



# Parshas Chukas-Balak 5786

## FRIDAY NIGHT, JUNE 26

- » Mincha/Kabalas Shabbos/Maariv 7:00 PM
- » Candles 8:21 PM
- » Sunset 8:39 PM
- » **Mazel Tov to Jeff & Suzanne Luftig on the birth of a grandson in Israel. Mazel Tov to parents Lilly & Yitzchok Menachem Sommers on the birth of their son. There will be a Shalom Zachor at the Rich home, 7119 Bremerton Ct., Dallas 75252, at 9:30 PM. All are invited to come.**

## SHABBOS DAY, JUNE 27

- » **Shacharis 8:30 AM followed by Kiddush.**
- » 15-min Pirkei Avos Shiur for Women and Kedushas Levi Chabura for Men following Kiddush.
- » Women & Children Shalosh Seudos at Rich Home 6 PM.
- » **Gemara Avoda Zara** with Rabbi Yaakov Rich in shul 7:15 PM.
- » Mincha followed by Shalosh Seudos in shul for men 8:10 PM
- » Sunset 8:39 PM
- » Maariv 9:21 PM
- » Shabbos Ends (50 min) 9:29 PM
- » Rabbeinu Tam (72 min) 9:51 PM

**A WISE MAN WOULD SAY: "YOU'VE GOT TO GET UP EVERY MORNING WITH DETERMINATION IF YOU'RE GOING TO GO TO BED WITH SATISFACTION."**

## REFUAH SHELAIMA

### Men

- » Yosef Lieb ben Golda Leah (Lisa Rothstein's Uncle)
- » Daniel Ze'ev ben Miriam (Brother of Josh Rothstein)

### Women

- » Hinda bas Pessie (Harriet Goldman)
- » Ester bas Sarah (Aunt of Yoseif Goldenberg)
- » Layah Leilech bas Shulamis (Friend of Shira Martin)
- » Devorah bas Heni (Friend of Aviva Bass)
- » Shoshana Gittel bas Chaya Leah (Sister of Naomi Goldberg)

## KIDDUSH SPONSORSHIP

- » Kiddush this Shabbos is sponsored by Yerachmiel Cohen in honor of his 25th bar mitzvah anniversary, Parashas Balak, and L'Ilu

Nishmas ברוך בן הרב אליעזר הכהן who had his bar mitzvah Chukas-Balak 98 years ago in 1928.

## CTC SCHEDULE OF SHIURIM/TEFILLAH (Week of June 28, 2026)

- » Gemara Zevachim, Mon - Fri, 6:00-6:30 AM
- » **Shacharis, 6:30 AM followed by 5-min Mishna shiur**
- » Amud HaYomi Chullin: Sunday - Friday, 12 -1 PM, On Zoom with Rabbi Yaakov Rich. Email Rabbi Rich for the link.
- » Mincha 7:55 PM
- » Becoming a Ba'al Bitachon 8:10 PM (Mon - Thur)
- » Maariv 8:40 PM
- » **Two Great Marriage Chaburos:** For Men, Sundays following Mincha; For Women, Sundays, 9 PM on a conference call. Contact Rebbetzin Susan Rich for the phone number and access code.

## TIDBITS

Parashas Chukas-Balak • June 27th • 12 Tamuz 5786

The fast of Shiva Asar B'Tamuz is next Thursday, July 2nd. Five tragedies occurred on Shiva Asar B'Tamuz:

- 1) The first Luchos were broken.
- 2) In the waning days of the First Bais Hamikdash, the daily tamid offering ceased to be brought.
- 3) In the waning days of the Second Bais Hamikdash, the walls of Yerushalayim were breached, ultimately leading to the Bais Hamikdash's destruction.
- 4) Apostomos burned a Sefer Torah.
- 5) An avodah zarah was placed in the Bais Hamikdash.

During chazaras hashatz of Shacharis, the sheliach tizbbur adds Aneinu as a stand-alone berachah (between Go'el Yisrael and Refa'einu). Selichos, Avinu Malkeinu, Tachanun, and Kerias haTorah ("Vayechal") follow chazaras hashatz.

Tefillas Minchah includes Kerias haTorah along with the haftarah of Dirshu Hashem. Those fasting add Aneinu (as part of Shema Koleinu; the sheliach tizbbur adds Aneinu as a stand-alone berachah). Bircas Kohanim is recited in chazaras hashatz. Sim Shalom replaces Shalom Rav (Nusach Ashkenaz). Chazaras hashatz is followed by Avinu Malkeinu.

The Y'mei Bein Hametzarim, the Three Weeks, begin at shekiya (sun-



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set) on Wednesday night, July 1st. This period between the 17th of Tamuz and the 9th of Av is a national period of mourning over the Churban of both Batei Mikdash. One should give focus to the churban and galus during this period. Some halachic practices during this time period differ for sefardim. Activities restricted during this period include:

**Music and Dancing:** Children of chinuch age are included. Many poskim are lenient when the music is secondary in nature (e.g., background music on a story recording) or when the listening is not purely for enjoyment (e.g., to help one stay awake while driving). Many poskim are stringent regarding a cappella "sefirah music". Playing and practicing music are permitted for the purpose of earning a livelihood (e.g., a professional musician). Playing music to develop one's skill is a matter of dispute amongst the poskim.

**Haircuts and Shaving:** Men, women, and children are included in the prohibition. In cases of discomfort, many permit women to tweeze and remove hair from areas other than the head. One should consult a Rav regarding a father, sandek, and mohel at a bris, and regarding an avel who finishes the sheloshim mourning period during this time.

**Weddings:** Weddings are not held during this period. An engagement may be celebrated, although without dancing or music. A Sheva Berachos may be held without music, although dancing (and singing) is permitted.

**Shehecheyanu:** We avoid situations that would necessitate reciting the berachah of Shehecheyanu (e.g., eating new fruits, etc.).

**Miscellaneous:** One should consult a Rav regarding signing a contract on a new home, moving into a new home, house decorating, and elective surgery.

Those in Eretz Yisrael have been ahead one Parashah since the Yom Tov of Shavuot. While those in Eretz Yisrael are up to leining Parashas Balak, Chutz La'aretz will lein a double-parashah this week, Chukas-Balak. Moving forward, Eretz Yisrael and Chutz La'aretz will be leining the same Parashah.

The final opportunity for Kiddush Levana is on Sunday night, June 28th.

The Y'mei Bein Hametzarim, the Three Weeks, begin Wednesday night, July 1st (at nightfall; see above).

The fast of Shiva Asar B'Tamuz is on Thursday, July 2nd.

Rosh Chodesh Av begins Tuesday night, July 14th and marks the beginning of the Nine Days.

Tisha B'av begins Wednesday night, July 23rd.

**CHUKAS:** Laws of the Parah Adumah - its preparation and use in the tahara process • Miriam dies; the be'er well stops producing water, and the people complain • Moshe and Aharon are told to bring forth water by speaking to the rock; Moshe eventually hits the rock instead • Moshe and Aharon are told of the punishment for their sin • Bnei Yisrael ask for passage through Edom and are rebuffed • Aharon passes away at Hor Hahar • The Canaanites (really Amalek) attack and are defeated at Chorma • The people complain about the Mon and are attacked by snakes • The 'healing' copper snake • The great miracle of Nachal Arnon • Shiras Habe'er • The defeats of Sichon and Og

**BALAK:** Balak sends messengers to Bilaam • Bilaam refuses to come • Balak sends more distinguished messengers, Bilaam again refuses • Hashem appears to Bilaam and 'permits' him to go • An angel impedes Bilaam's donkey three times • After striking his donkey, the donkey speaks and Bilaam is forced to admit that he wronged her • Bilaam tells Balak that he will speak only that which Hashem will put in his mouth • Balak prepares sacrifices three times • Bilaam blesses the Bnei Yisrael three times • An angry Balak sends Bilaam on his way • Bilaam predicts future events • Bnei Yisrael sin with the daughters of Moav • 24,000 perish in a plague • The plague ceases when Pinchas kills Zimri and Kozbi.

**Haftarah:** The haftarah of Parashas Balak is leined. Michah (5:6-6:8) encourages Klal Yisrael to remember Hashem's many great chasadim, among them that He prevented Bilaam from cursing them.

**Parashas Chukas:** 87 Pesukim • 3 Obligations

1) Kohanim should oversee the preparation of the ashes of the parah adumah. 2) Observe the laws of tumas meis. 3) A Kohen shall purify someone who is tamei using the ashes of the parah adumah.

**Mitzvah Highlight:** Zos Chukas HaTorah - Parah Adumah is the prime example of a mitzvah (chok) that we perform solely to fulfill Hashem's command, even though we do not understand it.

**Parashas Balak:** 104 Pesukim • No Mitzvos Listed