

A Case of Mixed Emotions: Love and Fear of God in Jewish Thought

Marc Ashley's adult education course between Pesah and Shavuot

Three Sundays: April 28, May 5 and 19 at 10:00 am

The very first word of the first paragraph of the Shema prayer instructs—indeed, commands—us to love God, with all our heart, soul and might. Yet Proverbs counsels us that the “beginning of wisdom is the fear of God” These visceral emotions, at least at first glance, seem conflicting rather than complementary. So which is the core and foundation of our relationship with God—love or fear? Which approach takes priority?

As it turns out, Judaism demands that we experience our relationship with God as encompassing emotions that optimally reinforce each other but may in practice be competing. God as the creator of the universe can seem utterly transcendent, above and beyond our understanding. Yet God as the divine force that intervenes in history and shows solicitude for human

beings can seem immanent, close at hand and within our reach. The focus of our relationship with God may vary depending on the vagaries of our perception of God's interaction with us. As we sing several times during the High Holy Day liturgy in the *Ki Anu Amekha* prayer, we can relate to God variously as our parent, master, shepherd, guardian, creator, king, and beloved. Whether we are more inclined to love or fear God can shift with circumstances.

In fact, dictating emotion is notoriously difficult, and Jewish theology is prone to interpreting love and fear of God as anchored in conduct. How we are expected to feel emotionally about God is often translated into practical terms. Love and fear of God are expressed through deed.

Both love and fear of God are thus crucial religious directives. Fear of God generates

a sense of humility, preventing God from becoming merely an imprimatur for our decisions. Love of God can create a sense of our wondrous human potential, fostering our nearness to the realm of the infinite. Both approaches to God can be viable paths to the divine, but reconciling them can be challenging and even perplexing.

Please join congregant Marc Ashley on three Sunday mornings for his annual adult education class between Pesah and Shavuot. This year's course, "A Case of Mixed Emotions: Love and Fear of God in Jewish Thought," will be held on April 28, May 5 and May 19 at 10 a.m. in the Or Zarua library. No prior knowledge is required. Please come and participate in this important conversation on a crucial theme in Jewish thought through the ages. Your relationship with God may even be clarified in the process.

Their Mother's Story, Told by Daughters of Textile Artist Esther Nisenthal Krinitz:

Art as Remembrance of a Remarkable Life

Sunday, April 28, 6:30 pm in the OZ Gallery

The *Fabric of Survival*, the unusual exhibition currently on display in the OZ Gallery, packs a deceptive punch.

The remarkable textile and yarn handwork and colorful designs, tell the story of a happy Jewish childhood cut short when Nazis stormed the village of Esther Nisenthal Krinitz's home in Poland. The more than thirty large fabric panels illustrate the dark story of young Esther's escape from death during World War II. Visitors to the gallery have been amazed by the scope of the storytelling, the skill of the self-taught artist, and the verisimilitude of the photographic reproductions on display. Many people have asked questions about Esther's life, remarkable work, and how the originals were produced. On Sunday, April 28th, her two daughters, Bernice Steinhardt and Helene McQuade, will be our guests to give us their remembrances of their mother and answer all those questions.

Bernice Steinhardt and Helene McQuade



Road to Krasnik, one of the 36 fabric panels created by Esther Nisenthal Krinitz.

are the co-founders of *Art and Remembrance*, a non-profit arts and education organization inspired by the art and story of their mother. Recognizing the power of their mother's art to change hearts and minds, they created *Art and Remembrance* as a testament to their mother's legacy and a means to share her work and to inspire others to share their experiences as victims of war, oppression, and injustice. Bernice is the co-author (with her mother, posthumously) of *Memories of Survival*; she and Helene were producers of the award-winning film, *Through the Eye of the Needle: The Art of Esther Nisenthal Krinitz*.

The evening will begin with a viewing of the exhibition followed by the thirty minute film *Through the Eye of the Needle: The Art of Esther Nisenthal Krinitz*. After the screening, Bernice and Helene will talk about their mother and answer questions from the audience.



A CONSERVATIVE SYNAGOGUE
FOUNDED 1989

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If you are interested in serving on a synagogue committee, please contact the office for the committee chair's email address.

President's Message

by Diane Okrent



wrote five years ago.

Spring Training has begun! Whenever I hear that Major League Baseball teams have begun Spring Training, I think, "There is hope. Winter will, indeed, come to an end." Of course, we are far from the end of this challenging winter but soon, spring will be in the air.

The Jewish calendar provides us with our own type of Spring Training. We have already begun the countdown to Purim and Pesah (6 weeks away) with the series of special maftir and haftorah readings—Shabbat Shekalim (March 2), Shabbat Zachor (March 16), Shabbat Parah (March 30), Shabbat Hahodesh (April 6), and Shabbat Hagadol (April 13).

I am particularly mindful of Shabbat Shekalim because on that Shabbat, I usually read the maftir and chant the Haftorah. It is the anniversary of my Bat Mitzvah. Shabbat Shekalim reminds us of our obligation to contribute to the maintenance of our place of worship. Each member of the community was asked to contribute the same amount, a half-shekel. While the amount has changed over time, we are still responsible for supporting of our community and its gathering place to the best of our ability.

Shabbat Zachor, immediately preceding Purim, reminds us to remember Amalek, who attacked the Israelites from behind, preying on the vulnerable. According to Talmudic tradition, Haman was descended from Amalek. In Jewish tradition, the Amalekites are symbols of the evil that arises and must be fought in every generation. Today, we are acutely aware of the rise in Anti-Semitism. Among the ways we fight evil is by standing strong as a community.

Shabbat Parah includes the ritual of the red heifer, a means of purifying the kohanim and the people in preparation for the Pesah sacrifice. While we no longer practice those rituals, we do clean our homes and rid our lives of physical and spiritual hametz in preparation for Pesah.

Shabbat Hahodesh precedes Rosh Hodesh Nisan, the month in which Pesah is celebrated. The first of Nisan is one of four new years in the Jewish calendar. In Tractate Rosh Hashanah, the rabbis discussed when new years occurred: "There are four new years: 1) the first day of Nisan is the new year for kings and festivals ..." (Rosh Hashana:1a). The other new years are: Rosh

One advantage to being president of Congregation OrZarua again is I can revisit and refer to previous writings and speeches! The following is a timely adaptation and revision of a newsletter article I

Hodesh Elul, Rosh Hodesh Tishrei, and Tu B'Shevat. The Rabbis devised the calendar to ensure that Pesah always occurs in the spring – the year and life begin anew.

Shabbat Hagadol, the Great Sabbath, immediately precedes Pesah. One explanation for the name Shabbat Hagadol comes from the verse in the Haftorah, which refers to a day in the future that will be gadol, "great." Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and awesome day of the Lord. (Malachi 3:23).

Passover, the holiday of our redemption from Egypt, also bring hope of future redemption. Therefore the Talmud teaches: Rabbi Yehoshua says: "In Nisan the world was created ... the bondage of our ancestors ceased in Egypt; and in Nisan they will be redeemed in time to come." (Talmud Rosh HaShana 11a).

So, what do we learn from our Jewish Spring Training?

We learn that we are responsible for contributing to the maintenance of our community and its gathering place. At OrZarua, we do this with our membership dues, our Kol Nidre contributions, and our ongoing donations to the synagogue for all types of occasions, celebrations and commemorations. You may want to make a contribution now while it is top of mind!

We learn that we must remember to fight evil in every generation. And, we must protect the weak and vulnerable. At OrZarua, we do this with our Hesed projects and Tzedakah. Our annual Ma'ot Hittim contributions go directly to those in the Jewish community who need our help for a holy and joyous Pesah. (Please use the form on page 11.)

We learn to purify our homes and ourselves to be open to the gift of Pesah. "We clean our homes and our psyches, deflate our bread and our egos, reconnect with our people and the rhythm of the seasons, celebrate life and freedom." (Ira Steingroot, *Keeping Passover*, 1995.)

We learn to celebrate new beginnings. Nisan begins a new year just as Spring shows us that life begins again.

We learn that just as our ancestors were redeemed from Egypt, we will also be redeemed. Each year at our Seders, we recall that the Jewish people have survived for millennia against all odds. And, we will prevail. In an article in the January 2012 issue of *The Jewish Week* supplement *Text/Context*, Barry E. Lichtenberg stated that "We Jews invented the future. 'On that day God will be one and his name, one' we thrice daily conclude our prayers." At the end of the Seder, we proclaim "Next Year in Jerusalem!"

I wish you a very Happy Purim and a joyous and meaningful Pesah! B'shalom.

Diane

Faith: Author Scott Shay in Dialogue with Rabbi Bolton Saturday, March 9, 1:00 pm (after Kiddush)



Faith (emunah) is a component of Judaism. In modern times faith is challenged by world events, advances in secular knowledge, changes in traditions, movement of cultures, and an adoption of new ways of thinking. Having faith requires understanding its history, meaning, and role in Judaism as well as the benefits faith provides.

Scott Shay, a Congregant at Kehilath Jeshurun (KJ), is the author of *In Good Faith: Questioning Religion and Atheism*, a very readable book in which he explores and defends faith in our day. We hope you join us for this post-kiddush experience.

IN GOOD
FAITH

Questioning Religion and Atheism



SCOTT A. SHAY

Kesher Israel: Connect with Israel Water Solutions, Community Building, and Development of the Desert with Talia Tzour Avner

Chief Israel Emissary, Jewish National Fund, Keren Kayemet L'Yisrael

Saturday, March 30, 1:00 pm (after Kiddush)



The Arava (an area of Israeli desert that extends from the Dead Sea to Eilat) receives less than one inch of rainfall each year, yet provides 60%

of Israel's vegetables. In a world starved for water, Jewish National Fund (JNF) has built over 250 reservoirs, raising the amount of recycled water in Israel from 4% to over 85% today—more than any other country globally. Furthermore, over half of Israel's agricultural water comes from recycled and reused wastewater thanks to the success of desalination plants. As a result, despite consecutive years of drought, which have significantly impacted the conditions in the Sea of Galilee and groundwater reservoirs, Israel's drinking water supply has not experienced any major impact.

Cutting-edge research is critical for efficient water usage. Successes thus far include the Shamir Wells Research, the largest natural underground water resource of the past decade in Israel; the Hula Basin, which is a vital component of Israel's natural water economy; the Besor River Basin Rehabilitation; and the Multi-Year Water Allocation System (MYWAS) which is a national water management model designed to achieve the most efficient water resource management possible.

Learn from Talia Tzour Avner how Israel has made wonders like these possible—and

what challenges face the Jewish homeland in the years ahead. As JNF's Chief Israel Emissary, Talia fosters a close connection between the American Jewish community, the Israeli people, Keren Kayemet L'Yisrael (KKL) and JNF-USA. She oversees Jewish National Fund Task Forces on water solutions and cutting-edge development of Israel's Arava region. A Sabra born in Jerusalem, Talia continues the Zionist legacy of her family, who made Aliyah from all over the world to play their part in establishing the State of Israel.

Upcoming Kesher Israel Events

Honor Israel Independence Day

Movie: *Above and Beyond*

Wednesday, May 8

In 1948 a group of American World War II pilots volunteered to fight for Israel in the War of Independence. This ragtag band of volunteers from abroad not only turned the tide of the war, preventing the possible annihilation of Israel at the very moment of its birth, it also laid the groundwork for the Israeli Air Force. *Above and Beyond* is their story.

55th Annual Celebrate Israel Parade Sunday, June 2

Celebrate Israel's 71st birthday and all of her achievements. Join Or Zaru's contingent and march proudly behind our banner along Fifth Avenue among 40,000 other marchers representing various American Jewish organizations.

The New Koren Passover Haggadah Graphic Novel

Book Talk With Artist

**Jordan B.
“Gorf” Gorfinkel**
Monday,
March 4,
7:30 pm

Join us for a unique book talk in memory of our beloved Harry Gandel z”l. Harry loved graphic novels and helped bring serious cartooning of sacred texts and themes to our Or L'Atid Hebrew School.

Former DC Comics Batman Editor Jordan B. “Gorf” Gorfinkel



will present his new Haggadah, published by Koren, the renowned Israeli publishing house of sacred texts. The *Passover*

Haggadah Graphic Novel will prove to be engaging in new ways. Jordan is a dynamic cartoonist, who continues to publish nationally syndicated Jewish cartoons.

Everyone is invited to attend; RSVP to 212-452-2310, ext 39, or dwenger@orzarua.org

Buy the Haggadah for Pesah

Copies will be available for sale at the book talk. Orders may be placed through the artist's website in the near future.

**Additional Programming
for our Youth
Jewish Cartooning
Workshops
Led by Gorf**
See page 6



Get Involved Through Or Zarua and Help Those in Need

“The reward for charity depends entirely upon the extent of the kindness in it.”—*Talmud Bavli*

Celebrate Purim Early at Project ORE!

OZ will be hosting the Purim service and celebration at Project ORE, 331 East 12th Street, Sunday, March 10, from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. We will hear part of the Megillah, sing, eat (of course), and enjoy spending time with some Project ORE participants. Purim is the happiest of all Jewish holidays, when having fun is not only permitted, but commanded. We hope that OZ members and their families can join us in creating a fun and meaningful celebration with the Project ORE community. To volunteer, please contact Susan Lorin at lorin@sewkis.com.

Since 1987, Project ORE has served kosher emergency meals and provided counseling, case management, and other support services to isolated, poor, homeless, and mentally ill Jews. It is the only program of its kind in NYC. Project ORE provides kosher, family-style community meals, including a buffet breakfast, hot lunch, and food packages for Shabbat. It also offers classes in art, poetry, mental health issues, educational trips, and health and wellness. They provide a Jewish experience through a weekly Oneg Shabbat

Visit Seniors with DOROT

Please join Or Zarua in our annual Dorot Passover Package Delivery on Sunday, April 7. OZ volunteers will visit DOROT seniors with bags of goodies. We need four families

and adults. Children must be at least five years old. The program orientation will be held at 10am at Central Synagogue (652 Lexington Avenue). After completing your Dorot visit, come to OZ for Yom Give Back! Enjoy brunch and more hesed projects with friends. To register or if you have any questions, please contact Miriam Quart at hased@orzarua.org.

Help the Hungry at NY Common Pantry

Did you know that one in five New Yorkers is food-insecure? We have three ways you can help:

1) Start your day off right and help serve a hot breakfast at NY Common Pantry, 8 East 109th Street on Tuesday, March 19, April 16, or May 21 from 7:00 to 9:30 am. Volunteers plate meals in the kitchen for 150 food-insecure individuals.

2) Help with the packing and distribution of nutritious, fresh food packages for families from 9 am to noon on Wednesday, March 6, April 3, or May 1.

3) Donate non-perishable packaged food items in the bins in the OZ Social Hall.

Contact Lesley Palmer at hased@orzarua.org to sign up or ask questions.

Pesah Food Drive

Please remember to bring in and donate your hametz (only new, unopened and unused) when you clean out your shelves for

Passover. Boxes are in the social hall.

Join Monday Night Pasta and Salad at NCS

OZ congregants serve hot food and good cheer at the Neighborhood Coalition for Shelter's East 81st Street Residence from 6:00 pm to 6:45 pm on the third and fourth Mondays of each month. Contact Jeffrey Haberman at jeff32449@verizon.net, for information.

Book Drive

A book drive for the Neighborhood Coalition for Shelter is coming this May!

Help OZ Congregants in Need

Volunteer to visit and bring cheer to ill or homebound OZ Congregants. Contact Deborah Wenger: dwenger@orzarua.org or 212-452-2310, ext 12.

Help South Bronx Residents

Pre-owned adult, and children's clothing, toys, dolls, games, and related items can be put to good use by the many transitional homeless residents and families in the South Bronx. OZ partners with South Bronx Salvation and Deliverance Church, whose members include housekeepers caring for their own local needy. Contact Richard Stadin at 212-744-6697 or stadin1@aol.com to arrange for donations.



During President's week members of OZ served lunch at Project ORE. Pictured are Gabby and Samn Quart, Linda and Lindsay Greenblat, and Maddie Posner.



Or Zarua members participating in the winter food drive with DOROT

Zayin Adar Dinner

Finding Kedusha (Holiness) at the End of Life

With Rabbi Amy Bolton

Thursday, March 14, 6:30 pm

When healing of the body is no longer possible, what is the refuat hanefesh—healing of the spirit—that we can strive for? How can hospice care facilitate this journey? How can we help guide others, and ourselves, along this path?

Drawing on her experiences as a longtime hospice chaplain, Rabbi Amy Bolton will consider these questions when she speaks at this year's Zayin Adar dinner, Thursday, March 14 at 6:30 pm. She will explore three key elements of refuat hanefesh: prayer through the Psalms, considering the afterlife, and nurturing one's personal relationship with God.

Rabbi Amy is a Spiritual Care Counselor with Visiting Nurse Service of New York Hospice. Previously, she was part of both the Spiritual Counseling and Bereavement

teams of Holy Name Medical Center Hospice and Palliative Care in Teaneck, NJ, and was the founding Chaplain and co-Bereavement Director of the Martin and Edith Stein Hospice in central NJ. Rabbi Amy Bolton serves on the Board of the Plaza Jewish Community Chapel.

Zayin Adar, observed on the yahrzeit of Moses, is the occasion for the congregation to join in commemorating and learning about the work of the Hevra Kadisha. The event is sponsored by Phyllis and Gerry Solomon in memory of their parents. There is no charge for the dinner and all are welcome. Donations to the Hevra Kadisha of Or Zarua are gratefully accepted. Please contact the office (212-452-2310 or dwenger@orzarua.org) by Monday, March 11 to make reservations.

Sihot Shabbat: OZ Congregant Sam Klagsbrun

Saturday, March 23

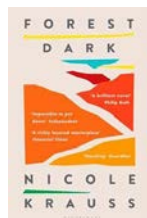
1:00 pm (after Kiddush)

While we say that the month of Adar is a period of joy on the Jewish calendar, we know that life can have its ups and downs at any time. Feeling depressed in the face of difficulties, losses, or failures is normal. The danger we face is when depressed feelings lead to significant depression. When depression takes over, it may open the door to self-destructive decisions. Those can lead to alcoholism,

drug use, and even suicidal impulses. Paying attention to managing depression as well as anxious feelings and preventing them from escalating is crucial.

OZ Congregant and psychiatrist Dr. Sam Klagsbrun will offer some approaches to try to prevent slipping into despair and provide overall awareness about good mental health and what we can do to keep ourselves and those we love going strong.

Or Zarua Book Discussions

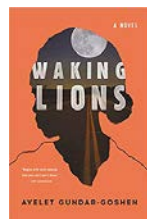


Forest Dark by Nicole Krauss

Sunday, March 24, 7:30 pm;

To be led by Pat Davidson

Jules Epstein, a wealthy retiree, is missing in Tel Aviv. In NYC, novelist Nicole, with a dead-end life, travels to the Hilton Tel Aviv, which she and her family have visited frequently. What she learns of a man who died there provides the impetus for her next novel.



Waking Lions by Ayelet Gundersen

Sunday, May 5, 7:30 pm;

To be led by Dale Stern

Winner of the Jewish Quarterly Wingate Prize, *Waking Lions* is the story of Eitan Green, a successful neurosurgeon with a wonderful family, who accidentally hits an African migrant while at the wheel of his SUV. While fleeing the scene, Dr. Green loses his wallet.

OZ is on Facebook. Find us at <https://www.facebook.com/OrZarua/>

Chaburah OZ Torah Study

After Kiddush on Select Shabbatot

**April 13: Metzora
with Burt Biderman**

Everyone is invited to attend.



See Page 16

Or Zarua's Young Professionals

Purim

We will be joining the Congregation on Wednesday, March 20. See page 16.

Shabbat Dinner

Friday, April 5

6:00 pm Happy Hour

6:45 pm Shabbat Services

7:30 pm Shabbat Dinner

Early Bird Cost., Members: \$18

Early Bird Cost, Nonmembers: \$24

Late Cost, Members: \$25

Late Cost, Nonmembers: \$29

Early Bird RSVP: Wednesday, March 27

RSVP online:

<https://tinyurl.com/YP-04-05-19>.

OZ's Young Professionals

are a group in their 20s and 30s committed to building a welcoming and vibrant Jewish community within Or Zarua.

For more details, follow them on Facebook:

Or Zarua Young Professionals.
Contact OZ's Young Professionals with any questions, or suggestions, or just to say hi, via email: OZYoungPros@gmail.com.

We can use your help to keep our Daily Minyan

Just ONE HOUR

ONE MORNING per month for our Shaharit minyan will help considerably.

Contact Sheldon Adler:
sadler@skadden.com



Yom Give Back

Sunday, April 7, 11:00 am

The entire Or Zarua community is invited to Yom Give Back, a day of hesed for the Or Zarua and Camp Ramah communities. No need to be affiliated with Camp Ramah. People of all ages are welcome as we perform hesed projects throughout the OZ building. Connect with members of the OZ and Ramah communities over brunch and give back to local organizations. Contact Sigal Hirsch (shirsch@orzarua.org) or yomgiveback@gmail.com for more information.



Photo above: Hebrew School students reenact the splitting and crossing of the Red Sea in our weekly parashah study

For information about Youth Education and Programming contact Sigal Hirsch, Director, at shirsch@orzarua.org or 212-452-2310, ext 15.

Cartooning, Torah, Bam! The Power of Jewish Cartoons and Graphic Novels

with Batman Editor Jordan B. "Gorf" Gorfinkel
Monday, March 4

Jewish Cartooning Workshop for Grade 3-5, 5:00 pm

Come learn from the master graphic artist Jordan Gorfinkel and create your own Jewish comics.

Jewish Cartooning Workshop for Middle & High Schoolers, 6:00 pm

Create comics based on sacred texts and then join Gorf for dinner.

RSVP for the above programs to Sigal Hirsch: shirsch@orzarua.org

The evening continues with more art and learning:

Gorf will present a book talk on

The New Koren Passover Haggadah Graphic Novel

7:30 pm, RSVP to Deborah Wenger at:

dwenger@orzarua.org or 212-452-2310, ext 39

See page 3

In memory of our beloved Harry Gandel z"l.

Celebrate Shabbat with Or L'Atid Family Shabbat

Saturdays, March 2 and April 13

Youth and family programs begin at 10:30 am

Shabbat & Me (Pre-K and younger)

Family Learning Experience (Elementary School and parents)

Shabbat Buddies (Middle School and High School)

Family Shabbat Lunch

Saturday, March 2, after services

RSVP to Sigal: shirsch@orzarua.org

Hametz-Fest Kiddush and Family Hangout

Saturday, April 13, after services

Families are invited to join the community for kiddush, with a special treat!

After kiddush, hang out and play games with other families.

B'nei Mitzvah Cohort Lunch 'n Learn Saturday, March 16, After services

Sixth graders and their families are invited to our next meeting of the B'nei Mitzvah Cohort. Families are encouraged to join us for Shabbat morning services, which begin at 9:00 am. The Torah service begins at about 10:00 am, which is a good time to aim to be there. We'll join the whole community for kiddush, and then head to the library for a light lunch and learning together, including our "Torah Service Workshop."

Parents, B'nei Mitzvah students (past and future) and siblings are invited! Please RSVP to Sigal at shirsch@orzarua.org

Sushi & Study with Rabbi Bolton

Monday, April 8

5:30-6:30 pm for Middle School

6:30-7:30 pm for High School

Join Rabbi Bolton once each month for an evening of rich text study, engaging discussion, and dinner!

Not signed up? RSVP to Sigal Hirsch to drop in on a session!

Celebrate Purim with Or L'Atid

Sing Song Purim

Sunday, March 17, 10:00 am

Sing, dance and play the Purim way!

Join Bracha, our former Shalom Sing-A-Long leader for a morning of fun-filled Purim songs, stories and more! Geared towards Early Childhood. Older children welcome.

Hebrew School Purim Celebration

Monday, March 18, 5:00-6:00 pm

Hebrew School families are invited to our Hebrew School Purim Celebration.

Learn and enjoy with your kids as we gear up for Purim together!

Kids' Purim Party

Wednesday, March 20, 5:00 pm

Join us for a magical Purim celebration, featuring Magic All!

All are welcome to add to the magic of our Purim celebration by dressing up as characters from the Harry Potter universe! Of course, any costumes are welcome as we turn everything upside-down, "Purim style."

Superheroes, other magical characters, and of course, Queen Esther, Mordechai and other Purim characters are welcome!



Family Shabbat Dinner

Friday, March 8

Minhah and

Kabbalat Shabbat, 5:37 pm

Dinner to follow, 6:45 pm

Families with infants to teens, join us for a Family Shabbat Dinner! Celebrate Shabbat with family and friends and a delicious Shabbat meal.

Members and non-members are welcome. Please invite friends to join us!

For families with children birth through age 6. Older siblings welcome. \$25/Adult, \$10/child (ages 5-12); \$70 max/family. First-year members eat free (but please sign up so we know whom to expect)!

Register on Chaverweb by Tuesday, March 5. Call the OZ office, 212-452-2310 x12, with any questions about dinner sign up. (Please note that children over 12 are considered adults with regards to payment). If your family makeup (adults/children) is not listed, please call the office.



Photos. Above Left: We're excited to celebrate Purim with kids of all ages at Sing Song Purim and with Magic All!

Above (middle): 5th graders make "Bracha Chains" as part of their study of brachot (blessings).

Right: even our youngest students lead classmates in t'filah, and love participating!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 • 24 Adar I 7:15a Shaharit 5:29p Candlelighting Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat	2 • 25 Adar I Shabbat Shekalim 9:00a Shaharit/ Vayakhel 10:30a Family Learning Experience 10:30a Shabbat & Me 10:30a Shabbat Buddies 12:30p Family Shabbat Lunch 6:24p Shabbat Ends
3 • 26 Adar I 8:45a Shaharit 7:30p Bir'nana Rehearsal	4 • 27 Adar I 7:15a Shaharit 10:15a Shalom Sing-A-Long 4:00p Hebrew School 5:00p Jewish Cartooning Workshop (Grades 3-5) 6:00p Jewish Cartooning Workshop (Middle & High) 7:30p Book Talk: <i>Passover Haggadah Graphic Novel</i> with Jordan "Gorf"	5 • 28 Adar I 7:15a Shaharit	6 • 29 Adar I 7:15a Shaharit 9:00a NY Common Pantry 4:00p Hebrew School 7:30p Talmud Class	7 • 30 Adar I Rosh Hodesh 7:00a Shaharit 8:40a Siddur Class	8 • 1 Adar II Rosh Hodesh 7:00a Shaharit 5:37p Candlelighting Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat 6:30p Shabbat Family Dinner (RSVP)	9 • 2 Adar II 9:00a Shaharit Pekude 11:00a Torah Tots 11:00a Torah Kids 1:00p Book Talk <i>In Good Faith</i> with the author Scott Shay 6:31p Shabbat Ends
10 • 3 Adar II Daylight Saving Time 8:45a Shaharit 11:00a Purim at Project ORE 7:30p Bir'nana Rehearsal	11 • 4 Adar II 7:15a Shaharit 10:15a Shalom Sing-A-Long 4:00p Hebrew School 6:00p B'nei Mitzvah Scholars	12 • 5 Adar II 7:15a Shaharit	13 • 6 Adar II 7:15a Shaharit 4:00p Hebrew School 7:30p Talmud Class	14 • 7 Adar II 7:15a Shaharit 8:40a Siddur Class 6:30p Zayin Adar Dinner	15 • 8 Adar II 7:15a Shaharit 6:00p Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat 6:44p Candlelighting	16 • 9 Adar II Aufruf: Avi Hoffman and Arinn Amer Shabbat Zakhor 9:00am Shaharit Vayikra 11:00a Torah Tots & Kids 12:30p B'nei Mitzvah Cohort Lunch 'n Learn 7:39p Shabbat Ends
17 • 10 Adar II 8:45a Shaharit 10:00a Sing Song Purim 7:30p Bir'nana Rehearsal	18 • 11 Adar II 7:15a Shaharit 10:15a Shalom Sing-A-Long 4:00p Hebrew School 5:00p Hebrew School Purim Celebration 6:00p B'nei Mitzvah Scholar	19 • 12 Adar II 7:00a NY Common Pantry 7:15a Shaharit	20 • 13 Adar II Ta'anit Esther/Erev Purim 5:33a Fast Begins 7:15a Shaharit 5:00p Kid's Purim Party 7:30p Fast Ends 7:40p Ma'ariv/Megillat Esther and the Purim Celebration <i>No Hebrew School</i> <i>No Talmud Class</i>	21 • 14 Adar II Purim 7:00a Shaharit Megillat Esther <i>No Siddur Class</i>	22 • 15 Adar II Shushan Purim 7:15a Shaharit 6:00p Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat 6:52p Candlelighting	23 • 16 Adar II 9:00a Shaharit Tzav 11:00a Torah Tots 11:00a Torah Kids 1:00p Post Kiddush Talk with Sam Klagsbrun 7:47p Shabbat Ends
24 • 17 Adar II 8:45a Shaharit 7:30p Book Discussions: <i>Forest Dark</i> by Nicole Krauss <i>No Bir'nana Rehearsal</i>	25 • 18 Adar II 7:15a Shaharit 10:15a Shalom Sing-A-Long 4:00p Hebrew School 6:00p B'nei Mitzvah Scholars	26 • 19 Adar II 7:15a Shaharit 6:30p OZ Perspectives	27 • 20 Adar II 7:15a Shaharit 4:00p Hebrew School 7:30p Talmud Class	28 • 21 Adar II 7:15a Shaharit 8:40a Siddur Class	29 • 22 Adar II 7:15a Shaharit 6:00p Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat 6:59p Candlelighting	30 • 23 Adar II Shabbat Parah 9:00a Shaharit/ Shemini 11:00a Torah Tots 11:00a Torah Kids 1:00p Post-Kiddush Talk: <i>Water Solutions, Community Building, & Development of Desert</i> with Talia Tzour Avner, JNF-KKL 7:54p Shabbat Ends

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31 March • 24 Adar II 8:45a Shaharit 7:30p Bir'nana Rehearsal	1 • 24 Adar II 7:15a Shaharit 10:15a Shalom Sing-A-Long 4:00p Hebrew School 6:00p B'nei Mitzvah Scholars	2 • 25 Adar II 7:15a Shaharit 6:30p OZ Perspectives	3 • 27 Adar II 7:15a Shaharit 9:00a NY Common Pantry 4:00p Hebrew School 7:30p Talmud Class	4 • 28 Adar II 7:15a Shaharit 8:40a Siddur Class	5 • 29 Adar II 7:15a Shaharit 6:00p OZYP Happy Hour, Services & Dinner 6:15p Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat 7:07p Candlelighting	6 • 1 Nissan Rosh Hodesh Shabbat Hahodesh 9:00 am Shaharit Tazria 11:00a Torah Tots 11:00a Torah Kids 8:02p Shabbat Ends
7 • 2 Nissan 8:45a Shaharit 10:00a DOROT Delivery 11:00a Yom Give Back 7:30p Bir'nana Rehearsal	8 • 3 Nissan 7:15a Shaharit 10:15a Shalom Sing-A-Long 4:00p Hebrew School 5:30p Sushi & Study, Middle School 6:00p B'nei Mitzvah Scholars 6:30p Sushi & Study, High School	9 • 4 Nissan 7:15a Shaharit 6:30p OZ Perspectives	10 • 5 Nissan 7:15a Shaharit 4:00p Hebrew School 7:30p Talmud Class	11 • 6 Nissan 7:15a Shaharit 8:40a Siddur Class	12 • 7 Nissan 7:15a Shaharit 6:15p Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat 7:14p Candlelighting	13 • 8 Nissan Shabbat Hagadol 9:00a Shaharit/ Metzora 10:30a Family Learning Experience 10:30a Shabbat & Me 10:30a Shabbat Buddies 12:30p Hametz-Fest Kiddush & Family Hangout 1:00p Chaburah: Post-Kiddush Torah Study 8:10p Shabbat Ends
14 • 9 Nissan 8:45a Shaharit 7:30p Bir'nana Rehearsal	15 • 10 Nissan 7:15a Shaharit 10:15a Shalom Sing-A-Long 4:00p Hebrew School 5:00p Hebrew School Pesah Celebration 6:00p B'nei Mitzvah Scholars	16 • 11 Nissan 7:00a NY Common Pantry 7:15a Shaharit 6:30p OZ Perspectives	17 • 12 Nissan 7:15a Shaharit 4:00p Hebrew School 7:30p Talmud Class	18 • 13 Nissan 7:15a Shaharit 8:40a Siddur Class Bedikat Hametz	19 • 14 Nissan Erev Pesah/Ta'anit Bechorot (Fast First Born) Siyum 7:15a Shaharit 10:39a Finish eating Hametz 11:47a Sell & Burn Hametz 7:21p Candlelighting First Seder	20 • 15 Nissan First Day of Pesah 9:00a Shaharit <i>No Shabbat Youth Programs</i> Light Candles After 8:18pm Second Seder 8:30p OZ Congregational Seder: A Talmudic Seder led by Rabbi Bolton
21 • 16 Nissan Second Day of Pesah 9:00a Shaharit 8:20p Yom Tov Ends <i>No Bir'nana Rehearsal</i>	22 • 17 Nissan Hol Hamoed Third Day of Pesah 7:00a Shaharit <i>No Hebrew School</i>	23 • 18 Nissan Hol Hamoed Fourth Day of Pesah 7:00a Shaharit	24 • 19 Nissan Hol Hamoed Fifth Day of Pesah 7:00a Shaharit <i>No Hebrew School</i> <i>No Talmud Class</i>	25 • 20 Nissan Hol Hamoed Sixth Day of Pesah 9:00a Shaharit Erev Day 7 Pesah 7:28p Candlelighting 8:40a Siddur Class <i>No Siddur Class</i>	26 • 21 Nissan Seventh Day of Pesah 9:00a Shaharit 6:15p Minhah/Ma'ariv 7:29p Candlelighting <i>Office Closed</i>	27 • 22 Nissan Last Day of Pesah 8:45a Shaharit Song of Songs/Yizkor <i>No Shabbat Youth Programs</i> 6:15p Minhah/Seudah Shlishit & Learning with Rabbi Bolton/Ma'ariv 8:27p Shabbat & Festival Ends
28 • 23 Nissan 8:45a Shaharit 10:00a Marc Ashley's Class <i>Love and Fear of God</i> 6:30p OZ Gallery Guest Speakers 7:30p Bir'nana Rehearsal	29 • 24 Nissan 7:15a Shaharit 10:15a Shalom Sing-A-Long 4:00p Hebrew School 6:00p B'nei Mitzvah Scholars	30 • 25 Nissan 7:15a Shaharit 6:30p OZ Perspectives	1 May • 26 Nissan 7:15a Shaharit 9:00a NY Common Pantry 4:00p Hebrew School 7:00p Yom HaShoah Memorial Service No Talmud Class	2 May • 27 Nissan Yom HaShoah 7:15a Shaharit 8:40a Siddur Class	3 May • 28 Nissan 7:15a Shaharit 6:30p Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat 7:36p Candlelighting	4 May • 29 Nissan Bar Mitzvah: Ethan Lader 9:00a Shaharit Aharei Mot 11:00a Torah Tots 11:00a Torah Kids 8:35p Shabbat Ends

Siyum
Friday, April 19
Immediately
Following Shahrith
(morning service)

Rabbi Bolton will lead a siyum on Friday morning, April 19, after the completion of the Shahrith service (which begins at 7:15 am).

Everyone who attends the siyum will join in a festive meal. All are invited to attend the siyum.

Ta'anit Behorot
Fast of the Firstborn
Friday, April 19

What is the Fast of the Firstborn?

Ta'anit behorot, the Fast of the Firstborn, is a custom observed on the day before Pesah to commemorate our gratitude for surviving the pre-Exodus tenth plague, which smote all firstborn Egyptians but spared all firstborn Hebrews. It is a dawn-to-dusk fast, which this year falls on Friday, April 19.

Who is considered a firstborn?

For this fast, a firstborn is a male child who is the first child born either to his mother or to his father. Having an older brother or sister, by either parent, precludes his firstborn status—he is not the first child.

Why only the male firstborn?

In the ancient world, male firstborns were subject to Temple service. It was this hierarchy that was the target of the tenth plague.

How can a firstborn avoid fasting?

The mitzvah of attending a siyum—a completion of the reading of a tractate of Talmud—overrides the mitzvah of observing this fast. Firstborns can opt to attend a siyum, which is followed by a festive meal. The meal is part of the deal, so the fast is legitimately broken. Synagogues facilitate this choice for firstborns by scheduling a siyum for the morning before Pesah.

Seudah Shlishit Lecture
In Memory of Stewart Bolton z"l
Saturday, April 27, 6:15 pm
Led by Rabbi Bolton

Big Gifts In All Kinds of Packages

When it comes to gift Rabbinic literature gives packaging details. From the very concrete to more conceptual approach we will explore the way packages are presented for presents.

This learning is dedicated to the memory of

Stewart L. Bolton, Rabbi Bolton's father, as well as packaging engineer.

Note the full schedule of Shabbat services for April 27 in the column on page 11.

Pesah Meal Match

First Seder, Friday night, April 19

Pesah is the time to invite guests into our homes to read the Haggadah during a Seder. If you would like to host a guest or guests in your home for the first Seder,

or if you would like to join other Or Zarua Congregants in their home, please contact the OZ office at 212-452-2310 and speak with Helene Santo (ext 14) or Deborah Wenger (ext 12) by Thursday, April 11.

Congregational Second Seder
Saturday night, April 20, 8:30 pm
Led by Rabbi Bolton



Congregation Or Zarua invites you and your family and friends to share the Second Seder with us on Saturday night, April 20. Our Congregational Seder, led by Rabbi Bolton, begins at 8:30 pm.

Please make reservations by Monday, April 15 at 212-452-2310, ext. 39, or email Deborah Wenger at dwenger@orzarua.org or at Chaverweb or at tinyurl.com/OZSeder2019.

OZ Members and Guests: \$75 per adult; \$50 per child aged 8 and under.
 Nonmembers: \$125 per adult; \$50 per child aged 8 and under.

Watch for more details and reservation information.

Pre-Pesah Book Talk
in memory of our beloved Harry Gandel z"l
with Graphic Artist Jordan B. "Gorf" Gorfinkel
The New Koren Passover Haggadah Graphic Novel
Monday, March 4, 7:30 pm
See Page 3

Sell Your Hametz

Rabbi Bolton will arrange the transaction

Before Passover, we are required to "sell" any hametz in our possession to a non-Jew. The transaction is arranged by the rabbi, to ensure compliance with the requirements of halakhah. Send the completed form, below, to the synagogue

office no later than noon on Thursday, April 18, or email a scan of the signed form to dwenger@orzarua.org. **Please be sure to sign the form.** It is customary to enclose a contribution to Or Zarua's Ma'ot Hittim Fund with your authorization.

PESAH SCHEDULE 5779/2019

Thursday, April 18

Bedikat Hametz

Friday, April 19

Ta'anit Bechorot (Fast of the Firstborn),

Shaharit, Siyum 7:15 am

Finish Eating Hametz before 10:39 am

Sell and Burn Hametz before 11:47 am

Erev Pesah/First Seder

Candlelighting 7:21 pm

Saturday, April 20

Shabbat & First Day of Pesah

Shaharit 9:00 am

Erev Second Day of Pesah/Second Seder

Light Candles after 8:18 pm

OZ Congregational Seder 8:30 pm

Sunday, April 21

Second Day of Pesah

Shaharit 9:00 am

Yom Tov ends 8:20 pm

Monday, April 22-Wednesday, April 24

Third-Fifth Days of Pesah, Hol Hamoed

Shaharit each morning 7:00 am

Thursday, April 25

Sixth Day of Pesah, Hol Hamoed

Shaharit 7:00 am

Candlelighting 7:28 pm

Friday, April 26

Seventh Day of Pesah

Shaharit 9:00 am

Minhah/Ma'ariv 6:15 pm

Candlelighting 7:29 pm

Saturday, April 27

Shabbat & Last Day of Pesah

Shaharit 8:45 am

Song of Songs

Yizkor

Minhah, Seudah Shlishit Lecture with

Rabbi Bolton, Ma'ariv 6:15 pm

Shabbat & Festival ends 8:27 pm

Authorization for the Sale of Hametz

In accordance with Jewish law, I/we authorize Rabbi Bolton to sell all hametz in my/our possession at the locations listed below. Enclosed is my/our contribution to Or Zarua's Ma'ot Hittim Fund. Note that this authorization must be signed; this authorization is NOT valid without your signature.

Name(s) _____

Street Address _____ Apt # _____

City/State/Zip _____

Other Locations (vacation home, office, etc):

Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

Signature _____

Please note that this authorization must be signed.

Send this completed form to the OZ office no later than, Thursday, April 18:

By scan and email to: dwenger@orzarua.org

By fax: 212-452-2103

By US Postal Service mail so that it arrives by Thursday, April 18 to:

Rabbi Scott N. Bolton, Congregation Or Zarua

127 East 82nd Street, New York, NY 10028

Ma'ot Hittim Fund

Assist needy Jews to prepare for Passover

The Haggadah tells us that every Jew must experience the Exodus from Egypt, and the Mishnah tells us that a Jew should drink four cups of wine at the Seder, even if funds for these come from the public dole.

We, therefore, raise such funds each year to assist less fortunate Jews who cannot afford to prepare for Passover. We forward the funds, called ma'ot hittim (wheat

money), to two communal organizations — the Joint Passover Appeal in New York and the New York Board of Rabbis — for distribution to needy Jews.

We hope that you will give generously to the fund, as many will benefit from your kindness. Please make your check payable to Congregation Or Zarua and write Ma'ot Hittim Fund on the memo line.

Help Keep Our Daily Minyan Strong

Please donate ONE HOUR
ONE MORNING per month to our
Shaharit minyan.
Contact Sheldon Adler:
sadler@skadden.com

Omer Basics

WHAT'S AN OMER? An omer is a unit of measure for cut sheaves of a grain crop. The 49-day period between the second day of Pesah and the day before Shavuot is referred to as the period of sefirat ha'omer—the counting of the omer.

WHY DO WE COUNT IT? The Torah tells us in Parashat Emor (Leviticus 23:15–16) that an omer of barley was brought to the Temple on the second day of Pesah as a “wave offering.” This omer of barley consisted of newly harvested grain, and new barley could not be eaten until the omer offering was brought. Starting on the second day of Pesah, 49 days were counted, at the end of which Shavuot was celebrated and an offering was brought to the Temple from the early summer's wheat harvest. The counting, sefirat ha'omer, is done at nightfall each day during the seven weeks. The counting of the omer connects the Exodus from Egypt with the giving of the Torah at Mt. Sinai. In eagerness, we count the days of waiting for the revelation.

HOW DO WE OBSERVE IT? For a period of time during the counting of the omer it is traditional to observe certain semi-mourning customs, such as postponing weddings and forgoing haircuts. This tradition may have an agricultural origin in that the period leading up to the summer harvest is a time of concern for the continuing safety of the crop. But also during this time of year in the second century CE, some 24,000 of Rabbi Akiva's students perished—they were most likely killed by the Romans.

WHAT IS LAG B'OMER? Lag B'Omer is the 33rd day of the counting—“lag” is an acronym made up of lamed (30) and gimel (3). The massive fatalities of Rabbi Akiva's students halted on that day, and the customs of semi-mourning are suspended. Lag B'Omer is observed as the yahrzeit of Rabbi Shimon bar Yohai, the person said to have authored the mystical book the Zohar. This year Lag B'Omer begins on the night of Wednesday, May 22.

**Or Zarua's
Tikkun Leyl Shavuot
will be
Saturday night, June 8.**

Guidelines for Passover

The guidelines below were prepared for the Rabbinical Assembly Committee on Jewish Law and Standards by Rabbi Mayer Rabinowitz. They were accepted by the Committee on December 12, 1984, and have been reviewed by Rabbi Bolton. Remember that the kosher for Passover home is a unique and transcendent experience for adults as well as children. Pesah feels different to the extent that it is different, and special foods and practices are the source of the special experience.

The Torah prohibits the ownership of hametz (leaven) during Pesah. Therefore, we arrange for the sale of the hametz to a non-Jew. The sale—mekhirat hametz—is accomplished by appointing an agent, usually the rabbi, to handle the transfer. The transaction is a valid and legal transfer of ownership. At the end of the holiday, the agent arranges for the reversion of ownership of the now-permitted hametz. If ownership of the hametz was not transferred before the holiday, the use of this hametz is prohibited even after the holiday (hametz sheaver alav ha-Pesah).

The Torah also prohibits the eating of hametz during Pesah. We often need guidance when shopping and preparing for the holiday because many common foods contain some admixture of hametz.

During the eight days of Pesah, hametz does not lose its identity, even in an admixture. Therefore, the minutest amount of hametz renders the whole admixture hametz, and its use on Pesah is prohibited.

Following are some general guidelines. Consult Rabbi Bolton when there is any doubt about the status of a product. Examine the Kosher le-Pesah label: If it does not bear the name of a rabbi, does not contain one of the recognized symbols of rabbinic supervision, or is not integral to the package, check with Rabbi Bolton.

Food Items

Prohibited food: leavened bread, cake, biscuits, crackers, cereal, coffee containing cereal derivatives, wheat, barley, oats, spelt, rye, and all liquids containing ingredients or flavors made from grain alcohol.

According to Ashkenazic custom, the following foods—kitniyot—are added to the prohibited list: rice, corn, millet, and legumes (beans and peas; but string beans are permitted). The Committee on Jewish Law and Standards has ruled unanimously that peanuts and peanut oil are permissible.

In contrast to Ashkenazic custom, Sephardic authorities permit the use of all

kitniyot on Pesah.

Permitted foods that DO NOT require a Kosher le-Pesah label: fresh fruit, fresh vegetables (for legumes, see above), and eggs.

Permitted foods that DO require a Kosher le-Pesah label: all baked products (matzah, cake, matzah flour, matzah farfel, matzah meal, and any other products containing matzah), canned or bottled fruit juice (often clarified with kitniyot, which are not listed among the ingredients), canned tuna (often processed in vegetable broth and/or hydrolyzed protein, even when packed in water), wine, vinegar, liquor, oil, dried fruit, ice cream, yogurt, and soda.

The following processed foods (canned, bottled, or frozen) DO require a Kosher le-Pesah label if PURCHASED DURING PESAH: milk and milk products, butter, juice, vegetables, fruit, spices, coffee, tea, fish, and meat.

Non-Food Items

Detergent: If permitted during the year, powdered and liquid detergents DO NOT require a Kosher le-Pesah label.

Medicine: Because many pills are made with hametz binders, follow this guideline: If the medicine is required for life-sustaining therapy, it may be used on Pesah; if it is not for life-sustaining therapy, some authorities permit, while others prohibit the use of the medicine. Consult Rabbi Bolton.

Kashering (of hametz items)

Utensils: The process of kashering utensils depends on how the utensils are used. According to halakhah, leaven can be purged from a utensil by the same process through which it was absorbed into the utensil (ke-voleo kakh polet). Therefore, utensils used in cooking are kashered by boiling, those used in broiling are kashered by fire and heat, and those used only for cold food are kashered by rinsing.

Earthenware: China, pottery, etc. may not be kashered. However, fine translucent chinaware that has not been used for over a year may be used for Pesah if scoured and cleaned in hot water.

Metal: Utensils made entirely of metal and used in fire (such as a spit or broiler) must first be thoroughly scrubbed, cleaned, and then heated to the highest possible temperature. Utensils used for cooking or eating (such as silverware or pots) must be thoroughly scrubbed, cleaned, and then completely immersed in boiling water. These

Continued on page 13, column 1, bottom

Yom HaShoah Memorial Service

Wednesday, May 1, 7:00 pm

We will be commemorating Yom HaShoah with our annual Holocaust Memorial Service on Wednesday evening, May 1, 7:00 pm. This short, moving service involves the participation of adults and teens from our community. If you wish to take part in this service, please email Ilana Burgess at hebrewteacher@gmail.com.



Guidelines for Passover *continued from page 12*

metal objects should not be used for a period of at least 24 hours between the cleaning and the immersion in boiling water. Metal baking utensils cannot be kashered for Pesah.

Ovens and ranges: Every part that comes into contact with food must be thoroughly scrubbed, cleaned, and then heated to the highest possible temperature for a half hour. For ovens with no self-cleaning feature, use the broil setting; for self-cleaning ovens, use the self-cleaning feature to achieve the highest temperature. Continuous-cleaning ovens must be kashered in the same manner as regular ovens.

Microwave ovens: These do not cook food by means of heat. After the interior is cleaned, place a cup of water inside. Keep the oven on until the water disappears. A microwave oven that has a browning element cannot be kashered for Pesah.

Glassware: Drinking glasses and stemware require only a thorough cleaning, by hand or in a dishwasher, before Pesah.

Glass cookware: There is a difference of opinion as to whether glass cookware should be kashered. One opinion is that it must be kashered—after a thorough cleaning, boil water in the cookware so that it overflows the rim. The other opinion is that only a thorough cleaning is required.

Glass bakeware: Like metal bakeware, glass bakeware may not be kashered for Pesah.

Dishwashers: Clean any food trap or filter and leave the dishwasher unused for

24 hours. Then, complete a full wash cycle with detergent.

Electrical appliances: If parts that come into contact with hametz are removable, they can be kashered in the appropriate way (if metal, follow the rule for metal utensils). If the parts are not removable, then the appliance cannot be kashered. However, all exposed parts should be thoroughly cleaned in either case.

Tables, closets, and countertops: If they have come into contact with hametz, surfaces should be thoroughly cleaned and covered before use.

Kitchen sinks: Metal sinks must be thoroughly cleaned and then doused with boiling water. Porcelain sinks must be thoroughly cleaned and outfitted with a sink rack. Items may be soaked in a basin placed inside a porcelain sink.

Hametz and non-Passover items: In order to prevent accidental use, all non-Passover kitchen items and hametz whose ownership has been transferred should be separated from Passover items, marked, covered, and placed in a locked area.

An ever-increasing variety of Kosher le-Pesah products is available in local markets as well as in the specially dedicated Pesah stores that appear each year. Patronize these special Pesah stores, for they provide an important service to the Jewish community.

Talmud & Siddur

Classes with

Rabbi Bolton

Talmud Class for 5779
Wednesdays, 7:30–9:00 pm
 as noted in the OZ Calendar

Fasting, Praying, Planting, and Walking Through the Rain: Masekhet Ta'anit

We will be studying Masekhet Ta'anit. In four chapters (30 pages), the Talmud explores ancient ideas about individual prayers, fasts, and communal practices to influence Heaven. Material addressed includes: prayers for rain, our relationship to the natural world (that is, rain, seasons, and agriculture), our power as “pray-ers,” and the Koheinic blessings that were performed in ancient days. A discussion of public fast days allows for a presentation and review of Jewish history. The Rabbis begin the discussion of which is more important: a focus on tragedies or a focus on moments of success and triumph? We will see some of the earliest material in the Talmud that deals with communal prayer, which, according to some scholarship, coalesced around public fast days that were declared for the purpose of beseeching God for communal needs. Join Rabbi Bolton on Wednesday evenings to explore this fascinating tractate.

Siddur Class for 5779
Thursdays, 8:40–9:40 am
 as noted in the OZ Calendar

To the Finish Line:

Prayers at the End of our Service

Thursday mornings, the Siddur Class meets to explore the richness and depth of our liturgy and to consider the meanings we give to our Jewish prayers and practices. Discussions center on the language of the prayerbook, as well as comparisons to siddur manuscripts throughout the Jewish ages. We also discuss the lived experience of prayer—how to engage, when it feels empty, infusing the minyan experience with meaning. Those wondering about how prayer life can be developed find as much a place around the table, as those whose interests lie in the Hebrew of the siddur and a historical look at our liturgy. Our focus this coming year will be the prayers at the end of our services. We will look again at Ashrei, and talk about psalms that have been included; the selection “U'va L'Tzion,” with ideas of holiness and redemption at its core; and, Aleinu and Mourner's Kaddish. When are we ever done praying?! Come join the Siddur Class on Thursday mornings.

Would you like to learn to leyn (read Torah) or lead services at Or Zarua?

If so, contact Mark Somerstein at msmrstn@aol.com
or call the synagogue office 212-452-2310, ext 12.

Join Or Zarua for Daily Minyan



One hour of your time one morning a month will allow members who have lost loved ones to say Kaddish. You'll be doing a mitzvah and helping them to do one, as well. If you choose a Monday or Thursday, having a

minyan will allow us to read Torah, something that isn't allowed without a minyan. And so that you leave the shul filled both spiritually and nutritiously, there's always a breakfast with cake, coffee and tea, orange juice, bagels, yogurt, and cottage cheese. And great conversation. Contact Sheldon Adler (sadler@skadden.com) and tell him the day that's best for you. Services at Or Zarua start at 7:15 am on weekday mornings, 8:45 am on Sundays, and 7:00 am on Hol Hamoed and Rosh Hodesh.

Sponsor Kiddush or Minyan Breakfast

The custom of sponsoring a kiddush or a minyan breakfast can be a meaningful way to remember your loved ones or celebrate a birthday or anniversary with fellow Congregants while enhancing the community's Shabbat or morning minyan experience. Contact Deborah Wenger (212-452-2310, ext 12) for details.

Or Zarua's Memorial Wall

For information about plaques for our Memorial Wall, please contact Helene Santo at hsanto@orzarua.org or 212-452-2310, ext 14. We will place another order when we have sufficient interest.

Order forms are available online at <http://tinyurl.com/OZMemorialPlaque> or from the OZ office by calling Deborah Wenger at 212-452-2310, ext 12.



Helping Or Zarua

Or Zarua is a vibrant community, and all communities need their members. Here are some quick and easy ways to help:

Choose to **pay via ACH** when using Chaverweb. This is a direct debit from your checking account. It saves OZ the higher credit card transaction fees.

Still want to pay via credit card? Choose to **include the transaction fee** in your payment! It covers that transaction fee so the entire payment comes to OZ.

Start your **shopping at Amazon Smile!** Go to smile.amazon.com when you shop on Amazon and choose Or Zarua as your beneficiary. Then shop as usual. OZ earns a percentage of every eligible purchase.

Sponsor a lecture! Our T'shuvah and Lucy Dawidowicz Lectures are important features of OZ programming. You can sponsor a portion, one, or both! Sponsorship defrays the costs of these wonderful events. Please contact Rabbi Bolton or Helene Santo for information.

Stuff envelopes! We send out mailings. You can come in and stuff envelopes or fold newsletters. It gets mailings out in a quick and efficient manner and requires only a few minutes of dedication. Contact Helene Santo for more information.

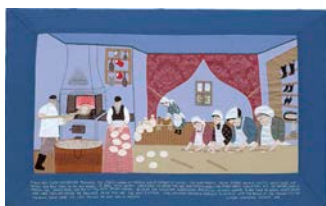
Or Zarua's Cemetery For Members and Their Families

The OZ section at Beth El Cemetery is located in Washington Township, NJ, 10 miles from the George Washington Bridge. The cemetery is well maintained, and its design provides a serene and beautiful final resting place that reflects the values and aesthetics of Congregation Or Zarua. Gravesites within the OZ section are available for sale to members of our congregation. Burial is limited to persons of the Jewish faith. For information concerning gravesite purchases, contact Helene Santo at 212-452-2310, ext. 14.



CONGREGATION OR ZARUA

127 East 82nd Street
New York, NY 10028-0807



The current exhibit in the OZ Gallery, *The Fabric of Survival: The Art of Esther Nisenthal Krinitz* will be on display until May 27. Shown above is one her fabric panels that will be on exhibit, *Matzos*. A screening of the film *Through the Eye of the Needle: The Art of Esther Nisenthal Krinitz*. Please see page 1.

CONGREGATION OR ZARUA

MARCH/APRIL 2019

Diaspora/Galut: At Home Abroad in Jewish Tradition with David C. Kraemer, PhD

Or Zarua Perspectives (formally JTS Context)
Six Tuesdays beginning March 26, 6:30 pm



Our next class is a six-session course presented by Dr. David C. Kraemer, Joseph J. and Dora Abbell Librarian and Professor of Talmud and Rabbinics.

Jewish historiography in recent years has often emphasized the centrality of the hope to return to Zion as a linchpin in Jewish ideology and history. But Jews have, for most of our existence, lived in diaspora, and—as one would expect—we have developed robust ideologies of diaspora, ones that have seen our abodes “away from home” as genuine homes, and even as “Zions.” In this class, we will examine examples of such expressions, from the teaching of the “prophet of the exile,” (Ezekiel), to the arguments of the Babylonian rabbis in the Babylonian Talmud, to the teachings of Hasidic masters, whose “Holy of Holies” was in Galicia, not in Jerusalem. Of course, these often positive expressions are a product of the fact that Jewish experience in “exile” was not always suffering, but often peaceful and productive. Consideration of these realities will help us to re-balance our understanding of Jewish religious and political history.

The course meets in the OZ library and begins on March 26 (see the OZ calendar); tuition is \$325 for members of OZ and \$350 for nonmembers. This reading-intensive seminar is designed for graduates of the Me’ah or Context two-year program or for those with similar Jewish learning backgrounds. Register online at tinyurl.com/OZPerspectives; registration must be finalized before the second meeting date.

Join us for Purim!

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20

5:00 PM Kids' Purim Party

FEATURING MAGIC AL

7:40 PM Ma'ariv AND Megillah

FOLLOWED BY "Persia Land"
(...OR "Shushan Town")

BY THE OZ Purimspielers

CRITICS ARE RAVING!

"Where Hollywood and Broadway
meet ancient Persia..."
"It's where the red carpet meets the flying carpet!"

After the spiel, continue the celebration at the
MAGICAL MANOT FOOD FAIR!

THURSDAY, MARCH 21

7:00 AM Shaharit AND Megillah

