

Ha Shavuah B' Sha'arey Israel

March 25 – April 1, 2010

10 Nisan – 17 Nisan 5770



Candle lighting time 7:32 pm
Friday March 26

Friday Evening Kabbalat Shabbat Services begin at 6:15 pm
Saturday morning Shabbat Services begin at 10:30 am

Parashat Tzav (Commentary on Page 4)
(Shabbat HaGadol)

Annual (Lev. 6:1-8:36): Etz Hayim p. 613
Triennial (Lev. 8:1-8:36): Etz Hayim p. 621
Haftarah (Jeremiah 7:21-8:3, 9:22-23): Etz Hayim p. 1296



Best Wishes for a Speedy Recovery to:

Art Besser, Elaine Dreizin, Ethel Koplin, Paul Kruger, Doris Rabinowitz, Laurel Robinson, Valiant Haller and Paul Adler

We wish a Happy Birthday this week to:

Art Besser, Adam Katz, Beth Cohen, Kara Hebert, Ellen Cohen, Debbie Oliner, Nicole Hill and Chana Lipson

We wish a Happy Anniversary this week to:

Carol & Art Besser and Jenna & Drew Denisar

This week we remember the Yahrzeit of:

Theresa Adler Popper, Marc Winer, Adolph Grossman, Baris Goodrich, Mary Levine, Kate Turner, Hyman Noah Mendel, Morris Kolodner, Ida Divinsky, Zeva Egdal, Mollie J. Kell, Hyman Adelstone, Sylvia Goodrich Brown, David Michael Montrose, Hyman Goodman Safer

**The Tefilat Lev Shaleym, Whole Heart, one hour service
is this Saturday, March 27 at 10:30 AM**

During the service there will be the Aufruf of Charles Brown & Angie Santori and the Baby Naming of Lilah Marie Hutten, daughter of Trish & Ethan Hutten, granddaughter of Susan & Marshall Hutten.

We hope you will join us on Saturday.

No Religious School on Sunday – MARCH 28 & APRIL 4

No Hebrew School on Wednesday – MARCH 31

Passover Service Schedule

First Seder

Monday, March 29 (No service)
Candle Lighting time 7:34 pm

Passover Day 1

Tuesday, March 30 - 9:00 am service
Candle Lighting time 8:30 pm

Passover Day 2

Wednesday, March 31 - 9:00 am service

Passover Day 7

(Candle Lighting on Sunday, April 4: 7:38 pm)
Monday, April 5 - 9:00 am service
Candle Lighting time 8:34 pm

Passover Day 8 - Yizkor

Tuesday, April 6 - 9:00 am service

You can click on the following link for the Passover Guide from the Rabbinical Assembly to help you prepare for the holiday:

<http://www.rabbinicalassembly.org/docs/Passover%205770.pdf>

SELLING OF THE CHAMETZ

Any chametz owned by a Jew during Passover week becomes unfit for use and is forbidden for actual use of benefit forever.

Since it is usually impossible to dispose all chametz before the Passover holiday, every Jew should arrange a formal "Mechirat Chametz", or Sale of the Chametz.

Those wishing to do so may sell their chametz by sending the form below by Friday, March 26, 2010 to the Synagogue.

Selling of the Chametz Form

FOR PESACH 5770 - 2010

(Must be received by Friday, March 26, 2010)

I, _____ do hereby authorize Rabbi Rachel Bat-Or of Congregation Sha'arey Israel, Macon, Georgia, to sell, transfer and assign all Chametz of whatever kind and nature, which I own or possess, or in which I may have an interest, wheresoever situated in my residence without reservation and limitations.

Signature

Address

Adult Education Class

taught by Rabbi Rachel Bat-Or

No Classes on March 30, April 7 & April 27

Jewish History, Part II: Tuesday Nights, 7:15-8:15pm

at the Synagogue on April 13 & 20 and May 4 & 11

We are using A Short History of the Jewish People by Raymond Scheindlin for the history classes.

New CSI Office Hours

10:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Monday thru Friday

Parashat Tzav

Leviticus 6:1-8:36

This week's commentary is by Rabbi Bradley Shavit Artson

Ears, Thumbs, And Toes - The ceremony installing the priests teaches the importance of consecrating the entire body for sacred service.

Traditionally, the Book of Vayikra (Leviticus) was known as Torat Kohanim, "the Teachings of the Priests." Its contents are directed to people who would be ministering in the Temple in Jerusalem, and its topics pertain to priestly sacrifice, ritual and purity.

Yet, our tradition also holds that the eternal task of the Jewish People is to mold ourselves into a nation of priests, a holy people. In doing so, the standards that apply to a 'kohen' (priest) in the Beit Ha-Mikdash (the Temple) are essential tools for elevating our own spiritual and ritual status as well. The same guidance that the Torah provided the 'kohen' at his task can ennoble and uplift the serious Jew of today as well.

In seeking to fulfill our divine mission, we turn to the very book that trained God's servants in antiquity as well. At the outset of our commitment to become a nation of priests, we can look with special benefit to the ordination of the 'kohanim' (priests) into their sacred service.

An Elaborate Ceremony

That installation took place amidst elaborate ceremony. The 'kohanim' washed themselves to become ritually pure, and then donned special clothing to demarcate themselves for their activity in the Temple. Anointed with a special oil, the 'kohanim' sacrificed a sin offering to atone for their own shortcomings and errors before attempting to intercede for the atonement of the people.

After sacrificing the ram of burnt offering, Moses took some blood from the ram of ordination, and "put it on the ridge of Aaron's right ear, and on the thumb of his right hand, and on the big toe of his right foot." He then repeated that same ritual for each of Aaron's sons. Finally, the remains of the animal were boiled and consumed by the newly-ordained 'kohanim.'

That same ritual was repeated throughout seven complete days of celebration. Why was blood applied to those particular extremities--the right thumb, toe and ear? An ancient commentator, Philo (1st Century Egypt), perceived that, "The fully consecrated must be pure in words and actions and in life; for words are judged by hearing, the hand is the symbol of action, and the foot of the pilgrimage of life." Thus, Philo reads specific meaning into each of the three body parts by analyzing the special function of each part in terms of their human use.

Our words, actions and life all must cultivate our highest potential of growth, expression and humanity. Rabbi Abraham ibn Ezra (12th Century, Spain) argues, on the other hand, that the ear "symbolizes that one must attend to what has been commanded" and the thumb "is the origin of all activity."

Unlike Philo, ibn Ezra sees the two pivotal points as obedience to God's 'mitzvot' (commandments) and a commitment to a life of sacred deeds. While ibn Ezra provides

different reasons than Philo, the two of them agree in reading metaphoric meaning into the details of the ritual (which body parts are used). However, both sages ignore the requirement of spilling blood, and both fail to explain the entire ritual as an interrelated unit. Building on their insights, we can extend their vision by utilizing the methods and findings of the modern study of religion as well.

Blood as a Symbol

Blood is a symbol filled with ambivalent meaning. A symbol of life (recall the emblem of the Red Cross) and of death (think of the devil's pitchfork), it is as a simultaneous expression of both realities--life and death--that blood becomes such a prominent symbol for moments and places of transition. At a child's birth--with 'brit milah' (circumcision), at the first Passover--when blood was smeared on the lintels of Jewish homes, blood marks the moment or the place as a transition between death and renewed life.

Here, too, by placing sacrificial blood on the priest's extremities, the Torah indicates that the newly-ordained 'kohen' has passed through a transitional moment from being a private citizen to becoming a representative of God and a public leader. Ear, hand and foot--an abbreviated code for his entire body--emphasize that service to one's highest ideals, to one's people, or to one's God, must be total.

Through his induction into the Temple ritual, he entered a higher state of purity, devotion and of service. To become a nation of priests requires of us no less.

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

Aish.com

ISJL Taste of Torah

JTS

MyJewishLearning.com

USCJ Torah Sparks

The CSI Gift Shop

**Now Through Passover 15% off
Seder Plates & Matzah Plates**



Don't Miss this Opportunity!!!

Call Terri 477-8597 or Deborah 474-0505 for
Appointment – Open Sundays during Sunday School

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Contact information:

CSI Board of Governors:

- President* - David Frolich - bb217@bellsouth.net
- Vice-President* - Scott Bayme - scottbayme@kaybeeofmacon.com
- Recording Secretary* - Shelley Davidson - lawonwheels@cox.net
- Corresponding Secretary* - Jenna Denisar - jennakap@aol.com
- Treasurer*- Steve Chanin - stephen.chanin@gmail.com
- Ex-Officio* - Marty Koplin - 5martyk@cox.net
- Rabbi*- Rabbi Rachel Bat-Or - rabbi@csimacon.org
- CSI Secretary* - Addie Schmidt - secretary@csimacon.org

Committees:

- Adult Education* - Stephanie Kross - skross@cox.net
- Board of Education* - Jennifer Bernstein - jsw1@aol.com
- Board of Trustee Chairman* - Evan Koplin - evan.scrapman@gmail.com
- Cemetery* - Sol Hirsh - solhirsh@aol.com
- Chevra Kadisha* - Steve Chanin - stephen.chanin@gmail.com
Harriette Carter - carter3@hospitalcareers.com
- Cultural Affairs* (Wall of Jerusalem) - Shelley Kruger - skruger5@cox.net
- Gifts & Memorials* - Francie Marshall - franciep@bellsouth.net
- Gift Shop* - Deborah Adler - deborahtravel@cox.net
Terri Frolich - tovamacon@bellsouth.net
- Hospitality* - Beth Cohen - badbethie27@aol.com
- House* - Marc Lipson - marclipson@cox.net
- Library* – Hillel Kaplan – hilkap@juno.com
- Membership* - Doug Katz - Sdkatz49@aol.com
- Ritual* - Jeff Lehman - jalroadtrip@cox.net
- Social Action* - David Ilan - ilanclan@gmail.com
- Synagogue Donations* - Beth Cohen - badbethie27@aol.com
- Ways & Means* - Scott Bayme - scottbayme@kaybeeofmacon.com

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Quick links:

- [CSI Macon Online](#)
- [United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism \(USCJ\)](#)
- [JTS Podcast - this week's Parsha](#)
- [Audio Siddur](#)
- [Jewish Telegraphic Agency \(JTA\)](#)
- [Israeli News Broadcast – in English](#)
- [The Jewish Ethicist](#)
- [Synagogue 3000](#)
- [Learn through USCJ online](#)
- [The William Breman Jewish Heritage Museum](#)
- [United Jewish Communities \(UJC\)](#)
- [American Jewish University](#)

For the children (or the young at heart):

- [Torah Portion Coloring Pages](#)
- [Babaganews Torah Parasha of the week movie](#)

~ ~ ~ ~ ~