

KOL MEBASSER

Rabbi's Message

Nahamu nahamu – “Be comforted, be comforted!” says God. The words of our Haftara are heartwarming to a Rabbi who is returning to the embrace of his congregation after a period of separation. It is truly a comfort to be back in our community, and I thank you for the kindly gestures of welcome that I have already begun to receive.



The message of *nahamu* also captures the broader tone of this time of year on our calendar. Our tradition urges us to see our own moral failings in the ashes of the Temple, yet now that we have passed the milestone of Tisha Be'ab, the mood shifts to one of encouragement. If we have something to work on in our character, God emboldens us with the message that He is ready to see what we can do about it.

My own Tish'a Be'ab was a powerful set of experiences that drew me to this message. On Shabbat Debarim, I prayed at the Conegliano Synagogue, whose special story can be seen as a microcosm of what we hope for the Bet Mikdash. After Italian Jewry passed through the upheavals of the early 20th century, Jewish life came to an end in many Italian hamlets, and this stunning Baroque era synagogue faced true desolation. Yet over many years of collaboration and hard work, it was carefully dismantled and rebuilt in Jerusalem...and not just anywhere but in the heart of a former German convent! From despondency in the Venetian heartland to reconstruction in the Jewish state, this 315 year old synagogue is a jewel of the Holy City where it can be enjoyed to this very day.

That night I read Megillat Ekha with my back to the Kotel, touching the physical remnants of what was lost. The deep spirituality of that moment clashed so jarringly with Shaharit the next morning, when a respected Yerushalmi Rabbi all but kicked me and Rabbi Bouskila out of his synagogue for following the widespread custom of delaying Tefillin until Mincha. Astonished that he would do this on Tish'a Be'ab of all days, we returned to the Kotel, where every possible variant of Diasporic minhagim clashed against the others in a wailing cacophony that suited the day. Finding a pocket of our Sephardi brothers for the Tefilla, we then stumbled on a rare breed of Hesder-type Mizrahim chanting Kinnot, which we joined for over an hour in what felt like transgressive delight.

The long afternoon was spent contemplating the Sephardi experience of the Holocaust at the SEC and Yad Vashem. This gut-wrenching material was a suitable preparation for the end of the fast, which I observed at the Kotel among a tiny Iraqi minyan that I managed to discover amid the throngs of worshipers.

Looking back on those 36 hours, how could I not but be in awe of God and His message of *nahamu*? In this strange, wonderful land, my soul could both lie shattered before the ruins of the Bet Mikdash and simultaneously draw inspiration from the ingathering of exiles who prayed at its ruins. In the same crazy country where a rabbi could expel two of his colleagues from a synagogue on Tisha Be'ab, those rabbis could also just walk down the street to find Jewish life bursting out of every nook and cranny in all directions.

Our spiritual community may still have plenty of problems, but *nahamu* is a rallying cry that we

Parashat Va'et'hanan

Shabbat Nahamu; Decalogue

Torah: Deut. 3:23–7:11, 122 Pesukim

Hertz 755–776; Stone 958–979

Haftara: Is. 40:1–26

Hertz 776–779; Stone 1196–1197

Tefillot: Morid Hatal

KJ Schedule

Ereb Shabbat

Friday, August 19th

Shaharit 6:25 am

Shabbat Candle Lighting ... 7:16 pm

Mincha 6:30 pm

Yom Shabbat

Saturday, August 20th

Shaharit / Morning Prayer 8:30 am

Keri'at HaTorah 10:15 am

Musaf 11:30 am

Women's Tehillim 5:00 pm

Mincha 6:30 pm

Se'uda Shelisheet 7:15 pm

Arbit..... 8:05 pm

Habdala..... 8:19 pm

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can all get behind. Whether its our own shortcomings or external troubles, let God's message of comfort show us that a better world is within our grasp!

Congratulations

to Adam Zekaria on his
One Year Bar Mitzva Anniversary

Mazal Tov to his grandparents
Alice Zekaria & Shirin Elghanian
his parents, Sylvia & Leon
and his siblings, Melissa & Maurice

Congratulations

to David Elias
on his Bar Mitzva

Mazal Tov to his grandparents
David and Louise Elias
his parents, Adrian and Leah
and sisters, Annie, Samantha & Katie

KJ Schedule (continued)

Weekdays/ Sunday, August 21st

Shaharit 7:30 am

Monday to Friday, August 22nd to 26th

Shaharit 6:25 am

Ereb Shabbat / Friday, August 26th

Shaharit 6:25 am

Shabbat Kiddush

is sponsored in honor of
Adam Zekaria's
One Year Bar Mitzva Anniversary
by The Zekaria Family

Shabbat Kiddush

for the community
will take place in the
Kahal Joseph entry hall
Thank You

In Memoriam

We remember yearzeit anniversaries from August 20 to 27, 2016. It is customary to light a memorial candle, donate tzedaka & attend Shabbat services.

17 Ab / Sunday, August 21st

Jacob Jonah Yaacov Yonah ben Yonah Yitzhak
Sabiha Kattan Sabiha bat Gurjiya Horesh
Matilda Levi Massoodah bat Tirkie

18 Ab / Monday, August 22nd

Khadoori Sasson Kadoori ben Sasson

19 Ab / Tuesday, August 23rd

Esther Shapiro Ester bat Rivka

21 Ab / Thursday, August 25th

Ketty E. Hanoon Khatoon bat Noosha
Farangis Shaye Farangis bat Hanonbibi

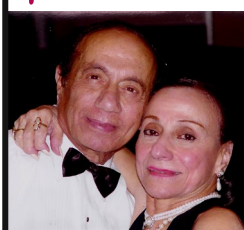
22 Ab / Friday, August 26th

Rahel bat Zivar

23 Ab / Shabbat, August 27th

Gloria Levi Gloria Mazal bat Rahel
Rachel Moses Rachel bat Moshe

Mazal Tov!



*Kahal Joseph
Congratulates
Moselle and Michael
Amron on their*



Wedding Anniversary



*August 19th, 1945
Magen David Synagogue • Calcutta India*

Refua Shelema

Abe Abraham • Moselle Amron • Sally
Amron • Haskell Avrahami • Sylvia Cohen
Mordechai Cohen • Esther Duke • Sassoon
Ezra • Lev Hakak • Yoel Iny • Tilda Levy
Florice Newberry • Albert Nissan • Maurice
Ovadia • Gracie Tizabi Katie bat Farha
Miriam bat Yetta • Aliza bat Victoria



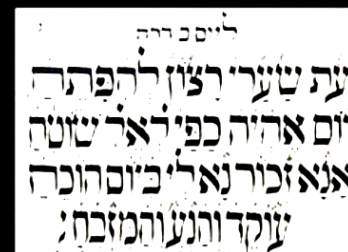
New Round of Mommy & Me starts in September

Heard great things about
our Mommy & Me programs?

Missed out on the last ones?

Don't worry - we are now accepting registration for
a new set of courses starting in September!

There is regular Mommy & Me on Thursdays and Shabbat-themed Mommy & Me on Fridays. For both, there are separate groups for babies (12-18 mo) and toddlers (18 mo - 2.5 yr). The price is \$225 for an 8 week course, and members get \$10 off the Shabbat course. To register, contact Jessica@kahaljoseph.org



RABBI MELHADO'S NEW CLASS

YOU'VE GOT THE "RITE" STUFF, BABY

PRAYERS OF THE HIGH HOLY DAYS

Our daily prayers are a beautiful ceremony on their own, but for 40 days a year we really bump them up to the next level for the High Holy Days.

This deepens the spiritual force of our tefilla, but it is a lot to handle for worshipers who only see these special texts once a year.

Want to know the meaning of the prayers? Have questions? Join Rabbi Melhado for a 5-session mini series on Wednesday evenings in September!

Aug 31: Structure of the Daily Tefillot
Sep 07: The Sephardic Selihot
Sep 14: Rosh Hashana
Sep 21: Yom Kippur
Sep 28: Comparison to Ashkenazim

Classes meet at 7:00 pm

KAHAL JOSEPH CONGREGATION

10505 SANTA MONICA BLVD

310.474.0559

kahaljoseph.org



Kahal Joseph Talmud Torah

Norma & Sam Dabby Jewish Education Center

August 2016 / Av 5776

Meet Ziva! KJ's New Talmud Torah Director

Dear Congregants,

My name is Ziva Mizrahi Zeharya, and I am pleased to share that I am the new Director of the Norma and Sam Dabby Talmud Torah at Kahal Joseph. I am very excited to begin this endeavor, and I'm looking forward to meeting all of you.

My grandparents originated in Kurdistan, Iraq and Syria, and I was raised loving and practicing Sephardic traditions. Through my father's work as a diplomat for Israel, I grew up travelling the world. I learned firsthand about our Jewish cultures and developed a profound love for the Jewish religion. As I matured, I dedicated myself, personally and professionally, to shaping Jewish identity in adults, teens, children and families.

Throughout my career as an educator, I have cultivated rich experience teaching individuals of all ages and with many styles of learning. I love creating interactive lessons and programs that capture the attention of my students, and I make an effort to mentor teachers while respecting individual teaching styles. Of course, my experience as a mother has helped shape the educator I am today.

I understand the tremendous effort it takes to raise Jewish children in our world, and I understand the immense diversity among children. In addition, I value parents' concerns, be they large or small. I look forward to using all my skills for the benefit of our Talmud Torah and to pass along the *masoret* (tradition) of our parents and grandparents.

As we build our Talmud Torah program, I welcome your thoughts and questions. In addition, we welcome your children and grandchildren to look into our program and see if it might be the right fit for their Jewish education. I am looking forward to this wonderful opportunity and I feel thrilled to join your kehilla!

B'vracha,
Ziva Mizrahi Zeharya

About Ziva



Ziva Zeharya was born in Israel and raised in countries around the world. As the daughter of a Head Consul in the Israeli Consulate, she lived in Iran as a baby and moved to Los Angeles at the age of 10 where she attended Beverly Vista and Beverly Hills High School. At 16, she moved back to Israel, earned her high school diploma and proudly served in the IDF. She married and then returned to Los Angeles to continue her education, graduating with a BA from CSUN in Child Development and Jewish Education and an MA in Education & Administration from the University of Judaism.

Ziva's work experience includes twenty years of teaching Hebrew and directing many Jewish-education programs. Ziva has served as a Hebrew teacher at Milken Community High School, Director of Temple B'nai Hayim Religious School, and Director of Hebrew and Judaic Studies at Heschel West Day School. She currently works as Academic Registrar and Hebrew Department Chair for YULA Boys High School. She has four boys and is very excited to be the Talmud Torah Director at Kahal Joseph.

ENROLL NOW!

Kahal Joseph Talmud Torah

Create Celebrate Explore Inspire Share
Classes Begin on Sunday, August 28th

EXTENDED HOURS

9:45 am to 12:30 pm

Call 310.474.0559 for registration information