

# Ha Shavuah B' Sha'arey Israel

April 30 – May 7, 2009

6 -13 Iyar, 5769



Candle lighting time 7:58 p.m.  
Friday May 1

Friday Evening Kabbalat Shabbat Services begin at 6:15 p.m.  
Saturday morning Shabbat Services begin at 9:30 a.m.

**Parashat Aharey Mot/ Kedoshim** (Torah commentary on pg. 3)

Annual: Leviticus 16:1 - 20:27 (Etz Hayim, p. 679)

Triennial: Leviticus 17:8 - 19:14 (Etz Hayim, p. 687)

Haftarah: Amos 9:7 – 15 (Etz Hayim, p. 706)



**We wish a Happy Birthday this week to:**

Melvin Kruger, Linda Haskins, Maggie Philbin, Reeda Katz, Alvin Hirsh, David Schwaber, Rhonda Koplín, Melvin Haskins and Theresa Rosengart

**and a Happy Anniversary to:**

Cindy and Alan Burstein

**This week we remember the Yahrzeit of:**

Harry Miller, Sarah Lee Haskins, Celia Medvin, Freida Goodrich, Annie Karesh, and Samuel Schwaber

**\*\* Junior Congregation This Saturday May 2\*\***

**This week's Sunday School principal is Drew Denisar**

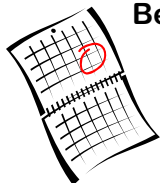


**Celebrate Israel's 61<sup>st</sup> Anniversary with a  
Community wide Yom Ha'Atzmaut program**

**Friday May 1** featuring Daron Shultzeiner, visiting lecturer in  
the Political Science and History departments at Emory University.

**6:15 p.m. at CSI**

**Be sure to save these dates:**



**Friday May 22 – Confirmation and Family Shabbat Dinner**

**May 29 & 30 – Will Finkelstein's Bar Mitzvah**

**Sunday May 31 – Annual Congregational Meeting**

**Lunch & Learn is on hiatus while the program is being re-designed. So stay tuned.**



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**Mazel Tov!!**



Rachel Schlesinger won the Middle Georgia area Concerto Competition, presented by the Macon Symphony Orchestra earlier this year. She will be performing with the Macon Symphony Orchestra in their Young People's Concert on Friday, May 1st at the Grand Opera House at 10:00 and 11:30.

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**Last day of Sunday School**  
Awards \* swimming \* games \* picnic  
Sunday May 17 10:30 - 12:30  
at the Cohen's home  
102 Howard Oaks Dr.

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**Don't forget the CSI Gift Shop for all your gift needs.**  
\*weddings\* graduations\* housewarming gifts\* \*birthdays\*  
anniversaries \* B'nai Mitzvahs



**Parashat Aharey Mot-Kedoshim**

*This week's commentary was written by Rabbi Joyce Newmark for USCJ Torah Sparks*

God instructs Moses about the Yom Kippur rituals, when the High Priest was to cleanse and purify the sanctuary from the effects of the sins of the Israelites. Only on this day was Aaron permitted to enter the Holy of Holies, the inner sanctuary. He was to dress in special linen garments and to bring a purification offering on behalf of himself and his household. He then would cast lots over two goats, designating one for God as a purification offering on behalf of the people. The other, for Azazel, was the "scapegoat," sent off into the wilderness bearing Israel's sins. The people were to observe Yom Kippur each year as a day of fasting and abstinence so their sins might be forgiven. Moses tells the people that whether they were intended for food or as sacrifices, animals were to be slaughtered only at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting. Eating blood is strictly forbidden.

God instructs Moses to tell the people that they are not to copy the practices of the Egyptians or the Canaanites. Forbidden sexual relationships are specified. The second part of this double parasha, Kedoshim, contains the bulk of the "Holiness Code," characterized by the commandment You shall be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy. The many mitzvot found here call for striving for holiness in all areas of life – ritual (You shall keep My Sabbaths and venerate My sanctuary, 19:30), civil (You shall not falsify measures of length, weight, or capacity, 19:35), and ethical (You shall rise before the aged and show deference to the old, 19:32). Its best known commandment is Love your fellow as yourself. Israel is told to observe all of God's laws and rules.

God tells Moses to warn the people against child sacrifice and witchcraft and divination. The laws of forbidden sexual relationships are repeated. Similarly, God warns Israel not to follow the practices of the Canaanite nations and to remember that God has set them apart to be a holy people.

1. Stop, Thief!

You shall not steal; you shall not deal deceitfully or falsely with one another. You shall not swear falsely by My name, profaning the name of your God: I am the Lord. You shall not defraud your fellow. You shall not commit robbery... (*Leviticus 19:11-13*)

Stealing is secretly taking money or any article from another person. The category includes shoplifting, picking pockets, using an item that someone asked you to watch for him but did not give you explicit permission to use, or, when you are an employee, covertly taking something from your employer, even something as small as pencils or envelopes... The prohibition against robbery applies to taking an article forcibly from another person. Examples include grabbing someone's possession from his hand, entering his house against his wishes and stealing his possessions, or going into his field openly and taking his fruit... Rabbi Hayyim of Brisk used to say that robbing people of their sleep is included in this prohibition. The Hafetz Hayyim commented that robbing people of their sleep is worse than robbing money. Money can be returned, sleep cannot... An employee must not waste time during his hours of employment. When a person is hired for a job and paid by the hour, week, or month, his time belongs to his employer. Any waste of time is considered robbing, and he must ask his employer for forgiveness. Moreover, even if the employee performed a mitzvah during the time when he should have been working, he is guilty of transgressing. In the Talmud (Ta'anit 23b) we find that Abba Hilkiyah would not even take the time out to return the greeting of Torah scholars while he was working for an employer. (*Rabbi Zelig Pliskin, "Love Your Neighbor," pp. 241, 248, 249, 251*)

One who sees another steal and remains silent is also a thief. (*Rabbi Abraham Ibn Ezra, 1092-1167, Spain*)

One may not buy wool, milk, or kids from any shepherds. Nor may one buy wood or fruit from the watchman of orchards... In all cases in which the seller asks that the goods be hidden, it is forbidden [to make such a purchase]. (*Mishnah Bava Kamma 10:9*)

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**For other commentaries on this week's Torah portion check out these sites:**

[Aish.com](http://Aish.com)

[AJU](http://AJU)

[ISJL](http://ISJL)

[MyJewishLearning.com](http://MyJewishLearning.com)

[USCJ Torah Sparks](http://USCJ Torah Sparks)

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**Interested in participating more in Shabbat service?**

**Lead a portion of services**

**Read Torah**

**Chant the Haftarah**

**Call Rabbi Bat-Or and she will help you make it happen.**

There are still two easy ways for you to help  
Congregation Sha'arey Israel make a little extra money

1. visit [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) for your online searches. This won't cost you anything but CSI makes a penny each time to search
2. for all your online shopping needs go to [csimacon.org](http://csimacon.org) and click on our Amazon.com link.

every time you



CSI earns



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**Quick links:**

**[CSI Macon Online](#)**

[United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism \(USCJ\)](#)

[JTS Podcast - this week's Parsha](#)

[Audio Siddur](#)

[Global Jewish News Service](#)

[Israeli News Broadcast – in English](#)

[Crash Course in Jewish History](#)

[The Jewish Ethicist](#)

[The Jewish Women's Archive](#)

[Hadassah](#)

[Synagogue 3000](#)

[Learn through USCJ online](#)

[AJU - Walking with God series](#)

[The William Breman Jewish Heritage Museum](#)

**For the children (or the young at heart):**

[Torah Portion Coloring Pages](#)

[Babaganews Torah Parasha of the week movie](#)