

Sharei Chesed Congregation שערי חסד

Welcome to our synagogue! ברוכים הבאים

Avraham Ettedgui, Rabbi | Bernie Miller, President
Dr. David Feldshon, Vice President
Religious School Faculty
Uri Koppel, Sheryl Warren, Avi Reinharz
Lee Reinharz, Office Manager

Metzora - מצורע Shabbat HaGadol April 16, 2016 – 8 Nisan 5776

The reading this Shabbat focuses on the person who was afflicted with certain skin diseases called Tzara-at.

The Torah tells us that when a Metzora feels that he or she has healed from his or her Tzara-at, a Kohen needs to be called. The Kohen examines tha Tzara-at. If the Kohen agrees, then the process of purification commences. That process involves a sacrifice, immersion in a Mikveh and the sprinkling of special purification water.

The Torah also discusses Tzara-at that can afflict a home—a type of mold—and how to purify that home.

Because today is also Shabbat HaGadol, a special Haftarah is read from the book of Malachi. The people of Malachi's time are despondent and are asking, "Where is God?" Malachi answers by announcing the speedy coming of a great Judgment Day and the reappearance of Elijah the Prophet, whose coming is traditionally associated with Passover and the dawn of the Messianic era.

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Did You Know That ...

Today is 'Shabbat HaGadol' - 'The Great Shabbat', the Shabbat which preceds Passover. It is called this for several reasons:

It was the first Mitzvah given to the Jews while still in Egypt. They were told to get a lamb and keep it in their home until the fourteenth of Nisan. That night they will slaughter it and have a barbecue just before they leave Egypt. The Israelites showed great courage in performing this Mitzvah, since the lamb was sacred in the eyes of the Egyptians.

Another reason is that the Haftarah for this Shabbat is taken from the Book of Malachi (3:4-24). The prophet speaks of "the Great Day of God" on which the Mashiach will appear. We hope that just like the Israelites were liberated on Pesah, that the world will see the Messiah come on Pesah.

Wishing you and your family a Happy and Kosher Pesah!

Upcoming Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy Birthday to:

- Cindy Benzaquen
- Tanya Feldberg
- Gabriella Grinberg

Today's Kiddush Luncheon

We hope you will stay for today's Kiddush luncheon, immediately following services. Today's Kiddush luncheon is co sponsored by:

- Rabbi Avram Ettedgui in memory of his father Joseph Ettedgui
- Cindy and Momy Benzaguen in honor of Cindy's birthday

A Song for Shabbat

Being that Parashat Metzorah deals with the sin of 'Lashon Hara' (the evil tongue), let's learn the following song:

Mi ha-ish he-hafeitz hayim מי-האיש החפץ חיים,

N'tzor l'shon-cha mei-ra ,נצר לשונך מרע,

Sur mei-rah v'oseh tov, סור מרע ועשה-טוב,

bakeish shalom v'rodfehu בקש שלום ורדפהו.

"Who is the person who desires life, and loves a long life of happiness? Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking falsehood. Shun evil and do good, seek peace and pursue it." - Psalm 34:13-15

Yahrzeits for week of April 16 - April 22, 2016 8 Nisan - 14 Nisan 5776 Please help with the daily Minyan

<u>Yahrzeit of</u> <u>Remembered by</u>

Saturday, April 16th

Adell Balter

Rosalee Haskovitz Grace Richter Sara Lisitzah Liya Shapiro

Abram Tsypis

Sunday, April 17th

Goldie Eve Irv Smith and Annalee Odessky

Louis Geller Aaron Geller

Richard Lurie Francelyne Lurie and Jacob Mars

Monday, April 18th

Leo Jonas Fay Kaye

Yitzchak Kaplan Alex Zevelev and Luba Zevelev

Avraham Khodurskiy Boris Khodursky

Anna Miller Lewis Miller and Morris Miller

Ethel Plitman Lee Reinharz
Isaac Plitman Lee Reinharz

Tuesday, April 19th

Fannie Richter Grace Richter
Bertha Wilensky Norma Wilensky

Wednesday, April 20th

Moe Hork Shelly Zien

Shmuel Gitelman Shulim Gitelman

Gordon David Walensky

Thursday, April 21st

Ed Bukstein Donald Bukstein

Friday, April 22nd

Belle Cohen

Ruth Lachs Fay Kaye

May their memories always be for a blessing.