

CONGREGATION TORAS CHAIM WISHES YOU A WONDERFUL

Shabbos Metzora, HaGadol / Pesach

FRIDAY NIGHT, APRIL 19TH

- » Candles 7:43 PM
- » Mincha/Kabalas Shabbos/Maariv 7:00 PM

SHABBOS DAY, APRIL 20TH

- » Shacharis followed by Kiddush 8:30 AM
- » 15-min Pirkei Avos Shiur for Women following Kiddush
- » Women & Children S" S Canceled Through Pesach
- » **Rabbi's Shabbos HaGadol Drasha for M & W 6:45 PM**
- » Mincha 7:30 PM
- » Sunset 8:01 PM
- » Talmud Shiur: Gemara Avoda Zara following Mincha
- » Maariv 8:43 PM
- » Shabbos Ends 8:51 PM

A WISE MAN WOULD SAY: "DO YOU WANT TO KNOW WHO YOUR FRIENDS ARE? LOTS OF PEOPLE WANT TO RIDE WITH YOU IN THE LIMO, BUT WHAT YOU WANT IS SOMEONE WHO WILL TAKE THE BUS WITH YOU WHEN THE LIMO BREAKS DOWN!"

ONE HALACHA TO MAKE BEDIKAS CHOMETZ EASIER

To minimize the area that must be inspected on the night of Bedikas Chometz, one may perform an actual bedikah on the preceding nights in the areas that have been cleaned. The idea is to split up the one large bedikah on the night of the 14th into many smaller bedikos on the nights preceding the 14th. The bedikos on nights preceding the 14th must be performed after dark, with the aid of a candle or flashlight (just like the one on the night of the 14th will be performed) but, without a brachah, and afterward care must be taken not to bring chometz into the areas that have been inspected. If these criteria are satisfied, no additional bedikah will be required in those areas on the night of the 14th. By doing this you can check your entire house on nights before the 14th, leaving at least one room unchecked for the night of the 14th. **Please remember to give generously to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund for Maos Chitim. There are unfortunately many who can use the assistance. Thank you.**

SUNDAY, APRIL 21ST

- » Mincha/Maariv 7:45 PM
- » Search for Chametz Begins 8:41 PM. After search Nullification is recited (see ArtScroll page 654)

MONDAY, APRIL 22ND, EREV PESACH

- » Fast of First Born Begins 5:36 AM
- » Shacharis (Followed by Siyum) 6:30 AM
- » Last time for eating chametz 10:47 AM
- » Last time for burning chametz and reciting nullification (see ArtScroll page 654) 12:06 PM
- » Candlelighting 7:45 PM
- » Mincha followed by class 7:50 PM
- » First Seder (Not Before) 8:41 PM
- » Chatzos (Mid-Night) 1:25 AM

TUESDAY, YOM TOV, APRIL 23RD, FIRST DAY OF PESACH

- » Shacharis 9:30 AM (Note the later start time. We continue to say Mashiv Haruach Morid HaGeshem through the silent mussaf.)
- » Mincha/Class/Maariv 7:50 PM
- » Sefiras HaOmer: Count Day One
- » Candlelighting (From pre-existing flame. Second seder preparations begin not before) 8:54 PM
- » Chatzos (Mid-Night) 1:25 AM

WEDNESDAY, YOM TOV, APRIL 24TH, SECOND DAY OF PESACH, DAY ONE OF THE OMER

- » Shacharis 9:30 AM (Note later start time.)
- » Mincha/Class/Maariv (Begin saying VeSain Beracha at Maariv) 7:50 PM
- » Yom Tov ends 8:54 PM

THURSDAY, APRIL 25TH, FIRST DAY OF CHOL HAMOED, DAY TWO OF THE OMER

- » Shacharis 6:30 AM
- » Mincha/Maariv 7:50 PM

FRIDAY, APRIL 26TH, SECOND DAY OF CHOL HAMOED, DAY THREE OF THE OMER

- » Shacharis 6:30 AM
- » Mincha/Abbreviated Early Kabbalas Shabbos/Maariv 7:00 PM
- » Candles 7:48 PM

SHABBOS DAY, APRIL 27TH, THIRD DAY OF CHOL HAMOED, DAY FOUR OF THE OMER

- » Shacharis 8:30 AM
- » Rabbi Bloomenstiel's Shiur on Tefilla 6:50 PM

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- » Mincha 7:35 PM
- » Sunset 8:07 PM
- » Talmud Shiur: Gemara Avoda Zara following Mincha
- » Maariv 8:49 PM
- » Shabbos Ends 8:57 PM

SUNDAY, APRIL 28TH, FOURTH DAY OF CHOL HAMOED, DAY FIVE OF THE OMER

- » Shacharis 8:00 AM
- » Mincha/Class/Maariv (Early Yom Tov) 7:00 PM
- » Candlelighting 7:49 PM

MONDAY, YOM TOV, APRIL 29TH, SEVENTH DAY OF PESACH, DAY SIX OF THE OMER

- » Shacharis 8:30 AM
- » Mincha/Class/Maariv 7:55 PM
- » Candlelighting (From pre-existing flame) 8:58 PM

TUESDAY, YOM TOV, APRIL 30TH, EIGHTH DAY OF PESACH, DAY SEVEN OF THE OMER

- » Shacharis 8:30 AM
- » Yizkor Not Before 10:00 AM
- » Mincha followed by Neilas HaChag 7:55 PM
- » Maariv 8:51 PM
- » Pesach Ends 8:59 PM
- » Chametz sold by Rabbi may be eaten not before 10:00 PM

REFUAH SHELAIMA

Men

- » Hillel ben Simcha (Jeff Lubin)
- » Daniel Ze'ev ben Miriam (Brother of Josh Rothstein)
- » Yitzchak ben Yocheved (BIL of Moshe Bush)
- » Yehudah ben Yehudis Basya (Friend of Dovid Teitlebaum)

Women

- » Sipke Grune bas Lillian (Mother of Jeff Luftig)
- » Tali bas Aviva (Daughter of Aviva Bass)
- » Chantza Rachel bas Sarah (Mother of Rabbi Feigenbaum)
- » Shayna Leah bas Zelda Rivka (Linda Fern)
- » Shoshana Gittel bas Chaya Leah (Sister of Naomi Goldberg)
- » Naama bas Devorah Miriam (Granddaughter of Rabbi &

- Rebbetzin Rich)
- » Rena Esther bas Yaffa Gita (Friend of Yael Bodenheimer)
- » Chana bas Hendel (Friend Of Yael Bodenheimer)

SHABBOS KIDDUSH SPONSORED BY

- » The Members of the Guarantee Kiddush Club: Bloomenstiel, Borrayo, Lurie, Marcelino, Martin, Eliyahu Rich, Rabbi and Rebbetzin Rich and Rothstein families.

CTC WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF SHIURIM/TEFILLAH

Men

- » Gemara Bava Kama, Mon - Fri, 6:00 - 6:30 AM
- » **Shacharis, 6:30 AM**
- » Dirshu Amud HaYomi: Sunday - Friday, 12 - 1 PM, On Zoom with Rabbi Yaakov Rich. Email Rabbi Rich for the Zoom Link
- » Marriage Chabura for men, Sun, 7:15 - 7:45 PM
- » Mesillas Yesharim, Mon - Thur 7:15 - 7:45 PM
- » **Mincha/Halacha/Maariv, Sun - Thur, 7:45-8:20 PM**
- » Gemara Bava Basra, Sunday - Thursday, 8:30 - 9 PM

Women

- » Parsha Shiur for Women with Rabbi Michael Bodenheimer, Sundays, Cancelled Through Pesach

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Shabbos Metzora, HaGadol / Pesach

REBUILDING PROJECT by Marshall Lestz.

(We are excited to share this column with you each Shabbos in the spirit of helping to repair our relationships and thereby contribute to rebuilding the Beis HaMikdash.)

DON'T LEAVE OUT THE DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY

IN THE OLYMPICS, the winners aren't always decided by who can run the fastest, jump the highest, or lift the most weight. In some events, medal winners are determined by judges. Like, for example, diving and gymnastics. In these events, the judges evaluate the athletes based on two criteria: Execution and Degree of Difficulty.

This got me thinking... How do we typically judge people, compared to the way Olympic athletes are judged? It seems that we often employ only one of the two Olympic judging criteria: Execution. We see someone behaving a bit uncivilized or talking too loudly on their phone in the grocery store, so we take some points off for that. Someone can't control his temper, sorry, that's a 3-point deduction. Someone doesn't express a big enough "thank you" when we do them a favor, that's a serious point deduction. But here's the deal—we're forgetting one really big component: The degree of difficulty.

Generally speaking, we have NO IDEA HOW DIFFICULT THINGS ARE FOR OTHER PEOPLE. We may think that someone should be able to conduct himself more properly or do a certain mitzvah better ... but can we know what's inside another person's mind or heart, or have any idea what they're truly capable of? Do we know what they might be going through, or what kind of ordeals they experienced years ago that are still influencing them today? What's easy for us isn't necessarily easy for them, and vice versa! Parenthetically, I'm not saying we should approve of other people's inappropriate behavior. I'm simply talking about not looking negatively at them for not being able to do what we think they should be able to do.

Only Hashem knows how difficult things are for each of us. And He calibrates our tests with the perfect degree of difficulty that each of us needs to reach our potential.

So, might there be anyone in our life with whom we're judging a little too much on "execution" and not enough on "degree of

difficulty"? The more we're able to judge each other with love and empathy, the stronger and more peaceful our relationships will become. And you can't put a price on that. Not even a gold medal. Have a joyful and phenomenal day, everybody. Keep on Building!

TIDBITS

This final Shabbos before Pesach is known as Shabbos HaGadol. The haftarah of Shabbos HaGadol is read. The prevalent minhag is for the Rabbi of the community to give a shiur on Pesach topics. Many have a minhag to read the Haggadah - from "Avadim hayinu" through "Lechaper al Kol Avonoseinu" - over Shabbos afternoon. See Parashah in a Paragraph below for reasons why this Shabbos carries this name.

Av Harachamim (before Mussaf) and Tzidkoscha (after Minchah) are omitted, the Kel Malei recited by one who has a yahrzeit is also not said, and Vihi Noam is omitted at Maariv of Motzaei Shabbos.

Leil Bedikas Chametz is this Sunday evening, April 21st.

Erev Pesach is this Monday, April 22nd. Taanis Bechorim is observed. No chametz may be consumed past the sof z'man achilah and the chametz must be fully burned by the set z'man. The first Pesach Seder is Monday evening, April 22nd.

The final opportunity for Kiddush Levana is Monday night, April 22nd.

As the precarious situation in Eretz Yisrael continues, each person should increase reciting tehillim and performing other mitzvos as a zechus for the many Acheinu Beis Yisrael 'in travail and captivity' as well as for the soldiers in battle.

Leil Bedikas Chametz is this Sunday evening, April 21st.

Pesach begins on Monday evening, April 22nd.

METZORA: Details of the purification of the Metzora • Tzara'as on house structures in Eretz Yisrael • Tumah and taharah of a Zav and a

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Baal Keri • Niddah • Zavah

Haftarah: The Haftarah (Malachi 3:4-24) encourages our belief in Hashem and the Torah. The Tur says that Shabbos HaGadol (the "Great Shabbos") earned its name on account of the great miracle wherein the Egyptians could not react when Bnei Yisrael prepared sheep of Korban Pesach for slaughter. Sheep were among the idols of Egypt, but the Egyptians could not prevent the Jews from doing so. Taking the sheep was an act of faith and its success strengthened their emunah further by proving that the Mitzriyim were powerless to stop them. Additionally, some point to the Haftarah's concluding words, "Yom HaGadol v'ha'Nora", the Great and Awesome day (of redemption), to explain why this Shabbos is called "Shabbos HaGadol". The haftarah also includes the verse that promises wealth to one who sets aside funds for maaser and even allows one to "test" the validity of Hashem's promise. This timely message encourages us to fulfill our obligation to help our fellow Jews with Maos Chittim.

Parashas Metzora • 90 Pesukim • 11 Obligations

1) A metzora's purification process. 2) A Kohen shall shave the metzora. 3) An impure person shall immerse in a mikvah. 4) A metzora shall bring korbanos as part of his purification. 5) Observe the laws of tzara'as of structures. 6) The laws of the zav. 7) A zav shall bring a korban as part of his purification. 8) Tumah of shichvas zera. 9) The laws of niddah. 10) The laws of zavah. 11) A zavah shall bring a korban as part of her purification.

Mitzvah Highlight: Hashem, in His great mercy, takes an incremental approach in reproofing a sinner, first messaging him "softly" by putting tzara'as on a sinner's home, and only if he ignores the message, He punishes with tzara'as on clothing. Only as a last resort, He afflicts the sinner's body.

"If he is impoverished and without the means" (Vayikra 14:21)

Halachah dictates that a metzora must bring a korban of three sheep. If the metzora cannot afford it, he can suffice by replacing two of the sheep with less expensive doves or turtledoves. But one who has the means to bring sheep but brings birds instead has not fulfilled his obligation.

The Chofetz Chaim comments on how we may erroneously compare ourselves to others in our mitzvah performance. Some may feel bad that they are doing less than others. Some may content themselves by doing only just as much as others around them. This halachah demonstrates the fault in this attitude. A person is obligated to give not based on what society around him is doing, but rather according to his own means and strengths. One must take stock of his own talents and resources, and act according to what he can do.