

KOL MEVASSER

Walking Together

by Chief Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks

There is one image that haunts us across the millennia, fraught with emotion. It is the image of a man and his son walking side-by-side across a lonely landscape of shaded valleys and barren hills. The son has no idea where he is going and why. The man, in pointed contrast, is a maelstrom of emotion. He knows exactly where he is going and why, but he can't make sense of it at all.

The God who gave him a son is now telling him to sacrifice his son. On the one hand, the man is full of fear: am I really going to lose the one thing that makes my life meaningful, the son for whom I prayed all those years? On the other hand, part of him is saying: just as this child was impossible – I was old, my wife was too old – yet here he is. So, though it seems impossible, I know that God is not going to take him from me. That is not the God I know and love. He would never have told me to call this child Isaac, meaning "he will laugh" if he meant to make him and me cry.

The father . . . trusts in God and betrays to his son no sign of emotion. *Vayelchu shenehem yachdav*. The two of them walked together. There is just one moment of conversation between them:

Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, "Father?"

"Yes, my son?" Abraham replied.
"The fire and wood are here," Isaac said, "but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?"
Abraham answered, "God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son."

What worlds of unstated thoughts and unexpressed emotions lie behind those simple words. Yet as if to emphasize the trust between father and son, and between both and God, the text repeats: *Vayelchu shenehem yachdav*. The two of them walked together.

As I read those words, I find myself travelling back in time, and in my mind's eye I see my father and me walking back from shul on Shabbat. I was four or five years old at the time, and I think I understood then, even if I couldn't put it into words, that there was something sacred in that moment. During the week I would see the worry in my father's face as he was trying to make a living in difficult times. But on Shabbat all those worries were somewhere else. *Vayelchu shenehem yachdav*. We walked together in the peace and beauty of the holy day. My father was no longer a struggling businessman. Today he was a Jew breathing God's air, enjoying God's blessings, and he walked tall.

Shabbat was my mother making the food that gave the house its special Shabbat smell. . . . As she lit candles, she could have been the bride, the queen, we sang about in *Lecha Dodi* and *Eshet Chayil*. I had a sense, even then, that this was a holy moment when we were in the pres-

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KJ Schedule

Friday, November 2, 2012

Shaharit/Morning Prayer	6:30 am
Shir Hashirim	5:25 pm
Shabbat Candle Lighting	5:40 pm
Minhah/Arbith	5:40 pm

Shabbat Vayera

Saturday, November 3, 2012

Shaharit/Morning Prayer	8:30 am
Minha, Seudah Shlisheet, Arvit	5:00 pm
Motzei Shabbat / Havdallah	6:25 pm

Sunday, November 4, 2012

Daylight Savings Time Change

Shaharit	7:30 am
Talmud Torah	9:30 am
KJ Youth Choir	11:00 am
A Night in Italy	6:30 pm

Monday to Friday, Nov. 5 to 9, 2012

Shaharit	6:30 am
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Erev Shabbat

Friday, November 9, 2012

Note Earlier Shabbat Candlelighting

Shaharit/Morning Prayer	6:30 am
Shir Hashirim	4:20 pm
Shabbat Candle Lighting	4:35 pm
Minhah/Arbith	4:35 pm

TORAH & HAFTARAH READINGS

Shabbat Portion 63 to 76, Haftara 76 to 79

Kahal Joseph Congregation

Rabbi Hagay Batzri

10505 Santa Monica Blvd. LA 90025 310.474.0559

The Sisterhood of the Kahal Joseph Congregation
Presents

A NIGHT IN ITALY

Dinner & Dancing

Sunday, November 4, 2012 at 6:30 PM

Presenting:

Authentic Italian Singer

Filippo Voltaggio

And The Hot Beat

Yosi Levi - M.C. and Host

Kahal Joseph Congregation

The Errol Levi Ballroom

10505 Santa Monica Blvd. L.A., CA 90025

\$75 per Person – No-Host Bar

Valet Parking Available

KJ Member of the Week

Tooraj Aghalarpour

Tooraj Aghalarpour is always supportive of Kahal, whether through purchasing mitzvot on Shabbat and holidays, sponsoring Kiddushes and Seudas, or never saying "no" to any request for support. For his dedication to our Kahal, we honor him.



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Thursdays 4:00 to 6:00 pm

For information call our office at 310.474.0559
or e-mail dafna@kahaljoseph.org

In Memoriam

We remember these yearzeit anniversaries of passings, for November 3 to 10, 2012. It is customary to light a memorial candle, donate tzedakah, and attend services the preceding Shabbat.

18 Heshvan / Shabbat, November 3rd

Diana Aaron *Dina bat Masooda*

Yeshaiah ben Yaacov Shalom

Hazan Gabriel Solomon *Gavriel ben Shlomo*

20 Heshvan / Monday, November 5th

Mordechai Harkham *Mordechai ben Hacham David*

Victoria Nissan *Victoria Zuebaida bat Lulu*

Esther Robbins *Esther bat Matana*

21 Heshvan / Tuesday, November 6th

Joshua Moses *Yeboshua ben Ephraim Moses*

22 Heshvan / Wednesday, November 7th

Khuzna Levi *Khuzna bat Esther*

24 Heshvan / Friday, November 9th

Joseph Ezrapour *Yoseph ben Ezra*

Jacob Elias *Yaacov Moshe ben Eliyahu*

25 Heshvan / Shabbat, November 10th

Charles A. Lelah *Salah ben Aharon*

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KJ YOUTH CHOIR

Sunday, November 4th
11:00 am to 12 noon

Refuah Shlemah

Gery Shapiro, Yocheved bat Rachel, Mazal bat Malka, Dan Herdoon, Mazal Tov bat Salha Matana, Moshe ben Ezra, Mordecai ben Avraham / Mordecai Cohen, Sasson ben Rahel / Sassoon Moses, Penina bat Henia, Avraham ben Ruth, Dov Ber ben Sonia

Condolences to the Family of Luna Einy, z"l

We send our deep condolences to the family and friends of Luna Einy, z"l who passed away earlier this week in Israel. Luna is the aunt of our President, Ronald Einy. When she resided in the Los Angeles area, Luna was an active member of Kahal Joseph Congregation and served as Secretary to the Board of Directors for 12 years. *Tehi Nishmata Sroura be Srur ha-Hayeem.* May her soul be woven into the thread of life. May Hashem comfort her family with all the mourners of Tzion.

Shabbat Shalom U'Mevorakh

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ence of something larger than ourselves, that embraced other Jews in other lands and other times, something I later learned we call the Shekhinah, the Divine presence.

We walked together, my parents, my brothers and me. The two generations were so different. My father came from Poland. My brothers and I were “proper Englishmen.” We knew we would go places, learn things and pursue careers they could not. But we walked together, two generations, not having to say that we loved one another. We weren't a demonstrative family but we knew of the sacrifices our parents made for us and the pride we hoped to bring them. We belong to different times, different worlds, had different aspirations, but we walked together.

Then I find my imagination fast-forwarding to . . . those unforgettable scenes in Britain – in Tottenham, Manchester, Bristol – of young people ram-paging down streets, looting shops, smashing windows, setting fire to cars, robbing, stealing, assaulting people. Everyone asked why. . .

Of course, the answer was as clear as day but no one wanted to say so. In the space of no more than two generations, a large part of Britain has quietly abandoned the family, and decided that marriage is just a piece of paper. Britain became the country with the highest rate of teenage mothers, the highest rate of single parent families, and the highest rate – 46% in 2009 – of births outside marriage in the world.

Marriage and cohabitation are not the same thing, though it is politically incorrect to say so. The average length of cohabitation is less than two years. The result is that many children are

Trip Leader

Rabbi Daniel Bouskila

Cost: Airfare Only for first time participants

Trip Dates

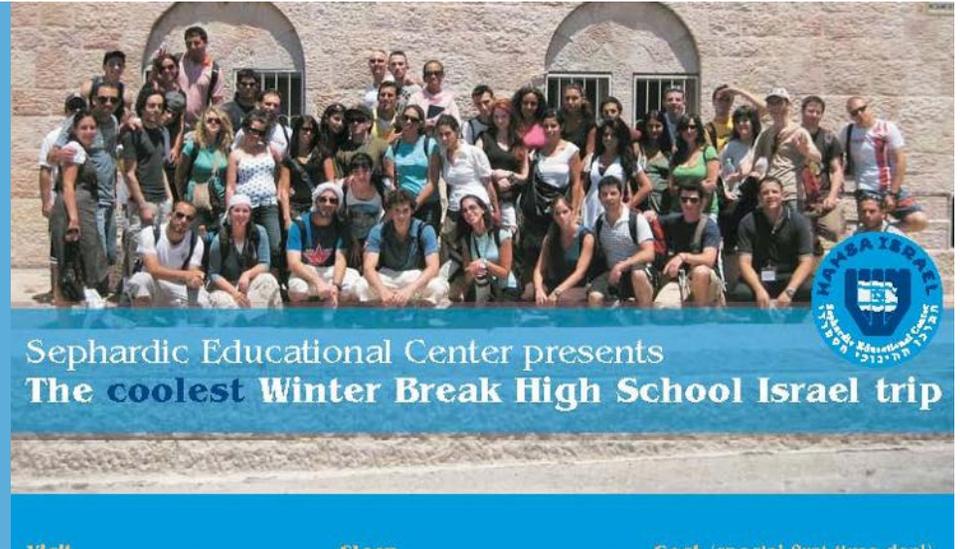
Dec. 19th to Jan. 6th

Deadline to Apply

November 9, 2012

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growing up without their biological father, in many cases not even knowing who their father is. They live, at best, with a succession of step-fathers. It is a little-known but frightening fact that the rate of violence between stepfathers and stepchildren is 80 times that between natural fathers and their children. . . .

We live in a secular world that has accumulated more knowledge than all previous generations combined, from the vast cosmos to the structure of DNA, from superstring theory to the neural pathways of the brain, and yet it has forgotten the simple truth that a civilization is as strong as the love and respect between parent and child – *Vayelchu shenehem yachdav*, the ability of the generations to walk together.

Jews are a formidably intellectual people. We have our Nobel prize-winning physicists, chemists, medical scientists and games theorists. Yet as long as there is a living connection between Jews and our heritage, we will never forget that there is nothing more important than home, the sacred bond of marriage, and the equally sacred

bond between parent and child. *Vayelchu shenehem yachdav*.

And if we ask ourselves why is it that Jews so often succeed . . . and so often make an impact beyond their numbers: there is no magic, no mystery, no miracle. It is simply that we devote our most precious energies to bringing up our children. Never more so than on Shabbat...when we can only give what they most want and need: our time.

. . . [A] civilization is as strong as the bond between the generations. That is the enduring image of this week's parsha: the first Jewish parent, Abraham, and the first Jewish child, Isaac, walking together toward an unknown future, their fears stilled by their faith. Lose the family and we will eventually lose all else. Sanctify the family and we will have something more precious than wealth or power or success: the love between the generations that is the greatest gift God gives us when we give it to one another.

Shabbat Shalom



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*Star of NCIS-LA
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Maurice Marciano
Honorary Chair

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Films depicting the Sephardic Jewish experience from India, Morocco,
Iraq, Rhodes, Iran, Turkey, Spain and more

Save the Date

Sisterhood of Kahal Joseph



Children's Hanukkah Party

Sunday, December 16th at 11:00 am

Norma and Sam Dabby Jewish Education Center
presents a KJ Family Event

“Light & Shadow”

The Story of Persian Jews

Leave with carpool from Kahal Joseph Congregation
Sunday, December 2, 2012 at 11:00 am or ***Meet at UCLA's
Fowler Museum at 12 noon*** RSVP Requested 310.474.0559