Shabbos,

Rabbi Yosef Alt