



Congregation B'nai Jeshurun

All the news that's fit to print, which will then be announced verbatim from the pulpit, squandering precious weekend minutes.

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PURIM 5762

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Condolences To:

The community of B'nai Jeshurun extends its sincere condolences to:

- The other Upper West Side shuls that actually do a full repetition of the Musaf Amidah.

Mazal Tov To:

- The elated family on the recent engagement of their oldest kid, whom they had considered utterly unmarriageable.
- The lucky folks who managed to score High Holiday entrance cards for 86th Street.
- The people who pounced on the Rabbis with such speed and agility that they didn't have to wait on line for half an hour after services.

This week's Kiddush is sponsored by:

- The number 7 and the letter Q.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: This is not Woodstock. This is not a Renewal Conference – this is a synagogue. Please be considerate of your neighbors and treat yourself to a shower and shampoo before services!

Fall Service Schedule

Clothing Optional Service

Do you find clothing a hindrance to a meaningful prayer experience? Streamline your davening by joining our newest alternative minyan.

6:00 PM – 88th St.
1st Friday of the month

Prayer Optional Service

Self-explanatory.

9:30 AM - 86th Street
2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month

Schmooze-Free Service

Not interested in sticking around for the compulsory schmooze after services? Leave immediately after Adon Olam – guilt free!

9:30 AM – 86th St
3rd Saturday of the month

We have attempted to be as inaccurate as possible in this issue of the Kol Jeshurun. We apologize in advance for any jokes that don't tickle your fancy. Just snub your nose and keep telling yourself that you are above such tomfoolery.

Todah Rabbah to that one guy!

We'd like to thank that one guy who remains at his seat while the rest of the congregation gathers around the Torah each Shabbat morning to recite the Mi Shebarekh. We may not know your name, but Lord knows we appreciate you.

SOCIAL JUSTICE OPPORTUNITY OF THE WEEK

SOCIAL JUSTICE SECOND: We are asking congregants to donate literally one second of their time to raise awareness about the fact that we have so many social justice initiatives that we can spare only one second on each heart-wrenching crisis.

Synagogue: 257 West 88th Street Office: 100A West 89th Street, New York, NY 10024
Tel: 212.787.7600 Fax: 212.496.7600 <http://www.bj.org>

GENERAL INFORMATION

New to BJ?

If you are new to BJ and eligible, we'd be glad to have some of our attractive ushers sit close to you...very very close to you.

Get Your Groove On

It is now officially acceptable to dance and prance during services – even when it is not the second

half of L'cha Dodi. (You could, for example, dance during the first half of L'cha Dodi!).

Helpful Devices

Hand radios, dvd players, and blenders with pina colada mix are available at the back of the sanctuary to make services a more enjoyable experience. No – we do not have the George Foreman Grill. It's Shabbes, for Gd's sake!

BJ Pronunciation Guide

1.) BJ is a synagogue - not a person. Therefore, it is not only grammatically unnecessary, but also downright annoying to refer to it as "BJ's." While we would say, "After services I'm going to Ernie's," we should not say, "Meet me at BJ's before our dinner-date." If you can't remember this simple rule, consider the following: BJ is actually short for Bnai Jeshurun and you'd never say – "I always go forty-five minutes late to services at Bnai Jeshurun's."

2.) In a similar vein, ROLY is short for ROLANDO and therefore he should NOT be called "ROLLIE." Even if you've been doing it for years – you can still break the habit! Alternatively, you might want to consider calling him "J" – for his mysterious first initial.

3.) No matter how many times MARCELO is called "Marcellus" or "Marchello," his name is now, and always will be, pronounced "MAR-SELL-O."

4.) FELICIA insists that her last name is properly pronounced SOL, with a soft "o" as in "olive" rather than a hard "o" as in "soul." Even if you think it may sound better the other way – give the Rabbi a break and respect her wishes.

5.) While this is more a point of etiquette than pronunciation, SHARON does not love being referred to as "the-little-girl-rabbi-from-BJ."

LIMUD (LEARNING)

Understanding Rabbinic Language

Begin to grapple with what the Rabbis are saying behind those thick Argentine accents! Learn a few catch phrases (e.g. sitted = seated; somefing = something; yesterday night = last night) – and so much more! Master the soft spiritual South American intonation that many of our native-English-speaking Fellows miraculously manage to acquire.

Learn to Space Out during the Contemplative

Sleep Deprived? Make the touchy-feely work for you! Learn how to turn meditative moments into stealth power naps.

It's Not in Heaven – It's in My Belly

Please note that this class is just an excuse to eat inhuman amounts of Entenmann's cakes. This week - special attention will be given to the All Butter Loaf.

Lashon Harah Course

Gossiping and backstabbing, often known as the life force of a synagogue, are at an all time low at BJ. Learn how to spice up our community and put the Harah back into your Lashon. Being nice has always been over-rated.

FAMILY EVENTS

Seventh Grade Friday Night Dinner

The seventh graders showcase their cooking skills as they whip up Shabbat Dinner for their families. The menu includes Pop Tarts, Fruit Loops, and microwave pizza. BYOB.

Jewish Guilt

Have you forgotten how to lay a good old fashioned guilt trip on your children? Learn how to treat the ones you love to the gift that keeps on giving.

SINGLES ACTIVITIES

Singles Retreat!

Are you a man? Are you a single man? Are you a man that's not single but could someday envision your relationship ending? If so, the Singles Committee is desperate for you to attend the retreat!

Join the Singles Community for Whine and Cheese

Fine whines include - Ach, where are all the attractive single Jewish guys who aren't terrified of commitment?! You bring the whines, we'll provide the cheese.

SOCIAL JUSTICE OPPORTUNITIES

Visit the Rich

BJ has organized a retreat to the Short Hills Mall - where BJ members will have face-to-face encounters with actual rich people. Activities include hugging heavy-set billionaires, slicing oranges with soccer moms, and scanning the clearance rack at Louis Vutton.

Fast Day Lunch Program

Volunteers are needed to help serve a delicious 4-course meal to hungry fasters during minor and major fast days this year. Why go to the diner for

lunch on Yom Kippur when you can eat with your friends in Frankel Hall? Munch all you want and be absolved during Neilah!

BJ Responds

BJ has decided this year that Hate is *out* and Loving-Kindness is *in*. Please act accordingly. We are sorry for any hate-related activities you may have pre-registered for - please contact the office for a refund.

UPCOMING EVENTS

At-Home Shabbat Dinner

This year BJ is unveiling a radical new Shabbat concept. Drumroll please: Shabbat Dinner at Home. Finally enjoy Shabbat in the relative comfort of your own home. Fear not: the Boulevard and Saigon Grill will both still be around *motzei shabbat*.

Be a Host!

In our interminable effort to be two steps more radical than any other viable voice in the Jewish community, BJ has embarked on its newest crusade. Join us as we offer our bodies to host a family of parasites one of our members acquired on a recent trip to Central America. Tape worm, Turista, E. Coli - you choose. Become a host who loves to host!

The Kashruth of Food Fights

The Shabbat B'Yahad Committee presents a participatory Shabbat dinner and learning on the Kashruth of Food Fights. The food fight will be moderated by BJ rabbis with Roma serving as referee. To sign up for this event, you must call the Shabbat B'Yahad Committee at x304 and mail a check for \$25 to the BJ office by March 14. Then, do not forget to call x243 to ask Miya if Shabbat B'Yahad received your reservation and x226 to ask Ron if BJ received your check. You also must call the BJ kitchen at x202 to let them know how much food-fighting experience you have. Two days before the event, call the BJ receptionist just to make sure you are on the reservation list. If you

have any questions about this event or need further info, you are out of luck. Please bring a change of clothes.

Mo'adon HaSefer HaTov (Book Club)

Scholar-in-residence Professor Snape will discuss "Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban" by J. K. Rowlings. Muggles welcome.

Blood Drive

Jewish Vampires around the city are suffering from an alarming shortage of blood. Are we to let this doubly discriminated group of nocturnal creatures suffer and starve? Give a little blood.

Night of 100 Treif Dinners

We invite you to join our synagogue community for an array of high treiff delicacies. Kashruth Shmashruth - anything goes! Please remember: we will retain the utmost sensitivity to ANY and ALL pet allergies.

Now Forming: The Tricky Dick Havurah

BJ Republicans unite - take up the fight! We know there are at least two or three of you out there. Why not join together in a life-affirming act of solidarity and discuss how it feels to be a living, breathing oxymoron.

Wholesome Finger Pointing Fun

Join us as we all share in a collective grimace and point our fingers judgmentally at the freeloaders who show up each week but refuse to pony up the membership fee.

A Random Teaching

Fuzzy Wuzzy was a Bear. Fuzzy Wuzzy had no hair. Fuzzy Wuzzy wasn't Fuzzy - was he (Wuzzy)?

For generations Rabbis have disputed the true meaning of these cryptic words. Our commentators understand that this statement questions not only Fuzzy Wuzzy's premature balding, but also the very nature of Fuzzy's being a bear. In Masekhet Sanhedrin, Resh Lakish views this as an insult to Mr. Wuzzy, while R. Yohanan sees this as decisive proof that Fuzzy Wuzzy was more human than bear. Rashi, the 11th century French commentator, however, glosses over the attack that Fuzzy Wuzzy may not have been Fuzzy, affirming that Mr. Wuzzy was all bear. He taught: " Fuzzy Wuzzy snagged more picnic baskets than your average bear."

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO LEAVE YOUR *SIDDURIM* WHEREVER YOU WANT...THE USHERS JUST DON'T CARE ANYMORE.