A Traditional, Egalitarian and Participatory Conservative Synagogue



HESHVAN/KISLEV/TEVET 5780

NEWSLETTER/VOLUME 32:2

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2019

# Children of the Inquisition Documentary Film Screening and Talk-Back with the Filmmaker Joe Lovett

Sunday, November 10, 4:00 pm

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re justcompleted film, Children of the Inquisition, is a reexamination of the journeys and identities of Jews who were forced to convert to Catholicism or flee during the Spanish

and Portuguese Inquisitions.

The film reveals several family histories seen through the eyes of their contemporary descendants, many of whom are just discovering their nuanced roots. The filmmaker, Joe Lovett, traces

the torturous journeys of several descendants of Secret Jews or Conversos, now living in El Salvador, Jamaica, Rio de Janiero, and New York. The stories of these flights to safety, over the past 500 years, give a new perspective to the world events we face today.

Joe Lovett is a Peabody Award—winning documentary filmmaker and an extraordinary story teller and communicator. His previous films include *Going Blind* which pulls the curtain between the sighted and visually challenged populations with insights into the strategies and vulnerabilities of selected people coping with low vision and blindness. His film, *Cancer: Evolution to Revolution*, was a groundbreaking special on HBO that was the first television special to provide continuous contact information for different forms of cancer and counseling.

Be sure to join us on Sunday, November

10, for this illuminating film about the Sephardi Jews originally from Spain and Portugal.

This program is sponsored by the OZ Gallery.







## From Beame to Bloomberg: Jews and New York City Government

#### **Jewish History with Barry Feldman**

Four Sundays: November 10, 17, 24 and December 1, 10:00 am



his fall Or Zarua
Congregant Barry
Feldman will again
lead a Jewish History
course.

From Beame to Bloomberg: Jews and New York City Government

will explore the political personalities, accomplishments and controversies of past and present New York City politicians who led the city's rise to prominence from the post World War years to the present. Discussion will include the challenges faced by and the accomplishments achieved during their tenure in response to social, cultural, demographic, real estate, and economic

issues, pressures, and changes. Focus will not only be on mayors; Bella Abzug, Elizabeth Holtzman, Charles Schumer and other Jewish politicians will also be covered in this five-session course.

Barry is an urban historian, museum educator, and licensed New York City tour guide. He has created and developed tours of the Jewish Lower East Side, Jewish Harlem, and other New York neighborhoods. He has been teaching at OZ since 2014. Barry's classes are open to all. Prior knowledge is not required, and you may attend any or all sessions. We hope to see you this year as we continue to study NYC Jewish history with Barry.



Each year OZ Congregant Barry Feldman teaches a multi-session class on NYC Jewish history. Past classes have included Machlokis, Tzuris & Achdus: Disputes, Troubles, and Unity During the Iconic Period of Jewish Settlement in NYC and Life in the Streets on the Lower East Side During the Iconic Period of Immigration and Settlement. Each year the class attracts approximately 30 people per session.



## A CONSERVATIVE SYNAGOGUE FOUNDED 1989

127 East 82nd Street New York, NY 10028

phone: 212-452-2310 fax: 212-452-2103

www.orzarua.org

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#### **OZ Committee Chairs**

ADMINISTRATION Pamela E. Gold **AESTHETICS** Aaron Shelden ART GALLERY Bobbi Coller **BOOK DISCUSSION** Reed Schneider Nora Yood BUILDING Gerry Solomon **HESED** Susan Lorin HEVRA KADISHA Roberta Hufnagel Gerry Solomon KESHER ISRAEL Laura Fisher LIBRARY Barry Feldman MARKETING Dana Gross **MEMBERSHIP** Raanan Korinow MINYAN Sheldon Adler NOMINATING Jay Palmer

AND LEADERSHIP

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PUBLIC RELATIONS

Aaron Shelden

READERS

Marc D. Ashley Jay Palmer

AND LEADERS
STRATEGIC
DEVELOPMENT

Arthur H. Rosenbloom

WEBMASTER Jay Palmer

YOUTH EDUCATION Eric Schmutter

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



he have just begun reading the Torah all over again. In the very beginning of Bereshit, God's first creation is light. "And God said: 'Let there be light.' And there was light. And, God saw the light, that

it as good; and God divided the light from the darkness." (Genesis I, 3-4) God is referred to as "light" and the Torah is "light." Light is essential to life and our ability to see clearly.

As daylight fades earlier and earlier through mid-December, we seek light from many sources. Fortunately, true to our name, Or Zarua (light is sown) provides much needed light to our community.

The light of learning glows at Or Zarua. The Hebrew School is now in full swing! Our students are learning Hebrew, History, Torah, Talmud, Customs and Practices, and Jewish Life, as well as love of Israel and Hesed. This semester, our middle school students are studying Hebrew Language and are focusing on explorations of t'filah. They're also enjoying a new class - Tastes & Tradition with Rabbi Bolton – where, in each session, Rabbi Bolton leads students in the study of Jewish customs, history and life in different countries around the world.

Our adult education program is beginning again, as well. Each weekday, the light of learning emanates from within our building. On Sundays, Barry Feldman will be teaching From Beame to Bloomberg: Jews and New York City Government. On Mondays, members will soon be studying Torah reading with Mark Somerstein. On Tuesdays, OZ Perspectives class members will be studying Masterworks of Modern Jewish Scholarship with Rabbi Joseph Schwartz. On Wednesdays, members have begun studying Talmud with Rabbi Bolton: Who Can Be Judged? Who Can Bear Witness? Kings, Judges, and the Great Men and Women Of Israel. (Chapter 2 of Masekhet Sanhedrin). And, on Thursdays, members are participating in Siddur Class with Rabbi Bolton: When Prayer and Remembering Meet: Yizkor, Funeral Rites, Daily Psalms and

Of course, on Shabbat we all study the parasha and its application to our lives.

We also extend the glow of learning to underprivileged children through our participation in TutorMate. For the past two years, 20 of us have tutored children in the Bronx from the comfort of our homes

and offices. I can tell you from personal experience, it is one of the most rewarding activities I have ever done. We now have our team of 20 for this school year.

Many programs will take place in the next few weeks that will add to the glow of Or Zarua. On November 15, members will invite other members to their homes for Shabbat Across Or Zarua. That same evening, there will be a Family & Friends Shabbat Dinner and a Young Professional Shabbat dinner in our building.

Hanukkah, our Festival of Lights, will bring more light to and from Or Zarua. Each night, starting on December 22, we light the menorah—both in our Sanctuary and in the window outside the Sanctuary. You will see the light from the street.

Before Thanksgiving, we will be collecting specific foods to donate to the New York Common Pantry. And, during the evenings before Thanksgiving and Christmas, Or Zarua members will bring light and cheer to our neighbors by gleaning, packing and delivering food from Eli's. The food will be delivered to Ronald McDonald House and Salvation Deliverance Church.

I invite you join us in these light-spreading activities. We can only truly be a participatory congregation if you participate. Come and help us sow light in the winter darkness. Or Zarua latzadik ul-yishrei leiv simcha—Light is sown for the righteous and joy for the upright of heart.

B'Shalom!

Diane



## Chaburah OZ Torah Study

After Kiddush on Select Shabbatot

Vayera: A Woman's Perspective with Diane Okrent
November 16

Upcoming Chaburah Presentations February 29: Trumah with Benjamin Marcus May 16: Behar-Behukotai with Joanne Feierman

## Join Us for Hanukkah Music and Dinner

Friday, December 27
Candlelighting at 4:16 pm
Kabbalat Shabbat at 5:30 pm
Bir'nana performance 6:15 pm
Dinner follows the performance 6:30 pm

ome for Kabbalat Shabbat services, and stay to hear Bir'nana, OZ's a cappella group, welcome Shabbat and celebrate the holiday with beautiful harmony. After the performance, our celebration continues with a community dinner. Reservations are required for dinner: \$45 for adults, \$25 for children ages 5–12, no charge for children under 5. RSVP by Thursday, December 19. To RSVP, watch for the signup link in the weekly eblast, call 212-452-2310, ext 39 or email dwenger@orzarua.org.



Bir'nana, Or Zarua's a cappella group, is now in its seventh year! The group kicked off its 5780 season with a post-kiddush performance on Shabbat Bereshit with renditions of Lu Yehi (a Hebrew version of Let It Be), Al Kol Eileh, and Lecha Dodi (arranged for Bir'nana by Scott Stein). Bir'nana (which means "in joyful song") is made up of Or Zarua members who love to sing and who dedicate themselves to weekly rehearsals. Bir'nana performs for holidays, simchas, and other Or Zarua events, as well as in the community at hesed events. For more information or if you wish to join Bir'nana, please contact Dore Hollander at dore.hollander@gmail.com.

## Musical Havdalah Programs with OZ Congregants

Join together for a lite nosh and havdalah followed by Congregants making music!

# Songs of Transgression and Redemption, Passion and Compassion, Hope and Dreams

with Mark Somerstein November 16, 5:30 pm



Musically, Mark has been a cantor and Torah reader for several congregations in NYC. As a teenager, he sought to combine his love of singing with playing the guitar, largely self-taught. Feeling the synagogue ought to to be a place where people display their interests and talents, Mark approached the Rabbi last year and suggested a concert of some of his favorite songs. The Rabbi agreed, and subsequently other musicians in the congregation began to display

their talents. This concert will feature American songs, mostly folk from the '60s and '70s, with some Hebrew and other languages.

### A Bissele Klezmer! with Aaron Shelden December 14, 5:30 pm

Aaron started studying the accordion at the age of 10. As a teenager he was playing professionally with his twin brother, Paul, and their band in the Catskills. Of course, they played Jewish music. But, what made it Klezmer? Where did Klezmer come from? Klezmer is a musical tradition of the Ashkenazi Jews of Eastern Europe. Played by professional musicians called klezmorim, the genre originally consisted largely of dance tunes and instrumental display



pieces for weddings and other celebrations. Aaron will provide historic and musicological insights about Klezmer—with some performance samples.

#### **Upcoming Musical Havdalah Programs**

A Jazzy Night with Michael Schwartz January 18

A Taste of Classical with Marcia Kalin & Annie Sahn February 29

## From Compassion to Action: Volunteer with Or Zarua

"The reward for charity depends entirely upon the extent of the kindness in it." - Talmud Bavli

## NY Common Pantry Thanksgiving Food Drive

Support New Yorkers in need during this time of year by contributing to the OZ Food Drive. Please donate needed items by November 11: Canned Cranberry Sauce, Gravy (turkey preferred), Rice (1 lb), Corn Bread Mix, Stuffing Mix, Pasta (1 lb), Canned Beans, Dry Beans (1 lb), Juice (46oz cans or bottles), Shelf-stable Milk (1qt). Please, no glass jars. Donation bins located in the OZ social hall.

You can also make a monetary donation: \$40 provides one family with a complete holiday meal. You may also contribute money directly to the NYCP at the following link: https://tinyurl.com/OZPantryOct2019

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

#### OZ's Annual Coat Drive Begins November I

Help low income families and older adults in New York City by donating gently-used winter coats to OZ's Annual Coat Drive. All coat sizes are needed. Adult-sized coats will be donated to the Educational Alliance for their older adult population through Project ORE, a program for vulnerable and isolated older adults. The rest of the coats will be donated to New York Cares or a similar program. Donations will be accepted from November 1 to December 16; collection bins will be located in the OZ Basement.

## Gleaning: Erev Thanksgiving and Erev Christmas

As in prior years, we need volunteers for Or Zarua's annual holiday gleaning projects–packing and delivering food donated by Eli Zabar-for our neighbors in need. This year's projects will take place on Erev Thanksgiving,



Wednesday, November 27, and Erev Christmas, Tuesday, December 24. Volunteers will pack up prepared foods, soups and baked goods at Eli's, 80th Street/ Third Avenue, and the Eli's Essentials stores at 91st Street/Madison Avenue and at

87th Street/Lexington Avenue. The specific hours for each location will be confirmed soon. Donated food will be delivered by



congregants to Ronald McDonald House on East 73rd Street (for families with children undergoing medical treatment), the Neighborhood Coalition for Shelter residence on 81st Street, and the Salvation and Deliverance Church (on Marmion Avenue in the Bronx). Please contact Jeff Haberman at jeff32449@verizon.net or at 917-697-1677 for information or to sign up.

#### Help the Hungry at NY Common Pantry

Did you know 1 in 5 New Yorkers is food insecure? There are three ways you can help:

1) Start your day off right and volunteer to help serve a hot breakfast at the NY Common Pantry, 8 East 109th Street on Tuesday, November 19, or Tuesday, December 17 from 7:00 to 9:00 am. Volunteers plate meals in the kitchen for 150 to 200 food insecure individuals.

2) If the breakfast shift is too early for you, help with the packing and distribution of nutritious, fresh food pantry packages for families from 9 am to noon on Wednesday, November 6 or Wednesday, December 4.

3) Drop off non-perishable, healthy food items in the Or Zarua Social Hall.

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

## Join Thursday 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 to 6:45 pm on the the third and fourth Thursdays of each month. Contact Jeffrey Haberman at jeff32449@verizon.net, for information.

#### 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.

## OZ Perspectives

## Masterworks of Modern Jewish Scholarship

#### with Rabbi Joesph Schwartz

Six Tuesdays: November 5, 12, 19, 26, December 3, & 10 at 6:30 pm



ince the middle of the last century, the field of academic Jewish scholarship has exploded with talent and new, often challenging ideas. Scholarship unsettled received views and

verities, and was a ground of great political and theological ferment. Even more than

the beit midrash, in the last century the academy has played an essential role in generating new ways of understanding the Jewish past and present—and pointing us toward a different Jewish future.

Please join Rabbi Joe Schwartz as we read and explore together some of the masterworks of Jewish scholarship composed over the past century. Readings will include selections by Gershom Scholem, Yosef Hayim Yerushalmi, Robert Alter, Jon Levenson, Judith Plaskow and

Daniel Boyarin.

The course meets on 6 consecutive Tuesdays beginning on November 5; 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/OZPfall2019. Registration must be finalized before the second meeting date.

## Or Zarua Book Discussions



Kaddish.com by Nathan Englander Sunday, December 15, 7:30 pm

arry is the secular son in a family of Orthodox Brooklyn Jews. When his father dies, it's his responsibility to recite the Kaddish, the Jewish prayer for the dead, every day for eleven months. To the horror and dismay of his sister, Larry refuses—imperiling the fate of his father's soul. To appease her, Larry hatches an ingenious if cynical plan, hiring a stranger through a website called kaddish.com to recite the prayer and shepherd his father's soul safely to rest.

All are welcome to attend OZ Book Discussions; please join us.

# Lunch & Learn With Rabbi Bolton The Jews of Italy & Rome: From Ancient Roads to Modern Piazzas Monday, December 9, Noon



Time to dine and learn Jewish history! Come enjoy lunch and a visual presentation along with the study of texts and historical documents. Register for the first of Rabbi Bolton's Lunch & Learns at Or Zarua. The story of the Jewish presence in Italy inspires. RSVP to Deborah Wenger

(dwenger@orzarua.org). The cost of the program, including lunch, is \$18 per member and \$25 for non-members. Pre-registration is required.

A Torah reading class will be held on Mondays at 7:00 pm at Or Zarua beginning November 4. Please contact Mark Somerstein by calling the synagogue office: 212-452-2310, ext 12.

#### Talmud & Siddur Classes with Rabbi Bolton

Talmud Class for 5780

Wednesdays, 7:30-9:00 pm beginning October 30

Who Can Be Judged? Who Can Bear Witness? Kings, Judges, and the Great Men and Women Of Israel. (Chapter 2 of Masekhet Sanhedrin)

Some chapters of Talmud go deep into questions that resonate in our times. Are the High Priest and King above the law? The Rabbis inquire about those who hold high office as well as everyday souls. Their explorations connect us with biblical personalities and the men and women of the Talmudic era.

What are the limits that the Torah imposes on leaders? Did that legislation stick? What are the checks and balances in the Divine law and discerned laws of the Sages that help society manage its way forward and for human beings to serve in holy ways as leaders?

Exploring our past through this dynamic chapter means getting a sense of the legal systems the Rabbis designed as well as their philosophical implications for our era. Can a High Priest be a judge or a witness? Does a King stand trial? Who deserves to be a law-giver or a law-maker?

Join our class for every meeting or come into the learning when you can! We read the texts in the original and in translation. Rabbi Bolton explicates the passages, and he brings to bear research that extends the topical material that appears in the Babylonian Talmud. Purchase Volume 1 of Sanhedrin in the Artscroll Hebrew/English edition. While it is not required to have the volume for class, it is highly recommended. Copies of the pages are not distributed. Talmudic study, even for those who have never had exposure, can be a delight for the mind and a wonderful Jewish experience. For those with background, the investigations of the content of the Gemara coupled with the research extensions invites a fresh read and look at well-known Talmudic material.

Siddur Class for 5780

Thursdays, 8:40-9:40 am beginning October 31

When Prayer and Remembering Meet: Yizkor, Funeral Rites, Daily Psalms and Reminders.

Join the Siddur Class in 5780 for explorations of the themes and language of our Yizkor prayers, as well as funeral liturgies. In general, the class explores the history, forms, content and meaning of Jewish liturgy and prayer rites, and members of the learning community deliberate about the prayer experience (t'fillah) and encounters with Jewish liturgy.

Translating the language of the prayerbook helps gain access to the poetry and Biblical passages that are included in service of t'fillah. After an exploration of Yizkor and funeral liturgies (Psalms and memorial prayers), the Psalms of the Day will be studied. Beyond being reminders about what day of the week is ahead of us each day, they help us recall and focus upon important themes for our lives and our world.

Finally, the class will turn to passages that remind us about key lists in our tradition. Among those lists included in certain siddurim are: the Rambam's 13 Principles, the Ten Commandments and a list of ten special moments in Jewish history. Why those? What challenges do they offer at the end of a prayer service?

Opportunities?

What makes this class so dynamic is a combination of the study of our prayers and the engaging, open conversation among participants. There is a dynamic culture of learning to be part of our Thursday mornings, so plan to join in after the High Holy Days and Sukkot. Put it on your calendar; make time

for Jewish learning in the year ahead.

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127 East 82nd Street New York, NY 10028 • 212-452-2310

## November 2019 • Heshvan/Kislev 5780

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 • 3 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 10:00a Yoga, Goga, Shabbat! 5:35p Candlelighting Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat	2 • 4 Heshvan Bat Mitzvah: Hannah Feld 9:00a Shaharit Noah 11:00a Torah Kids 11:00a Torah Tots 6:29p Shabbat Ends
3 • 5 Heshvan Daylight Saving Time Ends 8:45a Shaharit 7:30p Bir'nana Rehearsal	4 • 6 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 10:15a Shalom Sing-A-Long 4:00p Hebrew School 6:00p B'nei Mitzvah Scholars 7:00p Torah Reading Class with Mark Somerstein	5 • 7 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 6:30p OZ Perspectives	6 • 8 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 9:00a NY Common Pantry 4:00p Hebrew School 7:30p Talmud Class	7 • 9 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 8:40a Siddur Class 6:30p B'nei Mitzvah Cohort Kick-off Pizza Party	8 • 10 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 10:00a Yoga, Goga, Shabbat! 4:27p Candlelighting Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat	9 • 11 Heshvan 9:00a Shaharit Lekh-Lekha 10:30a Family Learning Experience 10:30a Shabbat & Me 10:30a Mah Zeh Shabbat? 12:00p Family Shabbat Treats 5:21p Shabbat Ends
10 • 12 Heshvan 8:45a Shaharit 10:00a Barry Feldman's Jewish History Class 4:00p OZ Gallery Film Screening: <i>Children of the</i> <i>Inquisition</i> with filmmaker Joe Lovett 7:30p Bir'nana Rehearsal	11 • 13 Heshvan Veterans Day 7:15a Shaharit 10:15a Shalom Sing-A-Long 7:00p Torah Reading Class with Mark Somerstein No Hebrew School	12 • 14 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 6:30p OZ Perspectives	13 • 15 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 4:00p Hebrew School 6:15p Tastes & Traditions with Rabbi Bolton 7:30p Talmud Class	14 • 16 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 8:40a Siddur Class	15 • 17 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 10:00a Yoga, Goga, Shabbat! 4:19p Candlelighting Minhah 5:30p Kabbalat Shabbat 6:30p Shabbat Across OZ Choices: Home Hosted, Family Dinner at OZ or OZYP	16 • 18 Heshvan 9:00a Shaharit Vayera 11:00a Torah Kids 11:00p Chaburah Torah Study with Diane Okrent 5:16p Shabbat Ends 5:30p Musical Havdalah with Mark Somerstein
17 • 19 Heshvan 8:45a Shaharit 10:00a Barry Feldman's Jewish History Class 7:30p Bir'nana Rehearsal	18 • 20 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 10:15a Shalom Sing-A-Long 4:00p Hebrew School 6:00p B'nei Mitzvah Scholars 7:00p Torah Reading Class with Mark Somerstein	19 • 21 Heshvan 7:00a NY Common Pantry 7:15a Shaharit 6:30p OZ Perspectives	20 • 22 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 4:00p Hebrew School 7:30p Talmud Class	21 • 23 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 8:40a Siddur Class 6:00p NCS Hesed Program	22 • 24 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 10:00a Yoga, Goga, Shabbat! 4:14p Candlelighting Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat	23 • 25 Heshvan Bat Mitzvah: Madeline Posner 9:00a Shaharit Haye Sarah 11:00a Torah Kids 11:00a Torah Tots 5:12p Shabbat Ends
24 • 26 Heshvan 8:45a Shaharit 10:00a Barry Feldman's Jewish History Class 7:30p Bir'nana Rehearsal	25 • 27 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 10:15a Shalom Sing-A-Long 4:00p Hebrew School 6:00p B'nei Mitzvah Scholars 7:00p Torah Reading Class with Mark Somerstein	26 28 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit 6:30p OZ Perspectives	27 • 29 Heshvan 7:15a Shaharit No Hebrew School No Talmud Class	28 • 30 Heshvan Rosh Hodesh Thanksgiving 8:45a Shaharit No Siddur Class OZ Office Closed	29 • 1 Kislev Rosh Hodesh 7:00a Shaharit 4:11p Candlelighting Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat OZ Office Closed	30 • 2 Kislev 9:00a Shaharit Toledot No Youth Programs 5:09p Shabbat Ends

Be sure to check the Or Zarua Website (www.orzarua.org) and the weekly eblasts for updates to the calendar.



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## December 2019 • Kislev/Tevet 5780

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 • 3 Kislev 8:45a Shaharit 10:00a Barry Feldman's Jewish History Class No Bir'nana Rehearsal	2 • 4 Kislev 7:15a Shaharit 10:15a Shalom Sing-A-Long 4:00p Hebrew School 6:00p B'nei Mitzvah Scholars 7:00p Torah Reading Class with Mark Somerstein	3 • 5 Kislev 7:15a Shaharit 6:30p OZ Perspectives	4 • 6 Kislev 7:15a Shaharit 9:00a NY Common Pantry 4:00p Hebrew School No Talmud Class	5 • 7 Kislev 7:15a Shaharit No Siddur Class	6 • 8 Kislev 7:15a Shaharit 10:00a Yoga, Goga, Shabbat! 4:10p Candlelighting 6:00p Ma'ariv/Kabbalat Shabbat 6:45p B'nei Mitzvah Cohort Dinner	7 • 9 Kislev Bat Mitzvah: Lindsay Greenblatt 9:00a Shaharit Vayetze 11:00a Torah Kids 11:00a Torah Tots 5:09p Shabbat Ends
8 • 10 Kislev 8:45a Shaharit 7:30p Bir'nana Rehearsal	9 • 11 Kislev 7:15a Shaharit 10:15a Shalom Sing-A-Long 12:00p Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Bolton 4:00p Hebrew School 6:00p B'nei Mitzvah Scholars 7:00p Torah Reading Class with Mark Somerstein	10 • 12 Kislev 7:15a Shaharit 6:30p OZ Perspectives	11 • 13 Kislev 7:15a Shaharit 4:00p Hebrew School 6:15p Tastes & Traditions with Rabbi Bolton 7:30p Talmud Class	12 • 14 Kislev 7:15a Shaharit 8:40a Siddur Class	13 • 15 Kislev 7:15a Shaharit 10:00a Yoga, Goga, Shabbat! 4:10p Candlelighting Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat	14 • 16 Kislev Bar Mitzvah: Benjamin Knaster 9:00a Shaharit Vayishlah 11:00a Torah Kids & Tots 5:10p Shabbat Ends 5:30p Musical Havdalah with Aaron Shelden
15 • 17 Kislev 8:45a Shaharit 7:00p Bir'nana Rehearsal (Note: two-hour rehearsal) 7:30p Book Discussion: <i>Kaddish.com</i> by Nathan Englander	16 • 18 Kislev 7:15a Shaharit 10:15a Shalom Sing-A-Long 4:00p Hebrew School 6:00p B'nei Mitzvah Scholars 7:00p Torah Reading Class with Mark Somerstein Final Day for Hesed Coat Collection	17 • 19 Kislev 7:00a NY Common Pantry 7:15a Shaharit	18 • 20 Kislev 7:15a Shaharit 4:00p Hebrew School 7:30p Talmud Class	19 • 21 Kislev 7:15a Shaharit 8:40a Siddur Class 6:00p NCS Hesed Program	20 • 22 Kislev 7:15a Shaharit 10:00a Yoga, Goga, Shabbat! 4:12p Candlelighting Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat 5:00p Hanukkah & Me Young Family Dinner 6:00p OZYP Happy Hour, Shabbat Services, & Shabbat Dinner (RSVP)	21 • 23 Kislev 9:00a Shaharit Vayeshev 10:30a Family Learning Experience 10:30a Shabbat & Me 10:30a Shabbat & Me 10:30a Shabbat & Me 12:00p Family Shabbat Lunch 5:12p Shabbat Ends
22 • 24 Kislev Erev Hanukkah 8:45a Shaharit Light 1 Candle at night 7:00p Bir'nana Rehearsal (Note: two-hour rehearsal)	23 • 25 Kislev Hanukkah 7:15a Shaharit 10:15a Shalom Sing-A-Long 5:30p Community Candle Lighting and Order-Your- Own Dinner Light 2 Candles at night No Hebrew School	24 • 26 Kislev Hanukkah 7:15a Shaharit Light 3 Candles at night	25 • 27 Kislev Hanukkah 8:45a Shaharit Light 4 Candles at night No Hebrew School No Talmud Class OZ Office Closed	26 • 28 Kislev Hanukkah 7:15a Shaharit 6:00p NCS Hesed Program Light 5 Candles at night No Siddur Class	27 • 29 Kislev Hanukkah 7:15a Shaharit Light 6 Candles before Shabbat 4:16p Candlelighting Minhah 5:30p Kabbalat Shabbat 6:15p Bir'nana Performance 6:30p Hanukkah Dinner	28 • 30 Kislev Rosh Hodesh/Hanukkah 9:00a Shaharit Miketz No Youth Programs 5:16p Shabbat Ends Light 7 Candles at night
29 • 1 Tevet Rosh Hodesh/Hanukkah 8:45a Shaharit Light 8 Candles at night No Bir'nana Rehearsal	30 • 2 Tevet Hanukkah 7:15a Shaharit No Hebrew School	31 • 3 Tevet 7:15a Shaharit	1 Jan • 4 Tevet New Year's Day 8:45a Shaharit No Hebrew School No Talmud Class OZ Office Closed	2 Jan • 5 Tevet 7:15a Shaharit No Siddur Class	3 Jan • 6 Tevet 7:15a Shaharit 4:22p Candlelighting Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat	4 Jan • 7 Tevet 9:00a Shaharit Vayigash 11:00a Torah Kids 11:00a Torah Tots 5:22p Shabbat Ends

Be sure to check the Or Zarua Website (www.orzarua.org) and the weekly eblasts for updates to the calendar.



#### BMC Kickoff Pizza Party Thursday, November 7 6:30-8:30 pm

Sixth Graders and their families are invited to the first meeting of our third cohort of our new B'nei Mitzvah program. This program is for 6th grade families and will run throughout the 6th grade school year.

Rescheduled from Wednesday, September 18. Please RSVP to Sigal: shirsch@orzarua.org, or 212-452-2310, ext 15.

#### B'nei Mitzvah Cohort Shabbat Dinner Friday, December 6 6:00 pm

Families of the 3rd Cohort of our new B'nei Mitzvah program are invited to join us for Shabbat dinner! Kabalat Shabbat and Ma'ariv begin at 6:00, with dinner to follow.

RSVP is necessary: Registration link to follow in email and on the OZ website.

#### Family Shabbat

Saturdays, November 9 & December 21

Families are invited to our monthly family Shabbatot on November 9 and December 21.

Youth and family programs begin at 10:30am:

#### Shabbat & Me

(Pre-K and younger)

Family Learning Experience (Elementary School and parents)

#### Mah Zeh Shabbat?!

(Middle School and High School)

After services, join us at the community kiddush for a special treat in November and for a Family Shabbat Lunch in December!

RSVP to Sigal at shirsch@orzarua.org.





### Join all of Or Zarua for Shabbat Across OZ! Friday, November 15 6:30 pm Sign up by Friday, November 8

Shabbat Across Or Zarua will return to honor Parashat Vayera. In the parasha, Abraham welcomes strangers to his home and so, at Or Zarua, members will welcome other members to their homes.

Attend a home-hosted dinner or come to OZ for a Family Shabbat Dinner!

#### Home-Hosted Dinner

Please see page 12 for more information about the dinner and how to sign up as a guest or a host!

#### Family Shabbat Dinner

Welcome Shabbat with a family-friendly dinner in the Or Zarua Social Hall.

See orzarua.org or upcoming e-blast for registration details.

#### OZ Young Professionals Mexican Shabbat

Join other 20s and 30s for an enjoyable Shabbat. Check out their Facebook page (OrZaruaYoungProf) for more information.



Third to fifth grade students take a break from their usual Judaic Studies and focus intensively on Hebrew. Some groups play Hebrew letter bingo, working on letter recognition. Others develop Hebrew vocabulary while strengthening reading skills playing memory games with new vocabulary. They're all having a great time and making quick progress.

# Kids's Hanukkah Program and Musical Havdalah with Aaron Shelden Saturday, December 14 5:30 pm

Kids and parents are invited to join the community for our Musical Havdalah with Aaron Shelden (see page 3 for more details). Kids can also choose to join Sigal at our special Hanukkah program (drop-off). Stay tuned for more details!

If parents plan to attend the concert with children, parents must help them sit quietly and respectfully as we all enjoy the music together. If it will be challenging for your child to sit quietly at the concert, drop them off at the kids' program with Sigal while you enjoy the concert!

## Celebrate Hanukkah with Or Zarua! Candle Lighting and Order-Your-Own Dinner Monday, December 23 5:30 pm

Celebrate along with members of all ages at this family-friendly community event.
Light the second candle together.
Spin the dreidel, do hesed with us, and enjoy latkes and sufganiyot provided by OZ! After candle lighting, stay for an "Order-Your-Own" dinner with the community.
RSVP to dwenger@orzarua.org if you plan to attend candle lighting only, and sign up online for Order-Your-Own Dinner.

Registration link to follow.

# Tastes & Tradition with Rabbi Bolton Wednesdays November 13 & December 11 6:15 pm

Middle Schoolers, join rabbi Bolton for his monthly class exploring different Jewish communities from around the world! The group has learned about Jews in India and Italy so far, with delicious food from each cuisine! Next up, Jews of Ethiopia! All students are welcome, even if you haven't come before! Email Sigal to RSVP.

## Hanukkah & Me and Young Family Dinner Friday, December 20, 5:00 pm

Usher in Shabbat with a special holiday version of Shabbat & Me as we gear up for Hanukkah together!
Welcome Shabbat with songs, stories, simple prayers and activities.

For families with children from birth through age 6.
Older siblings welcome.

Light dinner to follow. \$18/family, registration required. Registration link to follow in email and on the OZ website.



### **Shalom Sing-A-Along**

Weekly Mondays, 10:15-11:00 am Recommeded for children ages 1-4

Start your little one's day the happy & healthy way with song, dance, stories, bubbles, puppets, instruments, & more! Parents, grandparents and caregivers join us as we learn simple Hebrew, Jewish values, and favorite tunes!

Never been to Shalom Sing-A-Long? Try your first class free using promo code "tryshalom".



# New Early Childhood Class! Yoga, Goga Shabbat! Weekly Fridays, 10:00 am

Get ready for Shabbat with all your senses!
Parents, grandparents and caregivers
get in the Shabbat mood with your little
ones through yoga, Jewish meditation,
sensory experiences and more.
Focus on family and being together as we
unplug before Shabbat. Sign up at
orzarua.org/or-latid/early-childhood/



## The Or Zarua Community Fund contributions received between August 1, 2019 and September 31, 2019

#### The Or Zarua Social Hall is available to rent

for appropriate functions. Contact Helene Santo, 212-452-2310, ext 14, for information. Lucy S. Dawidowicz Lecture Wednesday, January 29, 7:30 pm

## Leora Batnitzky, PhD

Edith Stein: Jewish Apostate and Catholic Saint

Dr. Batnitzky is Ronald O. Perelman Professor of Jewish Studies at Princeton University

# Shabbat Shirah Friday and Saturday, February 7 and 8 A Capella with Kaskeset

Musical Friday Night Service, Sermon in Song, Special Kiddush, Post-Kiddush Concert, and Musical Havdalah

Kaskeset is the Jewish a capella group from SUNY Binghamton

## **Helping Or Zarua**

r 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 paying online. 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.

#### 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.

## Images Of Creation In The OZ Art Gallery



Ten prints, by artist Rudi Wolff, based on the creation narrative in the Book of Genesis.

Or Zarua's
New Website
Launched!
Visit
orzarua.org
to discover
all we have to offer!



Birnana

Strawbard and Anageres a suppling graps

Birnana

Strawbard and Anageres a suppling graps



Large to the fail, there is a Tribusa leman between fault

## A Minyan Poem

Please help to make Our minyan strong Forty minutes Is not that long Once a month Or once a week Will keep our minyan At its peak Those saying kaddish Will be so glad During a time When mostly they're sad After we daven There's breakfast to eat With lots of babka As a breakfast treat So please give Shelly Adler a shout And let him know That you'll help us out

Help Keep Our Daily Minyan Strong
ONE HOUR • ONE MORNING • ONCE A MONTH
Contact Sheldon Adler: sadler@skadden.com

#### 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.





## Hanukkah Candle Lighting and Order-Your-Own Dinner Monday, December 23 5:30 pm

Celebrate Hanukkah with OZ
as we light the second candle together.
Spin the dreidel, do hesed, and enjoy
latkes and sufganiyot provided by OZ!
After candle lighting, stay for an
"Order-Your-Own" dinner
with the community.
RSVP to dwenger@orzarua.org if you
plan to attend candle lighting only, and
sign up online for Order-Your-Own Dinner.
Registration link to follow.

#### Join Us for Hanukkah Music and Shabbat Dinner

Friday, December 27
Bir'nana Performance and
Festive Shabbat Dinner - See Page 3

#### CONGREGATION OR ZARUA

## Shabbat Across Or Zarua Dinner Three Ways Friday, November 15, 2019

In Parashat Vayera Abraham welcomes strangers to his home. At OZ, members will welcome other members to their homes, a warm and wonderful way to get to know each other, Young Professionals will gather in the library and Or L'Atid families in the Social Hall. Share Shabbat joy, delicious food, and stimulating conversation.

#### 1) Home-Hosted Dinners

The Shabbat Across OZ committee will match guests and hosts. If you would like to be a guest or a host, please contact the OZ office by Friday, November 8:

dwenger@orzarua.org or (212) 452-2310 x12. You may also sign up online using the following link:

www.orzarua.org/events/shabbat-across-or-zarua/.

For guests, please be sure to provide your name and phone number as well as the number of people who will be with you including the ages of children. If you would like to host but do not maintain a kosher home, Rabbi Bolton will help you plan a kosher meal. Please call the Or Zarua office.

#### 2) OZ Young Professionals Mexican Shabbat

Join other 20s and 30s for an enjoyable Shabbat night gathering in the Or Zarua Library. Check out their Facebook page (OrZaruaYoungProf) for more information.

#### 3) Family Shabbat Dinner

See page 8 for details.

#### NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2019 Or Zarua Young Professionals 2019-2020 Calendar 2019 2020 August January 16 Picnic Shabbat Dinner 24 Smokehouse BBQ Shabbat September February 20 Chinese Shabbat Dinner 6 Torah on Tap 23 Trivia Night 21 Board Game Shabbat October 17 Sushi in the Sukkah 9 Purim: Megillah & Celebration 20 Backyard BBQ Shabbat November 3 Williamsburg Walking Tour. Hipsters & Chasidim 10 Seder: 2nd Night 24 Israeli Shabbat Dinner 15 Mexican Shabbat Dinner 26 Jewish Harlem Walking Tour December 12 Torah on Tap: Chanukah Edition 15 Mexican Shabbat Dinner 20 Bukharian Shabbat Dinner 17 Paintball Wanna get involved? Follow us on Facebook! 7 Israel Day Parade Learn more about Or Zarua! Visit Us! 82nd St., New York, NY 10028