



Shabbat Vayigash

TORAH

Genesis 44:18 - 47:27

TRIENNIAL

Genesis 45:28 - 46:27

HAFTARAH

Ezekiel 37:15 - 37:28

Next week: Parashat Vayehi

TORAH

Genesis 47:28 - 50:26

TRIENNIAL

Genesis 49:1 - 49:26

HAFTARAH

I Kings 2:1 - 2:12

SOCIAL JUSTICE OPPORTUNITY
OF THE WEEK:Join the BJ Environmental Action
Task Force!

What does Judaism have to say about the Earth and how to care for it? Find out and take action to help conserve the environment on a local and global level! Hazon Jewish Environmental Bike Ride, community gardening, promoting environmental awareness...Do these and more. We want your help! Call x310 if you are interested in these exciting initiatives.

RABBIS

Marshall T. Meyer (1985-1993)

J. Rolando Matalon • Marcelo R. Bronstein • Felicia L. Sol

CANTOR & MUSIC DIRECTOR

Ari Priven

MARSHALL T. MEYER RABBINIC FELLOWS

Rabbi Rachel Gartner • Meir Feldman • Jessica Zimmerman

December 13 – December 20, 2002

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13

Kabbalat Shabbat Service	6:00 PM – 88th St.
Shabbat B'Yahad Dinner with Rabbi Chaim Seidler-Feller	after 6:00 PM service – 88th St.
Kitah Zayin Dinner	after 6:00 PM service – 86th St.
Kabbalat Shabbat Service	6:45 PM – 86th St.
Singles Oneg	after 6:45 PM service – 86th St.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

Shabbat Services	9:30 AM – 86th St.
D'var Torah	Rabbi Chaim Seidler-Feller
Children's Services	10:45 AM – 86th St.
Community Kiddush	12:30 PM – 86th St.

Shabbat Learning with Rabbi Chaim Seidler-Feller <i>On the Morality of the Patriarchs: Alienation and Tikkun</i>	4:00 PM – 88th St.
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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

Morning Minyan	9:30 AM – 88th St.
Gesher	5:00 PM – 88th St.
Singles Event: Shake It On the Dance Floor	5:00 PM – 127 W. 25th Street

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16

Morning Minyan	7:30 AM – 88th St.
Introduction to Judaism	7:00 PM – 86th St.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17

Morning Minyan	7:30 AM – 88th St.
Talmud Introduction	8:15 AM – 88th St.
Families Cooking for the Shelter	5:00 PM – 88th St.
Intermediate Hebrew	6:30 PM – 86th St.
Memorial Service for Dr. Carlos Aisen	7:00 PM – 88th St.
Creating a Meaningful Relationship	7:00 PM – call x240 for location
Singles Event: Film Screening	7:30 PM – Makor

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18

Morning Minyan	7:30 AM – 88th St.
Kesharim	2:00 PM – 88th St.
Creating Modern Midrash	7:30 PM – 86th St.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19

Morning Minyan	7:30 AM – 88th St.
Judith Bernstein Lunch Program	12:00 PM – 88th St.
Beginning Hebrew	6:30 PM – 86th St.
Advanced Beginning Hebrew	8:00 PM – 86th St.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20

Morning Minyan	7:30 AM – 88th St.
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

We announce with profound sorrow the tragic death of Dr. Carlos Aisen in Buenos Aires on December 6. Carlitos offered us the gift of his music and the beauty of his soul and his friendship during the High Holy Days for 16 years, since 1986. A memorial service will be held on Tuesday, December 17, 7:00 PM, at 88th Street.

Mazal Tov To The Following Members And Their Families:

- Alison, Kenneth and Ilyana Schlesinger and Marilyn and Herbert Monte Levy on the birth of their daughter, sister and granddaughter, Sabrina.
- All new members who recently completed the New Member Orientation Program

B'rukhim Haba-im To:

- Education Director, Linda Yitzchak, and Confirmation and Post Confirmation Classes, Congregation Shaare Tefila, Silver Spring, Maryland.
- Youth Director, Aimee Reifer, and Hebrew School Youth Group, Temple Sinai, Roslyn Heights, NY.

Todah Rabbah To:

- Joan Kaplan for her outstanding effort and creativity in helping BJ mount the Israeli Children's art show - **Peace through Humor**.

Membership at B'nai Jeshurun

Are you considering joining BJ? Would you like information about becoming a member? Call Hillary Oberstein, Director of Membership, at x224 or email Hillary at hoberstein@bj.org.

Mevarhim HaHodesh Sponsorship

Be the next sponsor for our monthly Shabbat lunch and learning with Shoshana Jedwab. The next learnings are December 28 and February 1. Contact Michael at x260 for details.

FALL SERVICE SCHEDULE

Friday Kabbalat Shabbat Service	6:00 PM – 88th Street
Friday Kabbalat Shabbat Service	6:45 PM – 86th Street
Family Kabbalat Shabbat Service <i>Friday, January 3</i>	6:00 PM – 88th Street
Wandering Minyan <i>Friday, January 3</i>	6:00 PM – 88th Street
Tot Shabbat <i>Friday, December 20</i>	5:45 PM – 86th Street
Saturday Shabbat Service	9:30 AM – 86th Street

Kol Nidre Donations Online!

You can now make a contribution to the Kol Nidre Partnership online! Go to www.bj.org and look in the "What's New" section. Because membership dues cover less than half of BJ's operating budget, the community depends on your continued and increased generosity to the Kol Nidre Partnership.

Donate to BJ Reads

Ellen Schecter thanks the BJ community for their prayers and concern following her accident. Ellen co-chairs the BJ Reads program at PS 166. She requests that rather than sending flowers or gifts, donations be made to BJ Reads to provide books for the children at PS 166. Mail your check made out to B'nai Jeshurun and marked BJ Reads to the BJ office.

LIMUD/LEARNING

CLASSES To Register, visit www.bj.org.

Workshop: Tohoo and Tikkun with Rabbi Ohad Ezrahi

Sunday, December 22, 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM, at 88th Street: Using text study, open discussion, meditation, and chanting, we will learn the meaning of these two Kabbalistic terms in our own world: in one's psychology, in relationships, and in the business world. We will dive deep into the mythology and come out with some new understandings about our lives. Taught by Rabbi Ohad Ezrahi. Cost: \$50 members/\$75 nonmembers. Advanced registration required. Code: 388. Register online or call x256.

Stories of the Talmudic Rabbis

7 Wednesdays, January 15 - March 5 (no class January 29), 6:30 PM, at 88th Street: We will continue to study stories that reflect the concerns, struggles, fears, fantasies - even the dark side - of our Talmudic sages. We will attempt to look at ourselves in the mirror of the Talmud in order to understand and confront our own nature. Knowledge of Hebrew not required. New participants welcome. Cost: free. Please register by calling x256.

ACTIVITIES

Shabbat Learning: Eros and Creativity - Yetser veYetsirah

Saturday, December 21, 4:30 PM, at 86th Street: Why did mainstream Judaism discourage art, painting, music, sculpture, or dance in the last two millennia? Why are the arts now being renewed? By studying Talmudic and Hassidic texts, participants will search for

the meaning of creativity and discover why it is awakening now. Taught by Rabbi Ohad Ezrahi. Cost: free. Registration not required.

Mevarchim HaHodesh Learning

Saturday, December 28, after services, at 88th Street, in Frankel Hall: In anticipation of the renewal of the moon and the beginning of a new Hebrew month, we will gather for a special kiddush and learning, singing, and storytelling led by Shoshana Jedwab.

Rosh Hodesh Women's Group

Saturday, January 4, 12:30 PM, at 86th Street: Join us on this holiday traditionally associated with women as we usher in the Hebrew month of Shevat with a potluck lunch following Shabbat services. Registration not required. For more info, call x222.

Book Club

Sunday, January 12, 7:00 PM, location tba: The BJ Book Club is reading *Paradise Park* by Allegra Goodman, which opens in 1970s Hawaii. The main character, Sharon Spiegelman, has moved to Hawaii from Boston and then begins a spiritual return trip home.

Find a Hevruta (Study Partner) for BJ's New Beit Midrash Patuah
If you are interested in finding a Hevruta partner to study for the Beit Midrash Patuah, email your name, phone number, and email address to Rabbi Felicia Sol at fsol@bj.org.

COMMUNITY

Visiting Scholar: Rabbi Chaim Seidler-Feller

•**Friday, December 13**, after the 6:00 PM service, at 88th Street: For those who pre-registered for the Shabbat B'Yahad dinner with Rabbi Seidler-Feller, please join us.

•**Saturday, December 14**, 4:00 PM, at 88th Street: Join us for Shabbat learning with Rabbi Seidler-Feller who will discuss *On the Morality of the Patriarchs: Alienation and Tikkun*. Registration not required.

•Sacred Music Workshop with Gabriel Meyer

Sunday, December 15, 5:00 PM, and **Wednesday, December 18**, 7:00 PM: Join us for a healing and awakening journey through chant, movement, interactive meditation, and Sufi and Kabbalistic devotional practices. Gabi will also show a film about the Sulha gatherings - peace gatherings between Arabs and Jews in Israel. Cost: \$15 (part of the proceeds will go to the Sulha Peace Project). Place tba. For location and registration, contact Dany Celermajer, dandc@bway.net or (212) 8654803.

•Rabbi Marshall T. Meyer Yahrzeit: In Celebration of Marshall's Life

Friday, December 20, and **Saturday, December 21**: Join us and the Meyer family on Friday, December 20, at the 6:00 PM service, which will be held in celebration of Marshall's life with a reading from a selection of his writings. At Shabbat morning services on Saturday, December 21, our special guest speaker will be Marshall's nephew, Eric Meyer, professor of Judaic studies and Director of the Graduate Program in Religion at Duke University, who will discuss *Vayyehi: And He Lived...Marshall's Life and Legacy*.

•Same Difference

January 7 - January 19, The West End Theater at SPSA, 86th Street: The BJ/SPSA Interfaith Arts Committee, The American Sufi Muslim Association, Muslims Against Terrorism, and United Methodist Council on Relief invite you to attend a performance of *Same Difference*, a theatrical event with original music and dance based on interviews with Christians, Muslims and Jews in New York City before and after 9/11. Performances on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays take place at 8:00 PM; performances on Sundays are at 3:00 PM. Reservations required - call the Theatre Outrageous box office at (212) 539-6506 and leave your name, number, email, date of show and number of tickets. Interfaith dialogues follow performances on January 9, 12, 16, and 19.

•New! Early Childhood Shabbat Sing-Along

Eight Fridays, January 10 - February 28, at 88th Street: Join us for BJ's new early childhood Sing-Along with BJ musician Amanda Monaco. Class is 9:30 AM - 10:15 AM for six months - 18 months; 10:15 AM - 11:00 AM for 18 months - three years. Cost: \$225 members/\$250 nonmembers. For more info or to register, call x242.

•Night of 100 Dinners: Dinner and a Move...

Saturday, March 1: Hundreds of BJ members and friends will enjoy a main course at members' homes. Then, at 9 PM, we'll move the party to 88th Street for delicious desserts and dancing to the music of the Shalom Orchestra. Volunteer to host a dinner and choose a theme - a tasting menu for wine lovers, a new members' welcome, a Hawaiian luau - then invite your own guests or have us fill your table. To volunteer as a host, watch for your invitation in the mail, pick up a flyer at the back of the sanctuaries or visit BJ's website. (Guests make a donation to BJ. Guest sign-up begins January 2.) For more info, call x307.

•Israeli Children's Art Show - Peace through Humor

Now Showing at 88th Street in Frankel Hall: The BJ Israel Committee is proud to present an exhibition of Israeli children's art from schools all over Israel, which will be on display until January 8. The theme explores children's reactions to the current turmoil in Israel. Sponsored by the Miriam L. Siroky Fund for Family Education.

HEBREW SCHOOL

•Kitah Zayin and Seventh Grade Families Shabbat Dinner

Friday, December 13, after the 6:00 PM service, at 86th Street: For those who pre-registered, please join us.

FAMILIES

•Families Cooking for the Shelter

Tuesday, December 17, 5:00 PM, at 88th Street in Frankel Hall: This month, families with children in first grade are invited to prepare a meal for guests of BJ's Homeless Shelter, set the table together, and conclude with an age-appropriate study about the mitzvah of feeding the hungry. Please call Beth Kern at (212) 724-5336 to volunteer.

•Tot Shabbat

Friday, December 20, 5:45 PM, at SPSA: Join us for our monthly Tot Shabbat, a service for families with children 5 and under, followed by a light kiddush in the Parlor. For more info about Tot Shabbat, please contact Hollis at x244 or hgauss@bj.org.

SINGLES

•Singles Oneg

Friday, December 13, after the 6:45 PM service, at 86th Street: Come warm up from the cold and join us for food and schmoozing.

•Shake it on the Dance Floor with Reba Perez

Sunday, December 15, 5:00 - 8:00 PM, at 127 W. 25th Street, 11th Fl. (hit buzzer 17): Don't just meet new friends - dance with them! No experience or partner needed - fun Basic Lesson/Social Mixer from 5:00 - 6:00 PM. Cost: \$18/door/\$15 BJ members (includes snacks & dance lesson). Note: This dance event happens the 1st & 3rd Sunday of every month. For more info, visit www.EmpireDance.com or call (212) 645-2441.

•Film Screening at Makor

Tuesday, December 17, 7:30 PM, at Makor: Join us for *The Trials of Henry Kissinger*. This film examines compelling evidence of Kissinger's role in human rights abuses in countries such as Cambodia, Chile and Indonesia. Featuring a post-screening discussion with director Eugene Jarecki. Cost: \$15. To reserve your spot, call Makor at (212) 601-1000.



Learn to Serve at the BJ Judith Bernstein Lunch Program!

Put your culinary and dishwashing skills to work at the BJ Judith Bernstein Lunch Program. We need volunteers to serve our guests on Thursdays from 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM and assist with clean up from 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM. Contact x338 if you are interested.

Habitat for Humanity Blitz Build

Sunday, January 19, 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM: Cultivate your carpentry skills with the BJ delegation for Habitat for Humanity! We are participating in a city-wide building blitz. Volunteers must be at least 16. Please contact Amanda at x259 or asilver@bj.org by **December 19** if you are interested.

Christmas Day Volunteering: BJ Works With the JCC

Volunteering on Christmas is a wonderful way to give back to our larger community. Come yourself, with friends, or with family - children too! Serve meals, help elderly patients, spend time with youngsters, and much more. Call the JCC Volunteer Hotline at (646) 505-4455 or visit www.jccmanhattan.org/volunteer.asp.

Beyond Volunteerism: Fight Poverty

Starts Wednesday, January 8, at the JCC on 76th Street: Make a difference - learn how you can promote change in New York City, the US and the world. Join a in-depth roundtable discussion with leaders of cutting-edge Jewish organizations working for justice. Cost: \$5 for 1 event, or \$16 for four-part series. Call the JCC at (646) 505-5708 for more info or to register.

Sex, Lies, and Rabbis: Breaking a Sacred Trust

BJ member Dr. Charlotte Rolnick Schwab has published a book, **Sex, Lies, and Rabbis: Breaking a Sacred Trust** about the pervasiveness of violence against women, clergy betrayal and sexual abuse in the Jewish community and outlines new policies and a healing program for victims based on Jewish sources. Available in bookstores or order from the publisher at (888) 280-7715.

Holocaust Insurance Claims Extended

The International Commission on Holocaust Era Insurance Claims has extended the deadline to obtain benefits from Holocaust-era insurance policies to March 30, 2003. For help or more info, contact the New York Holocaust Claims Processing Office at (800) 695-3318.

Blood Donations Needed: Pikuah Nefesh (Saving a Life)

Hugo Frank, the grandson of a BJ member, needs blood donations to fight leukemia. You must be 17-75 years old and in good health to donate. Please call Marion Novack at the Memorial Sloan Kettering Blood Bank for complete details at (212) 639-8177.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Large Print Texts

Large print siddurim are available at the back of the sanctuary. Please ask an usher for assistance if you would like one.

A Note from the Ushers

For those attending the Friday night service at 88th St., please return your siddurim to the back of the sanctuary as you leave. Please place damaged books or tallitot in the boxes at the back of the sanctuary. We also ask that all men wear kippot during services.

So that we may make preparations for the comfort and security of all, doors open 30 minutes prior to the beginning of services. To avoid a lengthy wait outside as the temperatures drop, we ask you to please time your arrival accordingly.

Saturday Morning Ushers Needed

If you can usher on Saturday mornings, please call Deborah at x254.

We attempt to be as accurate as possible concerning the information contained in the Kol Jeshurun. Due to the tight deadlines under which we work, errors can sometimes occur. We apologize in advance for any mistakes.. If you need any Hebrew words translated, please call Rabbi Rachel Gartner at x253.

Stand Up for Your Synagogue – Be a BJ Usher

Want to make BJ an even more welcoming community? Well, then, don't just sit there! Help greet and seat your fellow members as a BJ usher. As an usher, you serve the community directly. And many will tell you, there's no better way to get to know your fellow members. More importantly, through the mitzvah of ushering, you help create an atmosphere of peace and comfort that allows our prayers - and our spirits - to soar. You'll receive the satisfaction of knowing that through the warm glow of your welcome, you're helping your synagogue to build a kehillah kedosha, a holy community. So don't take your Judaism sitting down. Take a stand. To volunteer for ushering, call the BJ office at (212) 787 - 7600, x254. Or see one of the Head Ushers in the back after services: Friday at 6:00 PM: Jeff Yablonka; Friday at 6:45 PM: Michael Miller; Saturday Morning: - Glenda Frank

A Teaching from Parashat A Teaching from Parashat Vayigash: Does the End Justify the Means?

I am Joseph, your brother, he whom you sold into slavery. Now do not be distressed or reproach yourselves because you sold me here; it was to save life that God sent me ahead of you...to ensure your survival on earth, and to save your lives in a great deliverance. Genesis 45:4-45:7

These words pave the way for reconciliation between Joseph and his estranged brothers. But is it acceptable to justify past wrongs on the basis of ultimate outcome? Abravanel teaches: "The fact that by mere chance the sale [of Joseph into slavery] turned out well did not lessen the brothers' offense. A person is not judged by the accidental results of his deeds, but by his intent. The accidental results are irrelevant to the moral dimension."

PLEASE SEE THE BACK OF THE SANCTUARY FOR FLYERS AND MORE INFO ON:

- Welcome to BJ • Membership at BJ • Membership Packets • BJ Annual Catalogue • Limud Catalogue • Bikkur Holim • New Havurot Applications
- Upcoming Singles Events