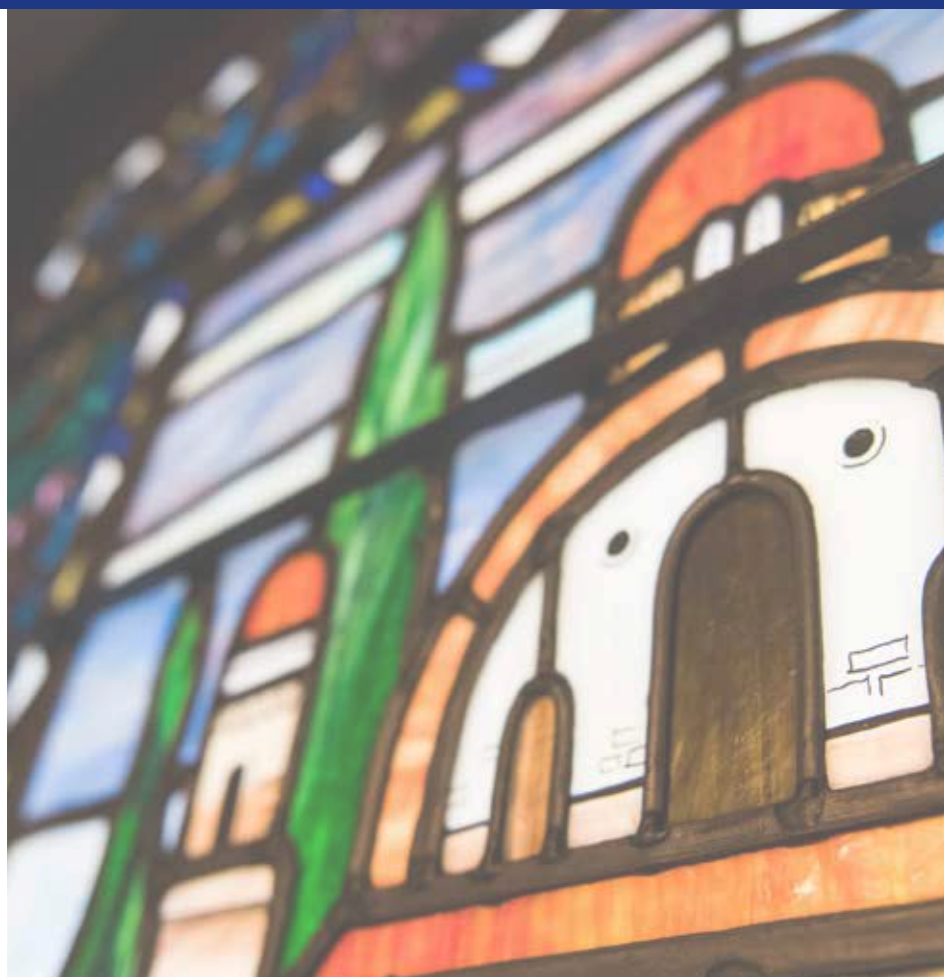


KOL JESHURUN קול ישרון

The Voice of BJ This Week

B'nai Jeshurun
בני ישרון



February 15-22, 2019 • 10-17 Adar I, 5779 • Shabbat Tetzaveh

WELCOME TO BJ! We build our kehillah kedoshah—sacred community—with creativity and intention to present a compelling, energizing, and transformational vision of Judaism in the 21st century.

PLEASE JOIN US:

- **Prayer & Spirituality**
- **Limud / Learning**
- **Family Life & Learning**
- **Community Events**
- **Tzedek & Hesed / Justice & Acts of Loving-Kindness**
- **Israel Programming**

RABBIS: J. Rolando Matalon • Felicia L. Sol • Erin R. Glazer • Marcelo R. Bronstein

HAZZAN: Ari Priven

MARSHALL T. MEYER RABBINIC FELLOWS: Tobias Divack Moss • Margo Hughes-Robinson • Abi Weber

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Colin A. Weil

SANCTUARY: 257 West 88th Street • **OFFICE:** 270 West 89th Street, New York, NY 10024-1705
TEL: 212-787-7600 • **FAX:** 212-496-7600 • **www.bj.org** • **facebook.com/bnai.jeshurun** • **Twitter:** @bjnyc

OUR COMMUNITY

HA-MAKOM YENAHEM / CONDOLENCES

The community of B'nai Jeshurun extends sincere condolences to the following members and their families:

- Rochelle and Maks Etingin, their children, Orli and Jonathan Silver, and their grandchildren, Elliot, Ben, and Leah Silver, on the death of Rochelle's sister, Edna Cohen.
- Lenny Bloom on the death of his brother, Andrew Bloom.

MAZAL TOV / CONGRATULATIONS

To the following members and their families:

- Avital Mendelson and Asaff Harel, and Ethan Harel on the birth of their son and brother, Benjamin Amir Harel.

B'RUKHIM HABA'IM / WELCOME

- Rabbi Sharon Marcus and The Park Synagogue Confirmation Class, Pepper Pike, Ohio.
- **Welcome to all who are visiting us for the first time!** If we haven't approached you already, come say hi to one of the rabbis, a staff member, or an usher, and we'll introduce you to the people who make BJ the warm, transformative, open place that it is.

● **A Town Hall on Justice for NYS Farmworkers**

Tuesday, February 19, 6:00-8:00PM, Riverfront branch: Yonkers Public Library, 1 Larkin Center, Yonkers, NY: Join the BJ Economic Justice Hevra and our partners as we make a push to pass the Farmworkers Fair Labor Practices Act. To R.S.V.P., email Paula at gpaula11@gmail.com.



WHAT YOU CAN DO:

● **Shelter Sleepover Volunteers Needed**

Sunday-Thursdays, 9:00 PM-7:00AM, SPSA or Frankel Hall: Our shelter is in need of reliable volunteers for a once-a-month sleepover shift. This is the only mitzvah you can literally do in your sleep! It's easy, and it makes a huge difference in the lives of our guests. Contact Larissa, lwohl@bj.org to learn more and sign up.

📺 This event can be viewed on the BJ livestream at www.bj.org/live.

We are happy to share BJ's services with those unable to attend in person through automated recording and livestreaming, available on our website and on our YouTube channel. The camera will be focused on the bimah and areas in front of the Ark. Your presence in those areas indicates your consent to your image appearing on the livestream. Tune in live—and to watch previously streamed services and programs—at www.bj.org/live.

THIS WEEK AT BJ

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15

- **Kabbalat Shabbat Service** 6:15 PM – Sanctuary (••)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16

- **Shabbat Morning Services** 9:30 AM – Sanctuary (••)
- **Family Service (0-Pre-K/K-Grade 2)** 10:45 AM – Middle & Reception Rooms
- **Family Service (Grades 3-6)** 10:45 AM – Chapel
- **Community Kiddush** Following services – Community House 3rd Floor
- **A Converso's Journey to the Rabbinate** Following Kiddush – Chapel
Rabbi Haim Casas will speak of his amazing life journey, from his converso childhood to his ordination in 2017 as the first Spanish-born rabbi in over 500 years. For more information, visit www.bj.org/rabbicasas.
- **Shabbat Basketball** 3:30 PM – Community House 3rd Floor
Wondering what to do on a cold Shabbat afternoon? Join us for a casual pick-up basketball game. All skill levels are welcome. Sign up now at www.bj.org/shabbatbasketball2019.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Teen Service Learning Trip to the Dominican Republic (through 2/24)

- **Morning Minyan** 9:30 AM – Chapel

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18 | Presidents' Day

BJ Office closed

- **Morning Minyan** 9:30 AM – Chapel

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

- **Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – Chapel
- **The Prophets with Rabbi Hillel Friedman** 9:00 AM – 4th Floor Conference Room
- **"Soul Food" Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Felicia Sol** 12:30 PM – Middle Room
Bring a bag lunch and join Rabbi Felicia Sol as we re-imagine old world wisdom for everyday life. Each class stands alone, so new participants are always welcome. No prior knowledge required. Through 6/18. Register now at www.bj.org/soulfood2019.
- **Own Your Tradition: A Community Beit Midrash on Prayer** 6:30 PM – Community House Room 411
In this five-week series (following intro session "What is the Talmud and Why Does it Matter?") we will explore the meaning of prayer by unlocking one of the primary sources itself: Tractate Berakhot of the Babylonian Talmud. Sign up now at www.bj.org/ownyourtradition.
- **Jewish Mindfulness and Healing Relationships** 7:00 PM – Chapel
Together with Rabbi Marcelo Bronstein, we will explore some of our universal conflicts and use the tools the tradition has for us to heal. Sign up now at www.bj.org/mindfulnesshealing. Upcoming class: 2/26.
- **Everyday Ethics with Rabbi Adina Lewittes** 7:00 PM – Reception Room

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

- **Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – Chapel
- **Introduction to Judaism** 7:00 PM – Community House
- **White Supremacy, Racism, and Antisemitism: A Conversation with Eric Ward** 7:30 PM – Sanctuary
More details in green box at right.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21

"Israel Today" Trip (through 2/28)

- Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – Chapel

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22

- Morning Minyan 7:30 AM – Chapel

TRANSFORMING DARKNESS INTO LIGHT

During the Hebrew months of Adar I and Adar II, we will explore the darkness of antisemitism before moving toward the light of Purim with joy and pride. Throughout Adar I, we are exploring antisemitism in America today through a series of educational sessions. Experts and thought leaders will guide our learning and discussion on this important and timely topic. Find out more at www.bj.org/confrontingantisemitism.



- **White Supremacy, Racism, and Antisemitism: A Conversation with Eric Ward**

Wednesday, February 20, 7:30PM, Sanctuary

Learn about the relationship between antisemitism, racism, and white supremacy, and how they threaten American democracy. Sign up now at www.bj.org/ericward.



- **Antisemitism and Jews by Choice**

Monday, February 25, 7:00-8:30PM, Chapel

Rabbinic Fellow Margo Hughes-Robinson leads a discussion on the unique experience of Jews by Choice in facing antisemitism. Open to BJ members who are Jews by Choice, and their loved ones. Sign up now at www.bj.org/antisemitismchoice.

WHAT'S NEXT

- ● **Community Shabbat Dinner with Rabbi Marcelo Bronstein and Cantor Dave Mintz**
Friday, February 22, following Kabbalat Shabbat services, Reception and Middle Rooms: Make your Shabbat sweeter with friends, food, and singing led by Rabbi Marcelo Bronstein and Cantor David Mintz. Join us for an intimate three-course dinner with wine and enjoy the company of your fellow community members. Register now at www.bj.org/marcelodavedinner.
- **Jump Into Memoir**
Sunday, February 24, 12:00 noon, Middle Room: Participants will harness memory and imagination to shape their stories, while simultaneously exploring elements of craft. Bring a notebook/pad and preferred writing implements. This workshop is open to writers of all levels. Register now at www.bj.org/jumpintomemoir.
- **Inclusion Advocacy Training for Jewish Women and Girls with Disabilities and Their Allies**
Sunday, February 24, 1:00-5:00PM, Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan, 334 Amsterdam Avenue: RespectAbility is pleased to facilitate a community-wide inclusion advocacy training event. Apply now at www.bj.org/disabilitiestraining.

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WHAT'S NEXT

● ● Parenting Towards Bar/Bat Mitzvah

Wednesday, February 27, 6:30-8:00PM, location given upon registration: Parents of 5th and 6th graders are invited to join Rabbi Felicia Sol at her home for community and conversation regarding parenting towards your child's Bar/Bat Mitzvah. Register by Monday, February 18 at www.bj.org/bmitzvahparenting.

● The Spiritual State of Being a Woman in America

Thursday, February 28, 7:00-8:30PM, Community House: Join Rabbi Felicia Sol and Prof. Yifat Bitton for an exploration of how we can turn to religious life for support, while also acknowledging the patriarchy in religion. For more information and to sign up, visit www.bj.org/womaninamerica.

● March Tot Shabbat

Friday, March 1, 5:15-7:30PM, Sanctuary and Frankel Hall: Families enjoy a kid-friendly Kabbalat Shabbat service filled with singing and dancing, followed by a dinner with Shabbat blessings and songs. While adults are finishing their meal, children engage in play and exploration. Register now at www.bj.org/totshabbatmarch19.

● ● Volunteer Recognition Shabbat

Saturday, March 2, during and following Shabbat morning services, Sanctuary and Community House 3rd Floor: Every year, hundreds of individuals give of themselves to make BJ a sacred, spiritual, and caring home. Come honor and be honored as we celebrate the dedicated volunteers whose contributions build our community.

● Fourth Grade B'nai Mitzvah Journey: Opening Ritual

Saturday, March 2, 5:00-7:00PM, Sanctuary and Frankel Hall: Join Rabbi Felicia Sol for this special event that brings together all 4th grade students and families as they begin their journey toward becoming B'nai Mitzvah. For more information, and to sign up, visit www.bj.org/openingritual2019.

● Israeli Art and Culture Salon Series

Sunday, March 3, 4:00-6:00PM, location given upon registration: In this six-part series, BJ members will meet promising Israeli artists working in New York in an intimate, home setting. The upcoming session will feature fashion designer Michal Hidas and pianist/composer Daniel Meron. Sign up at www.bj.org/israelsalonspring2019.

● Israeli Film Club

First Tuesday of each month, beginning March 5, 7:00-8:30 PM, location given upon registration: Join us for a five-session series, featuring short Israeli films covering key issues in Israeli society. The first meeting will feature "Oneg Shabbat" by Mihal Brezis and Oded Binnun. Sign up now at www.bj.org/israelifilmclub.

● Cooking In Hebrew: A Course in Israeli Cuisine (Wednesday Class)

Wednesday, March 6, 11:00AM-2:00PM, Frankel Hall: Participants learn to prepare traditional Israeli and Middle-Eastern kosher dishes, exposing them to Israel's multi-cultural society, and an opportunity to improve their Hebrew in the process. No prior knowledge of Hebrew or cooking necessary. Sign up now at www.bj.org/cookinginhebrewwednesday.

● "In the Mirror" Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Roly Matalon

No class this week. Resumes Thursday, March 7, 12:30PM, location provided upon registration: Upcoming classes: 3/14, 28; 4/4, 11. To join the waitlist, email Beth at btarson@bj.org.

● ● Family Shabbat Dinner: March Madness

Friday, March 8, following the Kabbalat Shabbat service, Chapel: Wear your favorite team's jersey—the theme of this Shabbat dinner is March Madness! Register by Monday, March 4, at www.bj.org/marchmadness

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WHAT'S LATER

● Israeli Book Club

Tuesday, March 12, 7:00-8:30PM, Community House: BJ's Israeli Book Club is honored to host award-winning Israeli author Ayelet Gundar-Goshen for a reading from her acclaimed novels *Waking Lions* and *One Night, Markovitch*. Register now at www.bj.org/bookclub.

● Parenting Children in Multi-faith/Multi-heritage Relationships

Thursday, March 14, 7:00PM, Middle Room: Is your child dating, or married to, someone with a different faith background or heritage? Join Rabbi Adina Lewittes and clinical psychologist Dr. Sherri Kauderer for an open and supportive conversation. Sign up now at www.bj.org/adinasherriconversation.

● ReGroup

Thursdays, March 14; May 6, 7:00PM, Chapel: Wondering what role Judaism can play in your multi-faith or multi-heritage family? Join us as we explore different ways of bringing Judaism into our lives. To learn more, or to R.S.V.P., email Sarah at srosenthal@bj.org.

● Demystifying Mikvah with the Jewish Home Project

Sunday, March 24, 10:30AM, West Side Mikvah, 236 West 74th Street: Join the Jewish Home Project and Rabbinic Fellow Margo Hughes-Robinson for a tour of the West Side Mikvah with ImmerseNYC and a discussion on its spiritual meaning. For more information, and to sign up, visit www.bj.org/jhpmikvah.

● 6th Grade B'nai Mitzvah Retreat

Friday, May 3-Sunday, May 5, Camp Ramah Nyack, Christian Herald Rd, Nyack, NY: Join your fellow 6th graders at our weekend-long B'nai Mitzvah Retreat! Transportation will be provided, as well as snacks on Friday afternoon through breakfast on Sunday. Register now at www.bj.org/6thgraderetreat2019.


● Young Families Retreat

Friday, May 3-Sunday, May 5, Camp Ramah Nyack, Christian Herald Rd, Nyack, NY: Join us for a Shabbat weekend filled with outdoor games, music, hiking, learning opportunities, community building, a campfire, and more. Register by April 15 at www.bj.org/youngfamiliesretreat2019.

● Women's Retreat 2019

Friday, May 31-Sunday, June 2, 7:00-8:30PM, Isabella Freedman Jewish Retreat Center, 116 Johnson Road, Falls Village, CT: Join Rabbi Felicia Sol for a glorious Shabbat of joy, song, learning, and connection in a beautiful, natural environment filled with the exclusive sound of women's voices. For more information, and to register, visit www.bj.org/womensretreat2019.

See separate flier for this week's Torah portion and "Taste of Torah."

 Printed on Recycled Paper

BJ RECYCLES AND COMPOSTS. Please look for bins throughout our spaces. BJ's Ner Tamid at the BJ Sanctuary is powered by the energy of the sun.



AVAILABLE AT SERVICES & PROGRAMS
IN THE BJ SANCTUARY



February 15-22, 2019 • 10-17 Adar, 5779

A TASTE OF TORAH: SHABBAT TETZAVEH

What is the most important verse in all of Torah?

The “Netivot Olam,” a 16th century ethical text by mystic Rabbi Judah Loew ben Bezalel (known as the Maharal), brings a midrash that explores this debate. Ben Zoma is confident that the best representative of all of Torah is the Shema: **“Hear, oh Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is One!”** (Deut. 6:4). Ben Nannos disagrees, bringing a verse from Leviticus that he believes summarizes Jewish thought: **“You shall love your neighbor as yourself”** (Lev. 19:18). Finally, Shimon ben Pazzai arrives with an odd contender, a verse found in this week’s Torah portion, Tetzaveh:

אַתְּ-הַקְבִּי־שֶׁחֶד, תַּעֲשֶׂה בַבֶּקֶר; וְאֵת הַקְבִּי־שֶׁחֶד הַשְּׁנִי, תַּעֲשֶׂה בֵּין הָעֶרְבִים.

“You shall offer one lamb in the morning, and you shall offer the other lamb at twilight.” —Exodus 29:39

Huh?

The Maharal is puzzled by Pazzai’s choice. Clearly, the Shema represents our Jewish commitment to monotheism, and the verse from Leviticus represents ethical treatment of all people. What value can we find in a verse about daily animal sacrifice?

For the Maharal, it is the *daily* piece of this verse that is essential. Sure, we may be in awe of the one God; sure, we may feel a general sense of obligation to other people—but what does it mean to actually live out those values, day in and day out? The animal sacrifice to which this parashah refers, known as the tamid (always), was not offered for any special occasion. It was offered *every* day, just because. It was offered every morning and every evening, no matter how sleepy or annoyed or disengaged the priests felt that day. It was offered *always*.

This consistency is at the core of what it means to be a Jew. We are the people who show up for each other, no matter how we feel that day; we are the people who set time aside for daily reflection, no matter the difficulties we face. Even in challenging moments, we retain our commitments and bring our full selves to our communities.

In a speech to graduating college students, author David Foster Wallace said, “In the day-to-day trenches of adult life, there is actually no such thing as atheism. There is no such thing as not worshipping. Everybody worships. The only choice we get is what to worship.” Tetzaveh reminds us that every morning, every evening, we must choose what, and how, we will worship. Let us choose wisely. —Abi Weber

TORAH PORTION

TETZAVEH

Torah: Annual	Exodus 27:20-30:10
Triennial	Exodus 29:19-30:10
1:	29:19-29:21
2:	29:22-29:25
3:	29:26-29:30
4:	29:31-29:34
5:	29:35-29:37
6:	29:38-29:46
7:	30:1-30:10
Maftir:	30:8-30:10
Haftarah	Ezekiel 43:10-43:27

NEXT WEEK: KI TISSA

Torah: Annual	Exodus 30:11-34:35
Triennial	Exodus 33:12-34:35
Haftarah	I Kings 18:20-18:39

Coffee not delivering its usual zing? **Come to morning minyan** and get a spiritual jolt to start your day. Develop a daily Jewish practice, meet new people in an intimate setting, and help us make a minyan so our members can say kaddish for their loved ones. **Visit www.bj.org/minyan.**