

Congregation Etz Chaim



74 Billings Street, Sharon, Massachusetts 02067
www.etzchaimsharon.com
(781) 784-7204

Treasurer: George Monat
Secretary: Janis Monat
Member at Large: Robert Dell
Member at Large: Michael Ferber
Member at Large: Rabbi Chuni Rappoport

Synagogue
Member



Parasha Vayikra

3rd of Nisan / March 21, 2026

Lik ner 6:39 PM

Shabbos Day

Shacharis 9:00 AM

Latest Shema 9:49 AM

Latest Tefilla 10:50 AM

Mincha 6:40 PM

Shabbos ends 7:39/8:10 PM

Shabbos Day at YI

Mincha 6:39 PM

Ma'ariv 7:34 PM

Havdalah 7:39 PM

Weekday Young Israel

Mincha/Ma'ariv 6:39 PM

Shabbos Day at Chabad

Mincha 6:40 PM

Shabbos ends/Maariv 7:39 PM

Sunday at Chabad

Mo. – Th.

Mincha/Maariv 6:40 PM

TORAH LEARNING

Rabbi Hartman's class is this Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

Zoom ID: 903 917 1656

Password: 170 smain

SHMIRAS HALASHON class: M. & Th. 9:15 a.m.

Please contact Janis Monat: jbmonat@aol.com for the link.

DAF YOMI WEEKDAY ZOOM SCHEDULE

Via Zoom: Mon - Th 7:00 pm and Tu & Th 7:30 am

Meeting ID: 822 979 966

Password: 727190

DAF YOMI LIVE SCHEDULE:

Shabbos mornings at shul, 8:00 a.m., one hour before shacharis;

Sunday mornings at shul, 7:00 a.m., one hour before shacharis;

Contact Melvyn Huff

(781) 784-6608) or

melvynhuff@comcast.net for more informa

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ERUV HELP

1 Eruv checker is needed in a wooded section for 25-35 mins every other week. Please let Mitch Klausner know if you can help: mklusne@gmail.com or phone him at 508-881-6771

RABBI REISMAN

Watch as the **Book of Daniel** is brought to life with Rabbi Yisrael Reisman's famous thought-provoking *Navi class*, takes place every Saturday night at Congregation Etz Chaim at **9:30 p.m.** Please note **new starting time.**

ETZ CHAIM BOARD MEETING

Our next board meeting will be **Sunday, April 19 at 5:00 p.m.** Please RSVP to jbmonat@aol.com for link if needed. Board members may use the same link as last month's.

Rabbi Rosenfeld's Parasha class

Rabbi Rosenfeld continues his weekly parasha class **Sunday at 8:00 p.m.** The class will be on hold till after Pesach. Contact Chaim Stramer for the link: Stramer@aol.com. Keep the link as it's the same each week.

Rabbi Barry Hartman and Pesach

Rabbi Barry sent out earlier today 3 Pesach forms: the authorization of him to sell your chametz, the Erev Tavshilin law and the laws of Pesach. If you wish to sell your chametz personally to Rabbi Barry please come to Etz Chaim on Sundays for davening @ 8 AM.

A word from Rabbi Chuni Rappoport

If anyone has any kashering or Pesach related questions feel free to contact Rabbi Chuni Rappoport: chunir@yahoo.com. He also has a few bottles of his KFP COFFEE LIQUEUR for sale at \$25.00 a bottle. 10% of the proceeds goes back to the shul!

REFUAH SHELAIMA

Our prayers are with the armed forces of the United States and Israel, for their swift victory and for their safe return home in peace. May the people of Israel see a turnaround of events from darkness to light. We pray for the healing of the wounded members of the IDF, those who have been hurt in terrorist attacks, the Israeli survivors from 10/7/23 **and this Iran War**. We pray for the healing of our own congregational: family Heidi Goldblatt, Rachel Chana bas Menucha; Robert Dell, Chana Reuven ben Leah; Tzila Pass, Tzila Chava bat Rachel; Marve Rudenstein, Menachem Yitzchak ben Raitza; and George Monat's brother-in-law, Jerry Edelstein, Shalom Leib ben Chana.

ETZ CHAIM BOOK CLUB

For our next book, we will read the magical realism of *The Museum of Extraordinary Things* by Alice Hoffman. We plan to meet on **Monday, April 13 at 7pm on Zoom**. I have asked the librarian to order copies and shall let people know when they're available. Below is the book's synopsis.

The Museum of Extraordinary Things (Magical Realism) by Alice Hoffman

Coralie Sardie is the daughter of the sinister impresario behind The Museum of Extraordinary Things, a Coney Island boardwalk freak show that thrills the masses. An exceptional swimmer, Coralie appears as the Mermaid in her father's "museum," alongside performers like the Wolfman, the Butterfly Girl, and a one-hundred-year-old turtle. One night Coralie stumbles upon a striking young man taking pictures of moonlit trees in the woods off the Hudson River.

The dashing photographer is Eddie Cohen, a Russian immigrant who has run away from his father's Lower East Side Orthodox community and his job as a tailor's apprentice. When Eddie photographs the devastation on the streets of New York following the infamous Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire, he becomes embroiled in the suspicious mystery behind a young woman's disappearance and ignites the heart of Coralie.

Questions? Book Suggestions? Contact Merilee at melmaeir@gmail.com.

Vayikra & Tzav 5786 – Great Reward of Shabbosim Before Pesach

By Yoni Monat

The case of "**Mincha al Machavas**" comes up both in Parashios Vayikra and Tzav. Most years, Vayikra and Tzav are the two Parashios which immediately precede Pesach.

In a Shabbos day Zemer-song "**Baruch Keil Elyon**" we sing, "Hashomer Shabbos, habein im habas, la-kel yeiratzu **k'mincha al machavas**" "The one who guards the Shabbos, the son or the daughter, to Hashem He will desire [the cessation of melacha] like a **mincha al machavas**."

A **mincha al machavas** is the meal offering of the poorest of the poor. Despite the person being so poor, he still gives some of his money as a korban and Hashem looks very favorably upon it.

R' Nosson Scherman, Artscroll peirush on the song's words, "**Baruch Keil Elyon**", says, so too, with Shemiras Shabbos. Every person who keeps Shabbos gives up something for Shabbos, be it conveniences (such as driving instead of walking) or other activities that they would be otherwise doing (making money, shopping, attending events) - Hashem considers the **mesirus nefesh** of the Shomer Shabbos individual like the very poor person giving of his very limited means for a Korban.

I would like to suggest a reason why the Ba'al haZemer-author of the song - may have specifically invoked the **Mincha al Machavas**, which appears in both Vayikra and Tzav, to convey the theme of Mesiras Nefesh, rather than to invoke any other, more common symbol of Mesirus Nefesh.

Perhaps the author of "**Baruch Keil Elyon**" is hinting to us about our observance and celebration of Shabbos, specifically in the weeks in which we learn about the Mincha al Machavas, the two Shabbosim before Pesach. Jewish families are busy preparing the house for Pesach. Free time is spent moving out Chometz pots, shopping for Pesach items, and bringing in Pesach keilim.

For a Jewish family to stop their holy efforts to clean for Pesach in order to prepare a full Shabbos meal, as well as not do any preparations for Pesach on these Shabbosim themselves, is truly a **great act of sacrifice**. Meforshim suggest reasons why the Shabbos before Pesach is called "Shabbos haGadol". Some say this Shabbos is great because it cedes way to Pesach, in that many families eat the Shabbos haGadol meal in side rooms while the main dining room has been prepared for Pesach.

I am suggesting that the Shabbos before Pesach is called "Shabbos haGadol" because of how "gadol" "great" our reward is, that in the middle of preparing for Pesach, we halt our efforts in order to put our efforts into celebrating shabbos fully.

It is specifically during the Shabbosim of Vayikra and Tzav coming right before Pesach that we exhibit our great **Mesirus Nefesh** and are rewarded so greatly for observing and celebrating Shabbos at it befits the holy seventh day.

Janis Monat adds that **Vayikra** means "**and He called**." God was **calling Moses** to teach the B'nai Yisrael how to do the 5 types of sacrifices: **Olah**, a burnt offering; **Minchah**, a meal offering; **Zevach Shelamim**, a peace offering; **Chatat**, a sin offering; and **Asham**, a guilt offering. Interestingly the "**alef**" in **Vayikra** is written in the Torah **smaller** than the other letters. Chazal say this is an indication of Moshe's humility. He had to make many **sacrifices** through the roles and duties he was called on to do by Hashem. Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, z.l., in

his book, **Judaism's Life-Changing Ideas**, says that "for each of us Hashem may have a task: work to perform, a kindness to show, a gift to give, love to share, loneliness to ease, etc. Hearing G-d's call gives life a meaning and purpose. Where what we want to do meets what needs to be done...that is where Adomye wants us to be. As my late mother's rabbi said, "The word "sacrifice" means to make sacred, to live toward a higher purpose." That is done from mesirus nefesh!

A wonderful first shabbos of Nisan! May it hold many nisim!