

Welcome the Stranger Part II

Rabbi Hagay Batzri

Kahal Kadosh,

The attitude of Jewish law, or halacha, to conversion appears, perhaps, to include a double standard. On the one hand, there is great appreciation and love for the convert who left his people and his country in order to join us. On the other hand we are told to discourage the convert to determine his sincerity. We are also told to be cautious even after a convert has joined the Jewish people.

But the truth is, even the cautions suggest a positive approach toward conversion. The effort to discourage the "stranger," to keep him from joining us, is simply a way to find out if he really deeply wants to change all aspects of his life to join the people of Israel. This safeguards him from future sorrow should he regret his decision later. What if his wish to become Jewish had been just a passing desire, a temporary emotional decision, or the wish for some benefit? Such advantages would disappear after a few years and then where would he be, spiritually?

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Jerusalem of Gold at Kahal Joseph

Ronald Einy, President of Kahal Joseph

Dear friends,

It gives me great pleasure to invite all our young adults and families this coming Shabbat day, Saturday May 19th, at 11:00 am to enjoy an interactive program given by Rabbi Daniel Bouskila, Director of the SEC, the Sephardic Educational Center.

Rabbi Bouskila is a well-known, established leader of the Sephardic community both locally and internationally. Formerly rabbi of our neighbor, Sephardic Temple Tifereth Israel, he is and has been for many years a dear friend of Kahal Joseph, our synagogue.

Entitled "Jerusalem of Gold" Rabbi Bouskila's program next Shabbat will involve participants in discussion and exploration of Jerusalem's historical significance and its importance to the Jewish people. He will share firsthand knowledge of this brave and ancient city, and encourage us to consider how Jerusalem plays into our modern lives and identities as Jews.

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KJ Schedule

Erev Shabbat Emor

Friday, May 11, 2012

Shaharit/Morning Prayer 6:30 am
Minhah/Arbith 6:30 pm
Shabbat Candle Lighting 7:26 pm

Shabbat Emor

Saturday, May 12, 2012

Shabbat Shaharit/Morning Prayer..... 8:30 am
Tehillim Women's Reading NEW TIME! .5:45 pm
Shabbat Minhah, Seudah, Arbit..... 7:00 pm
Motzei Shabbat / Havdallah..... 8:31 pm

Weekdays

Sunday, May 13, 2012

Shaharit/Morning Prayer..... 7:30 am
KJ Youth Choir Rehearsal 11:00 am

Monday to Friday, May 14 to 18, 2012

Shaharit/Morning Prayer 6:30 am

Erev Shabbat

Friday, May 18, 2012

Shaharit/Morning Prayer..... 6:30 am
Minhah/Arbith 6:30 pm
Shabbat Candle Lighting 7:32 pm

Next Shabbat Day, May 19th

Jerusalem of Gold at 11:00 am w/ Rabbi Bouskila

WEEKLY TORAH PORTION

Parashat **Emor** 513 to 528

Haftara 528 to 530

This invigorating, educational program has been specifically created by Rabbi Bouskila to challenge our young adults and families and to enhance their Shabbat experience through engaging dialogue.

This promises to be a unique event for all who attend. We warmly invite you to join us,

Ronald Einy

Shabbat Kiddush

is sponsored
in memory of

Rahel bat Tifaha, z"l
Farha bat Khatoon, z"l

by
Gerry Meyers

In Memoriam

We remember the following *yahrzeit* annual anniversary of passings, for May 12 to 19, 2012. It is customary to light a memorial candle and donate *tzedakah*. Family members are encouraged to attend prayer services in honor of loved ones on the preceding Shabbat.

21 Iyar / Sunday, May 13

Lulu Ezra Azoory *Lulu Katoon bat Masooda*
Michael David Adrian Meyer *Michael David ben Yoseph Meir*
Murad Saddick *Mordechai ben Sasson Saddick*
Maisie Solomon

22 Iyar / Monday, May 14

Rachel Bar *Rachel bat Miriam*
Ezekiel Joseph *Yehezkel ben Itzhak Yosef*
Grace Mussry *Grace bat Toba*

23 Iyar / Tuesday, May 15

Moshe Bensabat *Moshe ben Clara*
Sally Saul *Salha bat Simcha*

24 Iyar / Wednesday, May 16

Judah Freddy Bekhore *Yehuda Faraj ben Yosef*

25 Iyar / Thursday, May 17

Simkha bat Michael Nazarian

26 Iyar / Friday, May 18

Sarah Elias *Sarah bat Ester*

27 Elias / Shabbat, May 19

Sassoon Elisha *Sassoon Yoseph Elisha*

Mazal Tov

Jennifer & Robert Shiri
on the birth of a baby daughter

Congratulations to the
grandparents
Widad Shiri
Linda & Jimmy Ischayek

Seudah Shlisheet

is sponsored
in memory of

Iran Rojhani, z"l

by The Shaaya Family
& The Rojhani Family

Mazal Tov

Ruth & Anthony Molinari
on the birth of a son

Congratulations to the
grandparents
Majdoline & Nissim Hay Mussry
Joyce & William Molinari

Condolences

to the family and friends of
our longtime member
Judah Sassoon, z"l
especially to his brother
Saul Sassoon

Refuah Shlemah

Gerry Shapiro • Yocheved bat Rachel
Rachamim ben Sarah • Hinah Titza bat Itah
Yitzhak ben Abdullah • Mazal bat Malka
Dan Herdoon

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Therefore, there is a rule in the Shulchan Aruch: "When a [person] from another nation comes before a rabbi and requests to convert, the rabbi must say to him, "Why do you want to convert? Do you not know the great suffering of the people of Israel in this world? Are you not aware of the persecuting nations trying to destroy us?"

Only a few decades ago the terrible Holocaust took place. Before there were countless pogroms and persecution. Even today there is anti-Semitism in many parts of the world, as we saw in the tragic shooting at the Jewish school in Toulouse, France. And, many Muslims object to the existence of the Jewish people and send banish Jews from their countries just because we are Jewish. So, we ask the convert, "If all this is so, why do you want to join the nation of suffering? If you desire to attain righteousness and morality, remember that according to Judaism any nation can be righteous too, with fewer constraints." Because, as Jewish people, we believe that Hashem's holy spirit can reside in a righteous gentile.

After all these questions, if the non-Jewish person changes his mind about converting there is no need to continue the conversion. But if he says, "In spite of all this, I desire to join you. I'm only afraid that I do not deserve to be part of the Jewish people," then we are told to immediately accept him and begin the second phase.

In the second stage of conversion, we teach the convert the fundamentals of our faith, including the prohibition against idolatry, and other laws. We also remind him repeatedly of the changes to come. For example, when he is not Jewish, he is allowed to desecrate the Sabbath and eat pork and other non kosher food. But, after he converts all these actions will be forbidden to him. After he converts, if he violates the Torah, he will suffer the consequences. If despite all the warnings and upcoming changes, he agrees then we should convert him and accept him.

Shabbat Shalom

KJ Volunteers Needed

The Religious Committee seeks volunteers to welcome new and prospective members by: 1) Serving on a Shabbat welcoming committee, with each volunteer representing a specific seating section. 2) Reading aloud English and Hebrew sections of the Shabbat prayers during services. Women are encouraged to participate as well. 3) Being part of a living Phone Tree and calling ten members when we have a special event

Contact Neil at neil@sheffimmigration.com

Rosh Hodesh Sivan

בס"ד

A new month can also mean a new beginning in our lives. One of the reasons may be that something new always causes a higher motivation.

We will have a special prayer for our children, which is good to say in the evening of RH Sivan.

Hodesh Tov – A great, healthy and successful month to all of you.

Hosted by Mojgan Talassazan

Monday, May 21, 2012 at 7:30 pm, Location TBA

RSVP to Rabbanit Orly Batzri at orlybatzri@gmail.com

Please invite your teen and young adult daughters since this Rosh Hodesh will have special meaning for our children.



Jerusalem of Gold

Kahal Joseph
Congregation
invites

Young
Families &
Young Adults

to a
Shabbat
Program
with

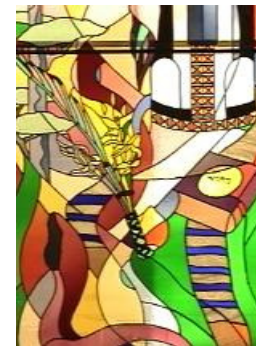
Rabbi
Daniel
Bouskila
SEC Director

Saturday
May 19, 2012
11:00 am

10505 Santa Monica Blvd
Los Angeles, CA 90025
310.474.0559



We invite young families and young adults to join Rabbi Daniel Bouskila for a down-to-earth program in preparation for Jerusalem Day, Yom Yerushalayim. In a special, interactive discussion, Rabbi Bouskila will share the history, symbolism and meaning of Jerusalem in our lives. Come learn how prominently Jerusalem features in our daily and Shabbat prayers, and discuss what Jerusalem means for Israel and for Jewish people worldwide. (Supervision and playroom will be available for children.)



Legacy of Kindness Gala Dinner

09.09.12

The Executive Committee and the Board of Directors of Kahal Joseph Congregation are pleased to announce our annual Legacy of Kindness Gala Dinner.

The gala and our community will honor Rylla and Ben Elias for their, love, devotion, and dedicated service to our synagogue. The fete will take place this September 9, 2012.



Rabbi Batzri's Hotline

Plan Your Next Shabbat Dinner ...

Discuss your Jewish home and learn the secrets that create a Jewish environment. Rabbi Batzri offers explanations of Jewish matters for young families and the entire family. Contact him at 310-717-8707 or write him at hbatzri@gmail.com.

Now, let's set your table ...

A Song for Shabbat: El Galil

Listen on youtube at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DCRtTSnXyio>

El galil, el galil, el galil. Ashrayikh eretz ha'galil. Kam-ha naf-shi lakh ha'galil. El gdolayikh tzadikim kedoshayikh temimim. Magen tzina hem al akhim. Khayim hem betokhenu. Marvim et tzimonenu.

Arokh shulkhan l'ami. Yosef hu nezer tifarti. Khidesh hekhin hatzfati. Biz-khuto amad olam. Meromam hu mikhulam. Nissim aseh li biz-khut ahuv.

Simakh l'am b'shirav. Lekha dodi lire-am. Tiken Shlomo b'amav. Biz-khuto amad olam. Meromam hu mikhulam. Nissim aseh li biz-khut ahuv.

Ala ari v'gurav. Moshe darshan v'anav. Ashrei ha'dor khaza panav. Biz-khuto amad olam. Meromam hu mikhulam. Nissim aseh li biz-khut ahuv

G-d of the Galil, G-d of the Galil, G-d of the Galil. Your joy is the land of the Galil. My soul went up in the Galil. To your great Tzadikim. To your holy, innocent ones. They are a shield for their brothers. They live in us. The satiate our thirst.

Set a table for my nation. Joseph is the crown of my hope and salvation. He renewed my higher values. By his merit the world stands. He is high above everyone. Miracles were made for me by merit of the cherished one.

Rejoice for the nation in its song. Show the way to those in awe. He placed [King] Solomon in his nation. By his merit the world stands. He is high above everyone. Perform miracles for me by merit of the cherished one.

A lion and his cubs rose up. Taught by Moses and humble. Joy to the generation that witnessed his presence. By his merit the world stands. He is high above everyone. Perform miracles for me by merit of the cherished one.

Maqam Hijaz

from pizmonim.com

El Galil is sung in Maqam, the scale of, Hijaz. Hijaz refers to Saudi Arabia, which in Arabic is still known as the Hijaz. This maqam, which originated in Saudi Arabia, is linked with death, and is used to mark sad occasions that occur on the calendar, as well as sad occasions that occur in a given parasha.

We use this maqam on the following Shabbats: Hayye Sarah mentions the death of Sarah and the death of Abraham later in the parasha. Vayechi mentions the death of Jacob and the death of Joseph later on. Ki Tissa discusses the tragedy of the Golden Calf. Aharei Mot mentions the deaths of Aaron's children, Nadab and Abihu. Shelah Lekha mentions the spies, and the punishments that followed. Debarim has no sad event within the parasha, however, Hijaz is used because it falls out on the Shabbat before Tisha B'Av, the saddest day on the Jewish calendar.

According to the Jews of Damascus, the only Shabbat of the year that Hijaz is used is Parashat Debarim. According to Gabriel Shrem, Hijaz in its purest form should only be used for Parashat Debarim, and for the rest of the weeks, Hijaz should be mixed with Bayat. Other maqamot in the Hijaz family are: Shahnaz, Suzidil, or Zanzaran. Hijaz tetrachord: starting on D

עָרַדְּ
שְׁלַחַן לְעַמּוֹ. יוֹסֵף הוּא נֶזֶר תִּפְאַרְתִּי. חֵדֵשׁ הַכֵּיִן הַצִּפְתִּי.
בְּזִכּוֹתָו עֲמַד עוֹלָם. מְרוֹמָם הוּא מְבַלָּם. נְסִים עָשָׂה לִי
בְּזִכּוֹת אֱהוֹב:
שְׁמַח
לְעַם בְּשִׁירָיו. לְכֹה דוֹדֵי לִירְאָיו. תִּקַּן שְׁלֹמֹה בְּעַמּוּיוֹ:
בְּזִכּוֹתוֹ

עָלָה
אֲרִי וְגוֹרָיו. מֹשֶׁה דִרְשָׁן וְעִנּוּ. אֲשֶׁרִי הַדּוֹר חָזָה פָּנָיו:
בְּזִכּוֹתוֹ



דָּבָר



לחן: יא גמיל יא גמיל

מלים: ר' יצחק סונה הי"ד

אֵל גָּלִיל אֵל גָּלִיל אֵל גָּלִיל אֵל גָּלִיל. אֲשֶׁרִיךְ אֶרֶץ הַגָּלִיל. כְּמַה
נִפְשִׁי לָךְ הַגָּלִיל. אֵל גְּדוֹלֶיךָ צְדִיקִים. אֵל קְדוֹשֶׁיךָ
תְּמִימִים. מִגֵּן צָנָה הֵם עַל אַחִים. חַיִּים הֵם בְּתוֹכֵנוּ. מְרוֹיִם
אֵת צְמֵאוֹנֵנוּ: