

KOL MEBASSER

Rabbi's Message

Take time to remember where you came from, and do something meaningful to appreciate how you got to enjoy this moment.



This is the essence of the ceremony of the First Fruits, which opens Parashat Ki Tabo. God commands that when we come to Erets Yisrael and begin to reap the fruits of this land of plenty, we must put some of the very first products of the harvest into a basket and formally present them to the Kohen. When we do, we are expected to recite the following long statement of gratitude, word-for-word:

"A Syrian had nearly caused my father to perish, and he went down into Egypt, and sojourned there with few persons, and there became a great, mighty, and populous nation. And the Egyptians ill-treated us, afflicted us, and laid heavy bondage upon us. And we cried unto the Eternal, the God of our ancestors; the Eternal heard our voice, and observed our affliction, our labour, and our oppression. And the Eternal brought us forth from Egypt, with a strong hand with and outstretched arm; with terror and with signs of wonders. And He has brought us to this place and given us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. Now, behold, I have brought the first of the fruit of the land, which You, O Lord, have given me."

Many of us may recognize this statement from the Haggada of Pesah, where it forms the centerpiece of the Maggid section. Over several pages, each word of the first four verses of this text is

parsed and re-hashed, enriched with Midrashic explanations and Aggadic stories that highlight just how many miracles it took for us to leave Egypt and become a nation of Torah in Erets Yisrael.

The purpose of this ritual, whether at the ceremony of First Fruits or in the Passover Seder, is to enhance our awareness of where we came from. In a moment where we are living with enough security and prosperity for our businesses succeed, God tells us that it is worth devoting some of our time and profits to appreciate that it wasn't always that way. Not long ago, we lived in different lands under more challenging circumstances, and it took a lot of sacrifice and dedication for us to get where we are today. Instead of taking that for granted, we bring it back to the house of God and physically state the words that we couldn't have done it without Him.

This Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur, how will we capture the spirit of the First Fruits and the self-awareness that it encourages? Many of the stories in our community have echoes of the Biblical narrative of displacement and resettlement in a new land that has been good to us. How could we give back to the country and the community that allow us to live as we like? If we have something tangible that can be put into a "basket," what would it be, and who would we present it to? If we had to make a declaration of the type in the Torah, what would we imagine ourselves saying?

There are so many ways that we can make our gratitude felt in both word and deed. I wish for all of us that we succeed at that this fall well enough for the words of the Haggada to ring with new truth in the spring.

Parashat Ki Tabo

Sixth Week of Consolation

Torah: Deut. 26:1–29:8, 122 Pesukim

Hertz 859–873; Stone 1068–1085

Haftara: Is. 60:1–22

Hertz 874–877; Stone 1201–1202

Tefillot: Morid Hatal

KJ Schedule

Ereb Shabbat

Friday, September 23rd

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| Selichot | 5:45 am |
| Shaharit | 6:25 am |
| Shabbat Candle Lighting | 6:29 pm |
| Minha | 6:15 pm |

Yom Shabbat

Saturday, September 24th

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| Shaharit / Morning Prayer | 8:30 am |
| Keri'at HaTorah | 10:15 am |
| Musaf | 11:30 am |
| Women's Tehillim..... | right after kiddush |
| Minha | 5:45 pm |
| Se'uda Shelisheet | 6:30 pm |
| Arbit | 7:15 pm |
| Habdala | 7:31 pm |

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Status of the Eruv



Thanks in part to contributions from Kahal Joseph members, the LA Eruv organization has received enough support this past week that the Eruv is expected to be up this Shabbat.

To ensure its long-term stability, a further \$100,000 needs to be raised from across the city this year. Please consider contributing at some level to this major convenience of Jewish life that benefits us every week!

Did you know? In communities without an Eruv, Jews must go through elaborate preparations to ensure that they do not have to carry anything between buildings on Shabbat. A great trick for your house keys is to loop a string through two sides of the eyelet so that each key becomes an essential part of a piece of Jewelry such as a necklace or bracelet. Regrettably there is no solution for strollers, which means that the Eruv is critical to anyone who wants to see small children in synagogue on Shabbat.

Donate to maintain the eruv:

- ♦ Send a check to LA ERUV at 8950 West Olympic Blvd. Suite 179, Beverly Hills CA 90211
- ♦ Go to LAERUV.com & make a one time or monthly payment via Paypal or credit card.
- ♦ Email info@laeruv.com to make arrangements



Thank You
to the volunteers who cleaned our
Torah scrolls on Sunday
especially to Louise Nathan
for organizing and coordinating

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>Rachel Acoca</i> | <i>Feresteh Mastour</i> |
| <i>Ben & Sophie Elias</i> | <i>Roya Najibi</i> |
| <i>David & Louise Elias</i> | <i>Grace Nathan</i> |
| <i>Shoshana Goury</i> | <i>Diana Solomon</i> |
| <i>Mehry Hakimipour</i> | <i>Tammy Stockfish</i> |
| <i>Angela Hakimipour</i> | <i>Anita Wozniak</i> |
| <i>Farah Harouni</i> | <i>Shula Wyner</i> |
| <i>Jessica Harouni</i> | <i>Rita Zakoo</i> |
| <i>Baruch Isaac</i> | <i>Barbara Zakoo</i> |

KJ Schedule (continued)

Weekdays / Sunday, Sept. 25th

Selihot..... 6:45 am
Shaharit 7:30 am

Monday to Friday, Sept. 26th to 30th

Selihot..... 5:45 am
Shaharit 6:25 am

Next Shabbat

Sept. 30th-Oct. 1st

Shabbat Candle Lighting 6:20 pm
Friday Minha 6:15 pm
Shaharit 8:30 am
Saturday Minha 5:45 pm

Thank You

to the volunteers who helped sort the children's toys in the upstairs social hall:

**David & Louise Elias
Baruch Isaac
Rabbi & Jessica Melhado**



A second sorting session will be necessary to make the toys fully accessible. To volunteer contact jessica@kahaljoseph.org

In Memoriam

We remember yahrzeit anniversaries from September 24 to October 1, 2016. It is customary to light a memorial candle, donate tzedaka & attend Shabbat services.

22 Elul / Sunday, September 25th

Moselle Jacob Muzli bat Nuna
Violet Ezra

24 Elul / Tuesday, September 27th

Daisy Ezra Khazam bat Farha

25 Elul / Wednesday, September 28th

Yosef Acoca Yosef Acoca ben Nissim
Sidney Jonah Sasson Ephraim Yonah
Marsel Kemareh Marsel bat Shaul V'Gazalah Levi
Esmat Khalili Naghdi Rahel bat Yonah

26 Elul / Thursday, September 29th

Rahma Katie Abraham Rahma Chatoon bat Simha
Hanina Levi Hanina Saleh Shamash bat Farha

27 Elul / Friday, September 30th

Ester Shamsi Ester bat Morvarid

28 Elul / Shabbat, October 1st

Samuel Hallegua Shmuel ben Haim
David Kelly David Shalom ben Silas
Moshe ben Moondani

Refua Shelema

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



High Holy Day Kids' Programming

REGISTER NOW!

Rosh Hashana

Monday, Oct. 2 and Tuesday, Oct. 3, 10AM to 2PM

Yom Kippur

Tuesday, Oct. 11, 5:30 - 9:30

Wednesday, Oct. 12, 10AM - 2PM, 3:30PM - 7:00PM

Join us this year as your children explore the meaning of Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur with creative programming and engaging children's services. Fun snacks and a holiday-themed class from mini yogi round out the new offerings.

Torah Tots (1 to 4 yrs) - *Parents welcome, but babysitting also provided*

Yeladenu (Pre-K to 2nd) - *Activities, children's service, and snacks*

Club Noar (3rd to 6th) - *Activities, children's service, and snacks*

Free for members! \$25 per holiday for non-members!
EVERYONE must register to get a wristband! Registration forms will be in the ticket mailing OR you can register online at www.kahaljoseph.org/hhd-kids.html

Questions? Email Jessica at jessica@kahaljoseph.org.



Volunteer with the Kids Program!

Parents, grandparents, younger adults, older adults! Take a break from praying to do another kind of mitzva - helping out with the children's programming. Shifts are as short as 45 minutes, allowing you to both help out and still get to pray. All materials/activities provided, just bring yourself and your enthusiasm.

Please contact Jessica ASAP to volunteer (jessica@kahaljoseph.org) or if you'd like to get involved in a more substantial way (planning, coordinating volunteers, etc).



From the Rabbi's Message

The English translation from the first four verses of the ceremony of the First Fruits was quoted from David Hai Einy, ancestor of our President, Ronald Einy.

His 1905 Haggada in Hebrew, Arabic, and English is now available for download on the Kahal Joseph website at

<http://www.kahaljoseph.org/iraqi-books.html>

Don't Miss the Last Class In Rabbi Melhado's Series

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

All Classes on Wednesday at 7:00 pm

Dinner Available for \$15 with RSVP by Tuesday

Dinner \$15 with RSVP by Wed @ 2 pm, [Click Here](#)

Our High Holy Days Special Guest Hazan Michael Ben Atar



Kahal Joseph is thrilled to announce that the wonderful voice of Hazan Michael Ben Atar will be joining us from Jerusalem for this Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur!

He will be an exciting addition to our beloved Hazanim Saeed Jalali and Sassoon Ezra, whom we are all truly blessed with. With a great team like that, our prayers will hopefully be as pleasant before God as they sound in our own ears!

Hazan Ben Atar is the scion of Iraqi families on both his father's and his mother's side, and his grandfather was born in Baghdad. The melodies of Iraqi hazanim were a constant companion growing up in his native Jerusalem, where he avidly followed voices like Moshe Habusha, David Halabi, and Gourgy Yair.

The music that surrounded him in his family life stayed with him through his religious education at Yeshivat Oz Meir. At home, he compliments his vocal talents by playing the violin and the oud.

He has now made music a centerpiece of his professional life, which revolves around hazanut, choral performances, semahot, and educational work with bene mitsva students. Along with his wife Batel, we feel fortunate to have Hazan Ben Atar at Kahal Joseph for our upcoming High Holy Day services.

We look forward to seeing all our members and friends attend our inspiring tefilot!

Tickets for the High Holy Days

Kahal Joseph welcomes you to celebrate Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur in our beautiful High Holy Day services!

Tickets are available to members and non-members, as are wristbands for the special kids' programming.

Membership comes with...

- ♦ Two tickets for families
- ♦ One ticket for singles
- ♦ Free tickets (if preregistered) for teens through high school
- ♦ Free wristbands (if preregistered) for children under bar mitsva
- ♦ Favorable rates for members' children in college.

Non-member tickets covering both holidays are available too!

- ♦ \$300 for adults
- ♦ \$150 for children, bar mitsva through college
- ♦ \$50 for children under bar mitsva
- ♦ The cost of non-member tickets can also be applied towards a new membership!

To reserve your tickets, you can either visit www.kahaljoseph.org/high-holy-days or call the office at **310-474-0559**. If you'd rather stop by in person, we'd love to see you!