



# CONGREGATION TORAS CHAIM

Vibrant, Relevant, Meaningful . . . and Orthodox

July 23-24, 2010 ■ 13 Av, 5769 ■ Shabbos Parshas Vaeschanan, Nachamu  
Candlelighting: (See below.) ■ Shabbos Ends 9:16 PM

Kiddush and Shalosh Seudos is sponsored by Simo and Limor Rom in celebration of the wedding of their daughter in Israel.

Please contact Rabbi Yaakov Rich at 972-835-6016 if you are interested in sponsoring kiddush or shalosh seudos in the future.

## ■ SHABBOS SCHEDULE:

### July 23<sup>rd</sup>

- » Mincha/Kabbalos Shabbos/Maariv–7:00 PM
- » Candlelighting–**Not before 7:04 PM**. Preferably light by 7:25 PM.  
In case of great need on may rely on 8:13 PM candlelighting time.

### July 24<sup>th</sup>

- » Shacharis (followed by Kiddush)–8:30 AM
- » Childcare Begins–10:00 AM
- » Latest Time for Childcare Drop-off–10:20 AM
- » Chumash Shiur (for men & women)–6:45 PM
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## ■ WEEKDAY SCHEDULE:

- » Sunday Shacharis–8:00 AM
- » Weekday Shacharis–6:40 AM
- » Mincha/Maariv–8:10 PM

## ■ WHAT'S NU AT CTC

- » **2010 CTC Post Tisha B'Av ReMeating Texas Rib BBQ with Razzle Dazzle the Clown:** All the ribs you can eat. This is all about meat. Texas Ribs, grilled with a tangy BBQ sauce, plus all the fixins you can eat, and beer you can drink. Meet the SEED boys. Divrei Torah. Sing. Dance. Have a great time. What: Great BBQ — Ribs, ribs and more ribs, plus sides, fixins and beer. Who: Men, Women & Children. When: Sunday, July 25, 2010, from 5-7:30 PM. Where: Will take place in the very spacious backyard at the Rich Family home, 7119 Bremerton Ct., Dallas, TX 75252. Lots and lots of room. Cost: \$10 per person (plus \$1.54 service charge per person, whether you pay online or in person by check. \$11.54 total.). Contact Us: Please call 972-835-6016 with any questions or comments.

- » **2010 CTC Rosh Hashana Meat Sale: Congregation Toras Chaim** is offering, as a service to the Dallas Jewish community quality kosher beef produced by A. D. Rosenblatt Glatt Kosher Meat. These larger cuts are being bought at reduced prices with the savings being passed on to our Jewish friends and families. Kosher for Passover, Supervision by OU and CRC, Meat comes vacuum sealed for freshness and cleanliness, Only safe United States beef is used: no imports. **Order Deadline and Pickup:** Pickup is at Congregation Toras Chaim, 17912 Hillcrest Rd., Dallas, TX 75252, on TBA. Orders must be received no later than Monday, August 9, 2010. All selections will show as "Free" on the order form to save you from paying online costs. Please pay by cash or check when picking up order. All weights are only approximations. They may be bigger or smaller than the advertised size. For more information call Shoshana Chana Jacobs at (972) 951-9044.

- » **2010 High Holiday Seats and Childcare:** Dear Friends, From past experience I am confident that Rosh Hashana (Sept. 9, 2010) and Yom HaKippurim (Sept. 18, 2010) will, please G-d, be very uplifting this year at Congregation Toras Chaim. If you davened with us in the past then you know why I feel we are so fortunate to once again have a Ba'al Tefillah/Chazzan with the talent and sensitivity of Rabbi Moshe Kranz of Lakewood, NJ. The shul leadership has worked very hard to ensure that High Holiday tickets remain affordable. In past years Rabbi Kranz led our services for no charge. This year it is only proper that we begin to compensate Rabbi Kranz for his incredible talent and inspiration. This fee must be absorbed by the congregation and will therefore be reflected by a slight increase in ticket prices for this year's services. Our congregation has grown considerably since last year, and we are expecting to quickly sell out. Tickets are being sold on a first-come, first-served basis. I encourage everyone to purchase High Holiday seats as

soon as possible and take advantage of the tremendous savings from the lower early bird pricing, which will be available only until July 31st. The price includes one "ticket" for both days of Rosh Hashana and for Yom HaKippurim. Childcare will cost \$25/child/day. We do need to know in advance if you plan to use the childcare services.

### Full High Holiday Price List:

- Full member (Early Bird): \$200 per person (Tickets paid for by July 31, 2010)
  - Full member: \$250 (Tickets paid for by Rosh Hashana)
  - Associate member (Early Bird): \$250 (Tickets paid for by July 31, 2010)
  - Associate member: \$300 (Tickets paid for by Rosh Hashana)
  - Non-member (Early Bird): \$350
  - Non-member: \$400
  - Childcare: \$25/child/day
- » **Mishna Yomis: Daily Mishna Study:** Mishna Yomis new cycle began July 4, 2010. Take this golden opportunity to join thousands of Jews all over the world who learn the two Mishnas each day. All you need is to find five to ten minutes out of your busy schedule and by learning two mishnas a day, you can slowly but surely gain basic knowledge of all of Mishna in 5 1/2 years. Two Important Tips: 1) Please remember to read the Mishna first and only if you have time read Kehati. 2) Dont be hard on yourself if you miss a day.

## ■ REFUAH SHELAIMA

- » Rafael Eliezer ben Leah (Friend of Abigail Ruttenberg)
- » Yehudah ben Fayshen (Uncle of David Lipsitz)
- » Rafael Eliezer ben Leah (Friend of Abigail Ruttenberg)
- » Yechiel Mordechai ben Devorah (Brother of Ken Jarmel)
- » Getzel Yoseif ben Feigah (Father of Shuli Bloomenstiel)
- » Etka bas Yocheved (Relative of Jill Lichtenstein)
- » Dina bas Chava (Friend of Josh Mann)
- » Baruch Tzadik ben Chava (Relative of Jill Lichtenstein)
- » Leib ben Basha Gittel (Relative of Jill Lichtenstein)
- » Michael ben Esther (Uncle of Shelly Newman)
- » Eliyahu Heschel ben Sharon (Friend of Ben & Lauren Nise)
- » Michael Yaakov ben Yosefa Israeleta (Friend of Wes & Tricia Sutkin)
- » Peretz Yaakov HaLevi ben Chana Yaffa (Nephew of Josh & Lisa Rothstein)

## ■ THE MOST OBVIOUS POINT IN THE WORLD!: BY RABBI LABEL LAM

Anyone who mourns over Jerusalem will merit witnessing its rejoicing... (ShulchaHear O' Israel; HASHEM is our G-d, HASHEM is the One! You shall love HASHEM your G-d with all your heart and all your soul and all your might. (Devarim 6:4-5)

If there is a statement that can be declared as the mission statement of the Jewish People it might arguably be that of the "SHEMA"! It is scrolled meticulously on every door post of our Jewish homes. We recite it with fervor in the morning upon waking and in the evening again before retiring, and so we carry it in the boxes we bind to our hearts and minds daily. It is almost as ubiquitous as the air we breathe.

There is a basic question, though, that one of the students of the Vilna Gaon, Siach Yitzchok that is recorded in the Siddur HaGra. It's not such an easy question to answer. Many intelligent audiences I've shared this with have either never thought of the question or were confounded to find its answer. However, once the answer is understood it becomes harder to figure out how we struggled to achieve such an obvious point. For this aspect of the phenomenon we can call upon Galileo who said, (and this one I

got from a tea bag) “All truths are easy to understand; once they are discovered; the point is to discover them!” Maybe in a similar vein the Talmud states, “Words of truth are recognizable.”

The question is, “What is the connection and flow of ideas between the first verse of “SHEMA” that declares the absolute unity of HASHEM and the second verse that calls for and demands total love and devotion?” Why should the recognition of HASHEM’s oneness inspire such an overflow of love? (You might want to think for a minute before reading further just to see if you can “get it” on your own.)

The Siach Yitzchok explains that we all have degrees of love that we feel and that is directed toward those who are our benefactors in life. When drawing up a short list of those we would wish to invite to a Simcha certain names will evoke differing degrees of feelings called “love” depending upon 1) how much they were actually helpful and 2) to what extent we are cognizant of their support. A teacher, a parent, a spouse, a close friend, a sibling, or even a generous customer might join that love parade in our mind’s eye. Each on a scale of 1 to 10 (with 10 being the highest) would receive a different rank. And so our love is diffused throughout our universe of experience and as sun rays spread out upon those who we feel have been there for us at varying points. Some get a 7 and others get 4’s and others 5’s and 2’s and 3’s.

When I was a kid we used to go outside on a sunny day and (probably without permission from our parents) we would take a simple magnifying glass and focus its generally diffused light upon a single point and by doing so we would burn a dry leaf and start a fire. So too when we recite “SHEMA” and that HASHEM is ECHOD-ONE! All those feelings of distributed love and affection we have for the supportive agents are all realized in a contemplative moment to be emanating from a single profound source. They are all actual angels of HASHEM. That laser beam of focused appreciation trained on that point is the catalyst that starts the big fire of love. Isn’t it the most obvious point in the world!?

#### ■ PARSHA Q&A: PARSHAS VAESCHANAN

1. “And I prayed to Hashem at that time.” Why “at that time”? 3:23 - Defeating Sichon and Og, whose lands were part of Eretz Canaan, Moshe thought perhaps Hashem had annulled the vow against his entering the Land.
2. What characteristic trait is represented by Hashem’s “strong hand”? 3:24 - His willingness to forgive.
3. What is ha’levanon? 3:25 - Ha’levanon means the Beit Hamikdash, which makes “white” (lavan), i.e., atones for, the Jewish People.
4. What did Hashem tell Yehoshua after the battle of Ai? 3:28 - Yehoshua must lead the army into battle.
5. What will happen if the Jewish People fail to keep the mitzvot properly? 4:9 - The non-Jewish world will regard them as foolish.

6. How did the decree that Moshe not enter the Land affect him even in death? 4:22 - Even his remains weren’t buried in the Land.
7. What is hinted by the word v’noshantem? 4:25 - The gematria of v’noshantem, 852, hints at the number of years until the first exile.
8. Why were the Jewish People exiled two years earlier than indicated by Moshe’s prophecy? 4:25 - So that the rest of the prophecy “that you shall utterly perish” would not be fulfilled.
9. “You’ll serve man-made gods.” Is this literal? 4:28 - No. It means you’ll serve others who serve idols.
10. Why is east called mizrach? 4:41 - It’s the direction from which the sun shines (mizrach means shining).
11. “Keep the Shabbat day as I have commanded you.” When had Hashem previously commanded us to keep Shabbat? 5:13 - Before Matan Torah, at Marah. (Shmot 15:25)
12. Where did the Jewish People first receive the command to honor parents? 5:16 - At Marah. (Shmot 15:25).
13. What is meant by “Hashem, our G-d, Hashem is One”? 6:4 - Hashem, who is now our G-d, but not [accepted as] G-d of the other nations, will eventually be [accepted as] the one and only G-d.
14. What are two meanings of loving Hashem “with all your might”? 6:5 - 1) With everything you own. 2) Whether Hashem treats you with kindness or harshness.
15. How well-versed must one be in Torah? 6:7 - If asked a Torah question, one should be able to reply quickly and clearly.
16. Where does the word totafot come from? 6:8 - Tot means two in Caspi. Fot means two in Afriki. Together they allude to the four sections of tefillin.
17. Who is fit to swear in Hashem’s name? 6:13 - One who serves Hashem and reveres His name.
18. What does it mean that the Jews are the “smallest nation”? 7:7 - B’nei Yisrael are the humblest nation.
19. When someone serves Hashem with love, how many generations receive reward? 7:9 - 2,000.
20. Why are evil-doers rewarded in this world? 7:10 - So that they get no reward in the next world.

# Good Shabbos

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#### ■ WEEKLY CLASSES

- » **Amud Yomi:** Gemara for men with Rabbi Yaakov Rich (M-Fr, 6-6:35 AM)
- » **Hilchos Niddah** for men with Rabbi Yaakov Rich (Mon. & Thurs. 9:00-9:45 PM)
- » **Chumash for Men and Women** (Shabbos one hour before Mincha)
- » **Torah Today: Hashkafa and Halacha Unique to Our Times** for men and women with Rabbi Avraham Chaim Bloomenstiel (Sundays, 9 AM)  
*Unless otherwise noted, all classes are in the shul.*