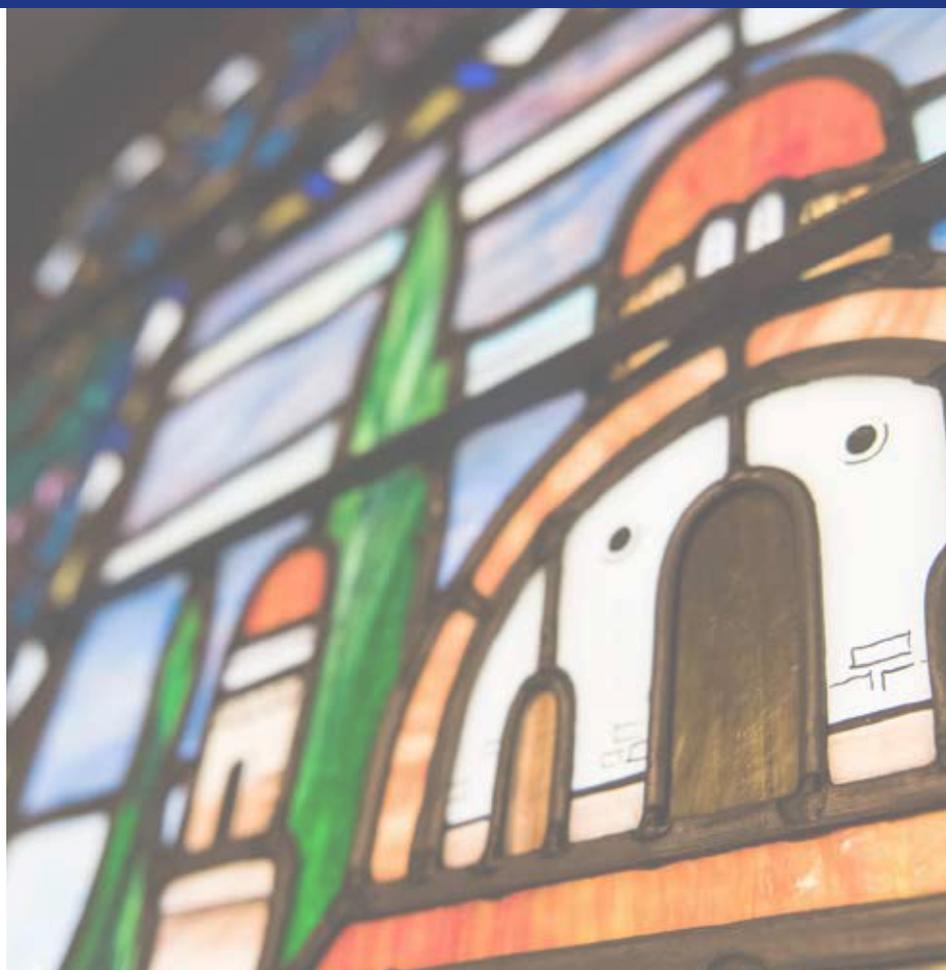


KOL JESHURUN קול ישרון

The Voice of BJ This Week

B'nai Jeshurun
בני ישרון



March 22-29, 2019 • 15-22 Adar II, 5779 • Shabbat Tzav

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**

 **Pesach Events & Services**

((•)) Indicates events that can be viewed on the BJ livestream at www.bj.org/live.

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](https://www.facebook.com/bnai.jeshurun) • [Twitter: @bjnyc](https://twitter.com/bjnyc)

OUR COMMUNITY

HA-MAKOM YENAHEM / CONDOLENCES

The community of B'nai Jeshurun mourns the death of our member Herbert Monte Levy, and we extend our sincere condolences to his entire family.

The community of B'nai Jeshurun extends our sincere condolences to Bonnie and Brian Ladds, their children, Aaron and Rachel Ladds, and their entire family on the death of Bonnie's mother, Ruth Miller.

MAZAL TOV / CONGRATULATIONS

Noa Greene-Houvras, her parents, Yariv Houvras and Judy Greene, and her brothers, Ezra and Aitan Greene-Houvras, on Noa becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

TODAH RABBAH / THANK YOU

This week's Community Kiddush is supported by Judy Greene and Yariv Houvras in honor of Noa Greene-Houvras becoming a Bat Mitzvah, and by the Lox family in honor of Mimi Lox being called to the Torah.

B'RUKHIM HABA'IM / WELCOME

- Rabbi Ken Carr and high school students, Temple Chayai Shalom Reform Synagogue, South Easton, Massachusetts.
- **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.



WHAT YOU CAN DO:

● **Pre-Pesah WSCAH Food Drive**

Through Wednesday, April 17, during Community House open hours, Sanctuary and Community House: Get rid of your hametz by donating food to the West Side Campaign Against Hunger (WSCAH). Drop off items in the boxes at the Sanctuary foyer and the Community House entrance. For more information, visit www.bj.org/pesahdrive19.

● **Shelter Sleepover Volunteers Needed**

Sunday–Thursday, 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, MARCH 22

- **Kabbalat Shabbat Service** 6:30 PM – Sanctuary (••)
- ● **Paying it Forward Shabbat Dinners** Various times and locations
Reserve your spot at one of these upcoming dinners, and then take your turn and host a meal yourself for other BJ members in your own social circle. For more information, and to sign up, visit www.bj.org/pif.
- ● **Community Potluck Shabbat Dinner with BJ Rabbinic Fellows** Following the Kabbalat Shabbat service – Reception and Middle Rooms
Get ready to make your Shabbat a little sweeter with friends, food, and soulful singing led by the BJ Rabbinic Fellows. Bring your friends, family, and your potluck dairy/vegetarian creations. Sign up now at www.bj.org/fellowspotluck.

SATURDAY, MARCH 23

- **Shabbat Morning Services** 9:30 AM – Sanctuary (••)
Bat Mitzvah **Noa Greene-Houvras**
- ● **Family Service (0-Pre-K/K-Grade 2)** 10:45 AM – Middle & Reception Rooms
- ● **Community Kiddush** Following services – Community House 3rd Floor
- 📖 ● **The Spiritual Journey from Purim to Pesah** Following kiddush – Chapel
Join Cantor Dave Mintz for learning and discussion as we use rabbinic, Hassidic, and contemporary texts to explore the spiritual journey that carries us from Purim to Pesah. Open to all, no registration required.

SUNDAY, MARCH 24

- **Morning Minyan** 9:30 AM – Chapel
- **Demystifying Mikvah with the Jewish Home Project** 10:30 AM – 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.

MONDAY, MARCH 25

- **Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – Chapel
- **Monday Meditation Minyan** 6:30 PM – Chapel
- **How to Daven: The Nuts & Bolts of Jewish Prayer** 7:00 PM – Chapel
Jewish prayer can seem like a mysterious collection of mumbles, bows, and songs. In this three-part series, we'll explore what it means to daven (pray) in a Jewish way. Upcoming class: 4/1. For more information, visit www.bj.org/howtodaven.

TUESDAY, MARCH 26

- **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

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27

- **Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – Chapel
- **Introduction to Judaism** 7:00 PM – Community House

THURSDAY, MARCH 28

- **Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – Chapel
- **“In the Mirror” Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Roly Matalon** 12:30 PM – location provided upon registration
- **The Spiritual State of Being a Woman in America** 7:00 PM – Chapel
Ginna Green will share her thoughts on the Women’s March, what it means to be a Jewish woman of color in our current political moment, and our calling as Jews in this time. Sign up at www.bj.org/spiritualstatemarch.
- **Next Stop...Kids** 7:00 PM – Community House
Join us for an exploration of a different element of parenthood in each expert-led session. Session one with Rabbi Erin Glazer, session two with financial advisors Donna Nadler and Arthur Belkin, and session three with master therapist Dr. Ron Taffel. Upcoming classes: 4/4, 11. Register at www.bj.org/nextstopkids.

FRIDAY, MARCH 29

- **Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – Chapel
- **Spring Bim Bam** 10:15 AM, 11:15 AM – Chapel

WHAT’S NEXT

Sell Your Hametz at BJ

Through Thursday, April 18: Once again, Rabbi Roly Matalon will be your agent for selling hametz. Sign up by Thursday, April 18 at 12:00 noon. For more information, and to sign up, visit www.bj.org/hametz2019.

● **Campus Antisemitism and the Politics of Resentment**

Saturday, March 30, following Kiddush, Chapel: Many in the Jewish community are convinced that American universities are seething with antisemitism and are hot beds of anti-Israel activism. Join Rabbi Chaim Seidler-Feller as he examines the accuracy of this assertion from the perspective of a campus professional.

● **Redemption: Musical Havdalah and Stories of Freedom**

Saturday, March 30, 7:00PM, Reception Room: Connections invites you to a special musical havdalah featuring powerful stories of freedom from students of the Riverside Language Program, music from Dan Nadel and Shira Averbuch, and delicacies from around the world. Registration is required: www.bj.org/musicalhavdalah.

● **Finding Your Haggadah**

Sunday, March 31, 10:30AM, Middle Room: Join Rabbi Adina Lewittes for a pre-Pesah breakfast where we will compare different haggadot and explore creative ways to enjoy a text that will guide and inspire you and your seder guests. Sign up now at www.bj.org/haggadahbreakfast.

● **Justice for Farmworkers: An Afternoon of Spirit, Song, and Social Justice**

Sunday, March 31, 3:00-5:00PM, Sanctuary: Join us on Cesar Chavez Day for a gathering featuring Flor de Toloache, in support of NY’s farmworkers who remain excluded from the basic labor protections entitled to all other workers. Sign up now at www.bj.org/cesarchavezday.

WHAT'S NEXT

● **From Generation to Generation: A Grandparenting Series**

Mondays, April 1, 8, 15, 7:30PM, Chapel: Join BJ's Jewish Home Project to explore grandparenting in an interactive setting filled with learning, sharing, and support. Participants may attend as many sessions as they like. Sign up now at www.bj.org/grandparentingseries.

● **Pre-Elections in Israel: Elections 101**

Tuesday, April 2, and Wednesday, April 10, 7:00-8:30PM, Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan, 334 Amsterdam Avenue: The Israeli political system is more complicated than ever before. These two sessions, held pre—and post—elections, will help you understand the political map and analyze the results. Register now at www.bj.org/elections101.

● **April Tot Shabbat**

Friday, April 5, 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/totshabbatapril19.

● **Bo-i Kallah**

Friday, April 5, 6:30PM, Reception Room: Join Rabbi Roly Matalon and Music Director Dan Nadel for an alternative Kabbalat Shabbat featuring melodies from Sephardi and Mizrahi traditions, verses of Shir haShirim, and beautiful piyutim. With all of these elements, we will transition soulfully into holy time.

● **Exclusion to Inclusion**

Saturday, April 6, following kiddush, Chapel: Join us for a presentation by Ami Ayalon, AKIM Israel Chair, former Knesset member, and former head of Shin Bet. He will introduce AKIM Israel's approach to helping individuals with disabilities. More information at www.bj.org/exclusiontoinclusion.

● **Let My People Go!**

Sunday, April 7, 2:00-4:00PM, Sanctuary: Join us for an afternoon of teaching, learning, and song on mass incarceration. This event is free but sign up is required, and donations are welcome, at www.bj.org/letmypeoplego.

● **Israeli Art and Culture Salon Series**

Sunday, April 7, 5:00-7:00PM, 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 saxophonist/composer Uri Gurvich, and composer/multi-instrumentalist/music therapist Tal Gur. Sign up at www.bj.org/israelsalonspring2019.

📖 ● **Empty Chair at the Seder: A Passover Bereavement Program**

Tuesday, April 9, 7:00PM, Chapel: Passover can be difficult for those of us who are bereaved. Join Hazzan Ari Priven, Rabbi Michael Boino, and other members of our community in drawing support from one another and our tradition. Sign up at www.bj.org/emptychair.

📖 ● **The Insights of Rav Soloveitchik on the Haggadah**

Thursday, April 11, 7:00-8:30PM, Community House Room 411: Prepare for Pesah and enhance your seder table discussions by joining Rabbi Adina Lewittes to study some of Rabbi Joseph Ber Soloveitchik (the Rav)'s commentary on the Haggadah. Sign up at www.bj.org/therav.

WHAT'S LATER

● Mindfulness Kabbalat Shabbat

Friday, April 12, 6:30PM, Community House 3rd Floor: Join us for an intimate service featuring meditation, reflection, deep listening, and personal engagement with the parashah. Contact Kristen Kersey at kkersey@bj.org, or x255, with any questions.

● ● Family Shabbat: Shabbat Israeli Cool!

Friday, April 12, following the Kabbalat Shabbat service, Chapel and Middle Room: Join us for an Israeli-themed Shabbat dinner celebrating Israeli culture. Register by Monday, April 8, at www.bj.org/israelishabbat.

● Moving Stories

Tuesday, April 16, 7:00PM, Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan, 334 Amsterdam Avenue: Join us as we co-present a screening of the film *Moving Stories*. The screening will be followed by a Q&A with the filmmakers and some of the film's stars. Register now at www.bj.org/movingstories.

📄 ● Seeking Second Night Seder Hosts

Saturday, April 20, various times and location: We are looking for Seder hosts who are able to open up their table to members of the BJ community on the second night of Pesah. If you are interested, please email Kristen at kkersey@bj.org.

● 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.

● 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.

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



A TASTE OF TORAH: SHABBAT TZAV

אש תמיד תוקד על המזבח לא תכבה:

An eternal flame shall be kept burning on the altar, not to go out. —*Leviticus 6:6*

In an obscure corner of Western New York sits a lovely county property called Chestnut Ridge Park. If you wander long enough through the park's leafy paths, you'll eventually come upon a small waterfall, unremarkable for its size or beauty. But peek behind the falls into a grotto and you'll spot an astonishing sight: a bright red lick of fire. This is "Eternal Flame Falls," home to a natural fire that has been burning behind the waterfall for as long as can be remembered.

There is something so appealing, so beautiful, about an eternally burning fire—a source of warmth, energy, and light that persists no matter the conditions. A naturally occurring eternal flame, like that in Chestnut Ridge Park, seems almost like magic.

But the eternal flame discussed in today's Torah reading was of a different sort. Unlike Eternal Flame Falls, this fire could not be left unattended for months, or years, at a time. People couldn't just wander up to the self-perpetuating flame, expecting it to burn without fail. This was a flame whose consistency required *consistent work*.

The verse preceding the one above explains how this Esh Tamid was to be maintained: each morning, the priest would feed fresh wood to the fire on the altar, ensuring that it would be ready at any moment to consume daily sacrifices. In his late 18th-century Torah commentary, *Aderet Eliyahu*, the Vilna Gaon explains that the priests were required to feed wood to this fire no matter what—even on Shabbat, even in cases of ritual impurity, even while traveling (as the Tabernacle did throughout the desert). It was *essential* that the fire be maintained. This was an *eternal flame*, and it wasn't going to be eternal without help.

Magic does not happen by itself. The first time that I worked at summer camp, I suddenly realized that the magic I had experienced for eight years as a camper was not by chance. The staff worked hard every day to build programs, rituals, and conversations that generate a unique and special Jewish atmosphere for the kids. Like the Esh Tamid, this fire could not burn without regular tending.

Take a look at the *Ner Tamid*, the light that sits above the Ark in our beautiful sanctuary, which is reminder of the **אש תמיד** that burned so many years ago. As a community, it is our job to tend to that light, to feed it with our service, our prayer, and our love for Torah. Unlike Eternal Flame Falls, it will burn only if we pay close attention. May we continue to make this magic happen. —*Abi Weber*

TORAH PORTION

TZAV

Torah: Annual	Leviticus 6:1-8:36
Triennial	Leviticus 8:1-8:36
1:	8:1-8:5
2:	8:6-8:9
3:	8:10-8:13
4:	8:14-8:17
5:	8:18-8:21
6:	8:22-8:29
7:	8:30-8:36
Maftir:	8:33-8:36
Haftarah	Jeremiah 7:21-8:3, 9:22-9:23

NEXT WEEK: SHEMINI

SHABBAT PARAH

Torah: Annual	Leviticus 9:1-11:47
Triennial	Leviticus 11:1-11:47
Haftarah	Ezekiel 36:16-36:38

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.**