

KOL MEVASSER

Rabbi's Message When God Makes a Point... Literally

Some things can be so extraordinary that their special status is contagious. Just coming into contact with them can spread holiness so intense that it can be passed on to the third degree, permanently promoting the second object to an advanced spiritual level.

This is one of the more complex mitzvot that comes down to us in Parashat Ki Tissa, and even the experts find it difficult to understand. Rashi, who is usually famous for making clear explanations in very short order, devotes an entire paragraph of 101 words to clarifying the issue.

The matter at hand is the *shemen mish'hat kodesh*, the oil that is used to sanctify the equipment used in the Holy Tabernacle as well as the Kohanim themselves. Not only is it too sacred for use in worldly purposes, but it also makes the things it touches into "*kodesh kodashim*," a very high spiritual honor. In fact, these *kodesh kodashim* items become so holy that it is forbidden to put profane contents inside them, while anything they are allowed to touch is automatically required to be sacrificed for God.



According to the Midrash (Shemot Rabba, Bo 15:28), this is one of four commandments that even Moshe Rabbenu didn't understand at first. Instead, God had to point to the oil with His metaphorical "finger" so that he could grasp it by seeing it in action. It was only when Moshe witnessed it in the physical world that he could comprehend it well enough to teach it to the Kohanim.

This story provides a lovely message of encouragement in the quest for spiritual development in our own lives. It shows that regular people need not fear that they don't have the abilities for self-improvement. Even our greatest prophet needed a divine boost, so it's still worth trying when we might not feel that we could do it on our own.

Who knows, if we keep at it, we might just bring a little taste of the *shemen mish'hat kodesh* into the world around us. May we all strive to become the sort of people who turn others on fire when our sincere passions touch them!

Shabbat Shalom

Parashat Ki Tissa

Torah: Ex. 30:11–34:35, 139 Pesukim
Hertz 352–368; Stone 484–515
Haftarah: I Kings 18:20–39
Hertz 370–372, Stone 1161–1162
Tefillot: Mashib Haruah

KJ Schedule

Ereb Shabbat

Friday, February 26th

Shaharit 6:25 am
Minhah..... 5:30 pm
Shabbat Candle Lighting 5:28 pm
Arbit / Kabbalat Shabbat.... 5:40 pm

Yom Shabbat

Saturday, February 27th

Shaharit / Morning Prayer.. 8:30 am
Keri'at HaTorah 10:15 am
Musaf 11:30 am

Minhah..... 5:00 pm
Se'udah Shelisheet..... 5:45 pm

Arbit 6:20 pm
Habdalah 6:32 pm

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Shabbat Kiddush

is sponsored by
Joe Samuels

in loving memory
of his brother
Eliyahu ben Sassoon Shmuel
Hacham Sassoon, z"l

KJ Schedule (continued)

Weekdays

Sunday, February 28th

Shaharit..... 7:30 am
Talmud Torah..... 10:00 am

Monday to Friday, Feb 29 to March 4

Shaharit 6:25 am

Ereb Shabbat / Friday, March 4th

Shaharit 6:25 am
Minhah 5:30 pm

Shabbat Candle Lighting.....5:34 pm

Arbit / Kabbalat Shabbat 5:40 pm

In Memoriam

We remember *yahrzeit* anniversaries from February 27 to March 5, 2016. It is customary to light a memorial candle, donate *tzedaka* & attend Shabbat services.

18 Adar I / Shabbat, February 27th

Naim Moshi *Naim ben Yehoshua*

19 Adar I / Sunday, February 28th

Eliyahu Sasson Samuel *Eliyahu ben Sassoon*
Hacham Shmuel Sassoon

20 Adar I / Monday, February 29th

Victoria Simanian *Miriam Victoria bat Ester*
Edward Wyner *Itzhak ben Simha*

21 Adar I / Tuesday, March 1st

Gershoon Doustar

Itzhak Rahmin *Itzhak Rahmin Pinhas*

23 Adar I / Thursday, March 3rd

Bernard Jonatan Amron *Bernard Yonatan ben Mishaël*
Eliyahu Kattan *Eliyahu ben Salim*
Elisha Nawy *Elisha ben Nassim Nawy*

24 Adar I / Shabbat, March 4th

Fortunate Dallal *Fortunate bat Naima*

25 Adar I / Shabbat, March 5th

Rivka Blank *Rivka bat Sarah Hannah*

Mommy and Me

starting Thursday, April 14!

Kahal Joseph and PlayCreations Kids are thrilled to announce *Mommy and Me* classes starting Thursday, April 14 in the Kahal Joseph playroom. Each class will start with 30 minutes of music, instruments, scarves, and parachute time, followed by a sensory art project, like finger painting or edible sand. Each class is divided into age groups, and is carefully thought out to engage all five senses, and encourage development of motor and language skills.



Eight sessions, starting Thursday, April 14

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM - 6 months to 1 year

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM - 1 year to 18 months

Cost: \$215 for 8 weeks

Each class is limited in size, so register early!

*To register or for more information, contact Jessica at
jessica@kahaljoseph.org or 217.972.8993*

Information about PlayCreation Kids is available at www.playcreationkids.com

KJ Bereavement Booklet

Rabbi Melhado is pleased to announce that our graveside service booklet for visits on the *shiba*, *sheloshim*, and *yahrzeit*, has been reformatted with English translation. The booklets that we used for almost 40 years were Hebrew-only, and just a handful of copies remain from the original 100. Though we wish that no family will need them anytime soon, those who do will find a legible, accessible text in Hebrew & English.

Refuah Shelemah

Abe Abraham • Moselle Amron
Sally Amron • Tilda Levy • Esther Duke
Mordechai Cohen • Sylvia Cohen • Lev Hakak
Maurice Ovadia • Florice Newberry • Doris Moshi
Miriam bat Yetta • Sassoon Ezra

RIDES & GAMES

BEST Prizes, Prizes, PRIZES!

Hot Dogs! FALAFEL! Hamburgers!
Snowcones, Candy & MORE!

Kahal Joseph Congregation



Purim Carnival



Sunday, March 20th

Purim

Baking for Community Gift Baskets



Sunday, March 13th

10:00 am

Do a Mitzvah, Help Others &
Give to the Community
on Purim!

Have fun & bake traditional Iraqi treats for KJ's Purim gift baskets. Purim baskets are delivered to many individuals who live at a distance from our community or may be homebound and recovering on this festive holiday.

Donations in support of KJ Purim Baskets
are greatly appreciated. Please send to:

Kahal Joseph Congregation—Purim Baskets
10505 Santa Monica Blvd., L.A. CA 90025



Interactive Family Haggadah

Sunday, April 17 @ 12 pm

Kids, parents & grandparents, join us for an interactive presentation of the Passover story with something for toddlers to grade schoolers. Enjoy a delicious lunch, and make a craft to use at your seder! For more information or to RSVP e-mail Jessica at Jessica@kahaljoseph.org

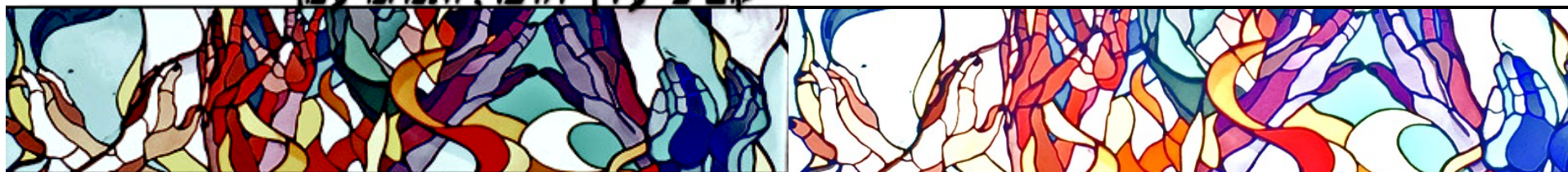


Mimouna Celebration

Sunday, May 1st

Join the Kahal community for a traditional celebration & festive gathering following the final day of Pesah. Enjoy unique and special delicacies along with entertainment and good company.

קום כי עליך הדבר, ואנחנו עמך



Arise, for this is your task, and we are with you

Guest Speakers at the Installation Ceremony

Kahal Joseph Congregation

JOYOUSLY INVITES YOU

TO CELEBRATE WITH US AT

THE INSTALLATION OF

Rabbi Raif S. Melhado

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: RABBI ASHER LOPATIN
PRESIDENT, YESHIVAT CHOVEVEI TORAH

SUNDAY, MARCH 6 - 26 ADAR I

INSTALLATION AT 5:30PM

CELEBRATORY DINNER TO FOLLOW

10505 SANTA MONICA BLVD, LOS ANGELES, CA



RSVP BY SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28

KAHALJOSEPH.ORG/INSTALLATION | 310.474.0559

Rabbi Asher Lopatin

Rabbi Asher Lopatin is the president of Yeshivat Chovevei Torah Rabbinical School, an Orthodox rabbinical school that teaches an inclusive, open and welcoming Torah. Previously, he was the spiritual leader of Anshe Sholom B'nai Israel Congregation, a modern Orthodox synagogue in Chicago, for 18 years. He received his ordination from Rav Ahron Soloveichik and Yeshivas Brisk in Chicago, and from Yeshiva University, as a Wexner Graduate Fellow. A Rhodes Scholar with a M.Phil. in Medieval Arabic Thought from Oxford University, Rabbi Lopatin is the author of numerous scholarly and popular articles.

Rabbi Chaim Marder

Rabbi Chaim Marder has served as the Rabbi of the Hebrew Institute of White Plains since 1995, having formerly served as the Rabbi of Congregation Beth Sholom in Providence, RI and associate rabbi at the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale. He is a graduate of Yeshiva University, holds a Masters degree in Jewish History, and received his Rabbinical Ordination from RIETS, the rabbinical seminary of YU. He has served as a Vice President of the Rabbinical Council of America (RCA) and the Westchester Board of Rabbis, and is a member of the board of both the RCA and IRF (the International Rabbinic Fellowship). In addition to his work at the Hebrew Institute, he is a faculty member in the Department of Leadership and Professional Rabbinic Training at YCT Rabbinical School.

He and his wife Suzie have 7 children: Shira (and Jason Saibel); Ari. Akiva, Shoshanah, Ayelet, Yonina and Doni.