



Parashat Vayakhel • Shabbat Shekalim
Mevarkhim HaHodesh

TORAH
Exodus 35:1 - 38:20

TRIENNIAL
Exodus 37:17 - 38:20

MAFTIR
Exodus 30:11 - 30:16

HAFTARAH
II Kings 12:1 - 12:17

Next week: Parashat Pekudei

TORAH
Exodus 38:21 - 40:38

TRIENNIAL
Exodus 38:21 - 39:21

MAFTIR
Exodus

HAFTARAH
II Kings 7:51 - 8:21



Social Justice Opportunity of the Week!

Project Manjar: Last Chance to Participate!

You can help provide food vouchers for the hungry in Argentina this Purim by making a donation to BJ's Project Manjar and/or sponsoring shalah manot (food packages) in honor of fellow BJ members or our rabbis. The deadline for contributions is this **Monday, March 3**. See the attached flyer for complete details and an order form, or sign up online at www.bj.org. For more info, contact the Latin America Committee at x371, or email BJLatinAmerica@yahoo.com.

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

February 28 - March 7, 2003

26 Adar I - 3 Adar II, 5763

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:00 PM – 88th St.
Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:45 PM – 86th St.

SATURDAY, MARCH 1

Shabbat Services 9:30 AM – 86th St.
Children's Services 10:45 AM – 86th St.
Bat Mitzvah Leah Silver
Mevarkhim HaHodesh Kiddush and Learning 12:30 PM – 88th St.
Night of 100 Dinners Party 9:00 PM – 88th St.

SUNDAY, MARCH 2

Morning Minyan 9:30 AM – 88th St.
Gesher 5:00 PM – 88th St.

MONDAY, MARCH 3

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.
Introduction to Judaism 7:00 PM – 86th St.
Rosh Hodesh Women's Group 7:00 PM – 88th St.

TUESDAY, MARCH 4

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.
Talmud Introduction 8:15 AM – 88th St.
Families Cook for the Shelter (Fourth Grade) 5:00 PM – 88th St.
Hebrew Classes:
Intermediate 6:30 PM – 86th St.
Advanced 8:00 PM – 86th St.
The Election of the People Israel 7:00 PM – 86th St.

Rosh Hodesh Adar II

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.
Stories of the Talmudic Rabbis 6:30 PM – 88th St.

Rosh Hodesh Adar II

THURSDAY, MARCH 6

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.
Judith Bernstein Lunch Program 12:00 PM – 88th St.
Prayer and Synagogue Skills 7:00 PM – 86th St.
Hebrew Class: *Advanced Beginner* 8:00 PM – 86th St.

FRIDAY, MARCH 7

Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – 88th St.
Early Childhood Shabbat Sing-Along 9:15 AM – 88th St.
6 months - 18 months
Early Childhood Shabbat Sing-Along 10:15 AM – 88th St.
18 months - 22 months
Early Childhood Shabbat Sing-Along 11:15 AM – 88th St.
23 months - 36 months

ANNOUNCEMENTS

•The community of B'nai Jeshurun mourns the loss of our beloved member, Dr. Eugene Weiner, and extends condolences to his wife Anita Weiner and her family.

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

- Manny Burstein and David Burstein on the death of their beloved father, Charles Burstein.
- Robert, Kimberley, and Edan Goldenberg on the death of Robert's beloved mother, Anne Goldenberg.
- Bruce, Ben, Adam, and Ross Gitlin, and Elizabeth Kurshan Gitlin, on the death of Bruce's beloved father, Martin Gitlin.
- Lisa Adler on the death of her beloved grandmother, June Sherkow.

Mazal Tov To The Following Members And Their Families:

- Leah, Orli, Jonathan, and Elliot Silver, and Benjamin Meer, on Leah becoming a Bat Mitzvah.
- Hillel and Betsy Friedman, Naomi Meyer, Sarah Friedman and James Fraiman on the birth of Hillel and Betsy's grandson, Eitan Rafael Neustadt.

B'ruchim Haba'im To:

- Rabbi Sharon Marcus and the Confirmation Class, Park Synagogue, Cleveland Heights, Ohio.

•**BJ Goes to Argentina Trip Cancelled**

Please note a change in our plans. Given the tenuous political state and the possibility of immanent war, the BJ trip to Argentina has been postponed indefinitely. Watch the KJ and BJ's website for info about a new date for our trip.

WINTER 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, March 7</i>	6:00 PM – 88th Street
Wandering Minyan <i>Friday, March 7</i>	6:00 PM – 88th Street
Tot Shabbat <i>Friday, March 21</i>	5:45 PM – 86th Street
Saturday Shabbat Service	9:30 AM – 86th Street



LIMUD/LEARNING

CLASSES

To Register, visit www.bj.org or call x221.

Stories of the Talmudic Rabbis

Seven Wednesdays (started January 15), 6:30 PM, at 88th Street: We will study stories that reflect the concerns and struggles, fears and fantasies of our Talmudic sages. Hebrew not required. New participants welcome. Taught by Rabbi J. Rolando Matalon. Cost: Free. Code: 306.

The Election of the People of Israel: Who's voting?

Three Tuesdays, (started February 25), 7:00 PM, at 86th Street: What is the origin of the chosen-ness and our role in being "a light to the nations"? Through a study of classical and contemporary texts, we will learn about the roots of the election of the people of Israel and how that notion has been developed and refuted over time. Taught by Rabbi Felicia Sol. Cost: Free; registration required. Code: 331.

Prayer and Synagogue Skills

Two Thursdays, (started February 27), 7:00 PM, at 86th Street: In this workshop, we will explore the choreography and structure of services and address such questions as - how can we find meaning in the rigidity of daily prayer? Cost: free for members/\$30 non-members. Code: 323. Not too late to sign up! Call x221 to register.

Hassidic Teachings About Shabbat

Four Wednesdays, starting March 19, 6:30 PM, at 88th Street: This class will explore Hassidic approaches to the meaning and observance of Shabbat. We will study texts by Rabbi Zvi Elimelekh of Dinov - the Bnei Yissakhar, and Rabbi Yehudah Aryeh Leib Alter of Ger - the Sefat Emet. Taught by Rabbi J. Rolando Matalon. Cost: Free; registration required. Code: 307.

ACTIVITIES

Mevarkhim HaHodesh Learning

Saturday, March 1, 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.

Book Club

Sunday, March 9, 7:00 PM, at 88th Street: The BJ Book Club is reading **How I Came Into My Inheritance** by Dorothy Gallagher.

Second Annual BJ Women's Retreat

April 4 - April 6: Hold the date! Join Rabbi Felicia Sol and Rabbi Rachel Gartner on BJ's Second Annual Women's Retreat. Visit BJ's website for more info and an application form.

COMMUNITY

Project Manjar: Last Chance to Participate!

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•**Interfaith Assembly Reading of *Lysistrata* by Aristophanes**
Monday, March 3, 6:00 PM, at 86th Street: Be part of the first global theater event for peace! Suggested donation to benefit Interfaith Assembly on Homelessness: \$10. For reservations or more info, call (212) 316-3171 or email iahhnyc@cs.com. Brief reception follows. Not suitable for children.

•**Tze'irim: BJ 20-and-30-Somethings Habitat for Humanity Day**
Sunday, March 9, 9:30 AM: There is still some room left at this rapidly approaching event. Those interested should email Rabbi Rachel Gartner at tzeirim@bj.org or call x398 as soon as possible.

•**Klezmer Workshop for BJ Musicians**
Monday, March 10, 7:00 PM, at 88th Street: BJ musicians are invited to a Klezmer workshop and amazing learning experience taught by Jeff Warschauer. Cost: \$20-\$30, depending on number of participants. For more info, contact Matt Fried at MattF@aol.com or (212) 877-3147. Sponsored by the BJ Musician's Havurah.

•**Public Forum on the INS Special Registration Program**
Tuesday, March 11, 7:00 PM, at 86th Street: Rabbi Rolando Matalon will moderate a public forum with the city's top experts in civil liberties, law, and immigration to raise awareness about the impact of 9/11 and the INS's Special Registration Program on Muslim and Arab immigrant communities in NYC. Join us and find out what you can do to take action. Co-sponsored with SPSA

•**Film: *Mayor of the West Side***
Thursday, March 13, 7:30 PM, at the JCC: Don't miss a sneak preview screening of *Mayor of the West Side*, a documentary about BJ member Mark Puddington, a teenager with multiple disabilities and a local celebrity whose extraordinary Bar Mitzvah at BJ touched the congregation deeply. Discussion with filmmaker Judd Ehrlich and BJ member Margaret Puddington to follow. Cost: \$8 JCC/BJ members/\$10 non-members. For tickets, call (646) 505-5708.

Shabbat B'Yahad with Rabbi Mordechai Gafni

•**Friday, March 14**, after the 6:00 PM service, at 88th Street: Join us for a catered dinner and a teaching by Rabbi Mordechai Gafni on ***A Kabbalistic Invitation to Imagination - Israel, Judaism, Next Steps***. Cost: \$25 members/\$35 non-members by **March 7**; \$10 late fee after March 7. To register, call x304 AND mail a check to the BJ office marked 3/15 SBY Dinner; or register online AND call x304 to confirm.

•**Saturday, March 15**, at Shabbat morning services, Rabbi Gafni will give a D'var Torah on ***Lovers Jesters and Saints - New Masters in the Next Stage***. All are invited to join us for Shabbat services and his talk; registration not required.

•**Saturday, March 15**, 5:00 PM, at 86th Street: Join Rabbi Gafni for a Shabbat learning on ***The Erotic, the Ethical and the Holy - Learning the Sacred Dance***. Cost: free. Registration not required.

•Purim: Monday, March 17

Mark your calendars for this year's Purim merriment:

- Tots** celebration and costume parade, 5:00 PM, at 88th Street
- Family Service & Play** for children in K-7, 6:15 PM, at 88th Street
- Adult Service**, Ma'ariv and full megillah reading at 7:00 PM at 86th Street, followed by the "Mordy Gras" Purim Spectacular you won't want to miss - a carnival festival that will expand the mind, the body and the soul with lots of great surprises!

Ledor Vador Intergenerational Shabbat Lunch

Saturday, March 22, 12:30 PM, at 88th Street: Please save the date for our next luncheon. Stay tuned to the Kol Jeshurun for more details as the event gets closer. RSVP by **March 13** by sending a check to the BJ office. Cost: \$12 members/\$15 non-members. You can also leave a message on the Committee's hotline at x334.

•Awakening, Yearning and Renewal: A Conference on the Hasidic Roots of Contemporary Jewish Spiritual Expression and Festival of Neo-Hasidic Spirituality

March 26 - 29, at the JCC: This conference and Shabbaton brings together academics, musicians, and practitioners including Arthur Green, Tirzah Firestone, Mordechai Gafni, Arthur Waskow, and many more. Rabbi Roly Matalon will be presenting on **Friday, March 28**. For more info, contact Susie Kessler at skessler@jccnyc.org or call (646) 505-4406.

Save the Date! Interfaith Seder

Thursday, April 10, 7:00 PM, at 88th Street: the Interfaith Committee will host a pre-Pesah Seder with members of SPSA and Muslim guests. BJ members who would like to help host our friends from these communities are invited to make reservations by calling the Interfaith voicemail at x314 and leaving your name and phone number or email address. Cost: \$10. If you would like to join members of SPSA to prepare traditional Pesah ceremonial items and desserts from the BJ Pesah cookbook on the afternoon of April 10, you may also leave your information on the voicemail.

SINGLES

•Shake It On The Dance Floor with Reba Perez

Sunday, March 2 and 16, 5:00 PM, 127 West 25th St, buzzer #17: For complete details visit www.empiredance.com or call (212) 645-2441. Cost at the door: \$15 BJ members/\$18 nonmembers.

•Date Bait for Singles

Sunday, March 9, 6:30 PM, at 88th Street: Your favorite singles' event is back! Cost: \$20 members/\$30 non-members/\$40 walk-ins, if space available. To RSVP call the Singles Voicemail x306 AND send your check to the BJ office marked **3/9 Date Bait** by **February 27** or register online at BJ's website. For more info, call Date Bait at (212) 971-1084 or Michael at x260. Space limited.

•Oneg Shabbat

Friday, March 14, after the 6:45 PM service, at 86th Street: Stay inside where it's warm after shul and meet and great upbeat people. Refreshments served. See you there.

•Co-sponsored Dances with B'nai Jeshurun and Ansche Chesed

Sunday, March 30, 7:00 PM, at Ansche Chesed: Hosted by Reba Perez and Eric Hollman. Cost: \$15 AC/BJ/MOMC members/\$20 non-members. Volunteers needed - call Michael B. at (212) 678-7881.

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. To volunteer, call 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.

Two New Job Loss Support Groups

Have you or your loved ones been affected by the slowing economy? The Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services is offering two new support groups. Cost: free. For more info, contact Alisha Goodman, MSW, Project Manager, JBFCFS, at (212) 399 -2685 x223 or agoodman@jbfcs.org.

Indemnification Claims Deadline for Belgian Jews

The Belgian Government is taking measures to indemnify Belgian Jews or their proven surviving relatives for assets lost in Belgium during the World War II. The deadline for filing claims is **March 19, 2003**. The application form can be found at www.premier.fgov.be. For info, contact Christian Dooms, Deputy Consul General, at (212) 586-5110 or consubel@panix.com.

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 and in good health. Please call Marion Novack at (212) 639-8177 for complete details.

Contributions In Memory of Dr. Carlos Aisen

Tax deductible contributions in memory of Dr. Carlos Aisen may be made out to the *Carlos Aisen Scholarship Fund*, which provides scholarships to the Summer Camp of Comunidad Amijai of Buenos Aires. Mail your check to Susan Zemsky, Kehila Chadasha, 1622 Martha Terrace, Rockville, MD, 20852.

GENERAL INFORMATION

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.

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. Place damaged books or tallitot in the boxes at the back of the sanctuary. We also ask that 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.

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.

This week in Israel's History

In February, 1962 Eli Cohen arrived in Damascus, posing as a businessman from Argentina returning to his native land. This was the start of the career of Israel's greatest spy. At the time, Syria's government was in transition and Eli was able to align himself with the leaders of the rising Baath party. He spent money lavishly, holding wild parties with large amounts of alcohol. Eli's connections enabled him to pass strategic Syrian gun positions in the Golan Heights to Israeli intelligence. On one trip Eli suggested that Syria plant a tree at each military fortification for the purpose of providing shade for the soldiers. As a result, during the six day war, all Syrian fortifications were marked by large eucalyptus trees. Ultimately Syrian intelligence, aided by Russia, uncovered his role. Eli Cohen was apprehended and hung. His execution was broadcast live on Syrian television and viewed by his family and all of Israel. Eli Cohen is remembered as one of Israel's greatest heroes.

D'var Tefillah: Adonai Sifatai Tiftah [Adonai, open my mouth]

Excerpted from Kedushat Levi: The Talmud concludes that the words, "Adonai, open my mouth, that my lips may declare your praise" [recited at the beginning of the Amida] are...an extension of the Amida...One must conclude then, that this phrase was not part of the original [liturgy]...[and that this phrase] should be understood as a prayer for the ability to pray...Hence there are two aspects to prayer: the prayer itself, and a prayer for the ability to pray. Even our greatest of Sages found that the art of prayer was at times elusive, encouraging them to pray simply for the ability to pray. Our liturgy is designed to address the vicissitudes of the prayer experience; each service has a flow, pace, and progression designed to gradually move us ever deeper, ever closer to the challenging activity of actually praying.

At times when you find it particularly difficult to pray, try focusing on the parts of the liturgy that you can use to remove the obstacles to prayer. Perhaps your prayer for the ability to pray comes in the form of a niggun sung on your way to shul, a meditation before you open your prayerbook, or a particular phrase or word in the liturgy that opens your heart during the service itself. Our texts remind us that we are not alone in this struggle.

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
- Night of 100 Dinners Sign-up Form • Project Manjar Form