

# KOL MEVASSER

## Rabbi's Message

I admit it! The last time that I pulled an all-nighter for Torah study on Shabuot was seven years ago.

In my younger days, there was a thrill to the idea of pushing my tendencies to be a "night person" to the extreme. Probably the best memories I have of Tikkun Leil Shabuot were during my time in Chicago in the late 2000s, when five area synagogues and their rabbis would host a joint program of nightlong study. We would learn Torah from dinner through sunrise with only short breaks, and there were so many topics that we still felt like we hadn't covered everything. After an early Shaharit it was back to a friend's house for delicious omelets, and finally we would crawl into bed around 10 am, shattered from 27 action-packed hours awake.

While this made for wonderful memories, it was hard on my constitution, which took the rest of the holiday and more to reset. Eventually I had to admit that it would be best for me to get my beauty sleep in the name of having a better global Shabuot experience. I love the Torah, and I make sure to study it later on Shabuot than I normally would. Yet for the sake of my body and my ability to spend Yom Tob with my kids, I have accepted that the custom of Tikkun after midnight will be preserved by other people than myself.

Many friends and congregants tell me that they are surprised by this. "You're a rabbi! How could *you*, of all people, go to bed?!" I understand that point of view, but if we look into the



history of the Tikkun, we will see that all-night learning on Shabuot is a relative latecomer to the Jewish communal scene:

The classical texts of Judaism, from the Tanakh to the Sifre Yesod, do not mention the Tikkun in any way, and as late as the Abudarham (14th century Spain), rabbinic scholars seemed totally unaware of it! Rabbi Joseph Caro, the author of the Shulhan Arukh, would apparently stay up on Shabuot, but that didn't stop him from completely omitting this tradition from his famous code of law. It was only in the late 16th century that the Kabbalists spread it across the Middle East and Europe, and the first book of Tikkun liturgy wasn't published until after the advent of modern coffee consumption. In the three and a half centuries since then, the Tikkun has transformed itself from a book of fixed readings to the open-ended limmud that we recognize today, giving the tradition yet another new face. (Schein, Andrew. "A Brief History of Tikkun Leil Shavuot.")

This need not stop anyone from following a custom that is fun and brings people together in the service of God. There is power to the Midrashic image of Israelites sleeping away the night before the Torah was given, and God and Moses thundering at them to wake up (Shir Hashirim Rabba 1:12:2). If the Zohar's advice to fix this (3:98a) would move anyone to study the Torah all night in reparation, so much the better! And in the meanwhile, those of us who need an earlier stopping point will rest assured that we are following a legitimate minhag as well. May we continue to enjoy a free society where our biggest problem on Shabuot is when to conclude our religious studies!

### Parashat Bemidbar 46th day since the Omer

Torah: Num. 1:1–4:20, 159 Pesukim  
Hertz 568–580; Stone 726–747  
Haftara: Hos. 2:1–22  
Hertz 582–585; Stone 1180–1181  
Tefillot: Morid Hatal

### Shavuot Days 1 and 2

Torah S1: Ex. 19:1–20:23, Num. 28:26–31  
Orot Sef Shavuot 254–257 (5 aliyot)  
Haftara S1: Ezek. 1:1–28, 3:12  
Orot Sef Shavuot 259–260  
Torah S2: Deut. 15:19–16:17, Num. 28:26–31  
Orot Sef Shavuot 264–266 (5 aliyot)  
Haftara S2: Hab. 2:20–3:19  
Orot Sef Shavuot 266–267  
Tefillot: Ps. 68, Full Hallel, Azharot (short version pp. 270–272)

## KJ Schedule

### Rosh Hodesh Sivan & Erev Shabbat

*Friday, May 26th*

Shaharit ..... 6:15 am  
**Candle lighting..... 7:37 pm**  
Minha..... 6:30 pm  
Kabbalat Shabbat / Arvit ..... 7:00 pm

### Yom Shabbat

*Saturday, May 27th*

**Shaharit / Morning Prayer ..... 8:15 am**  
Keri'at HaTorah ..... 10:15 am  
Musaf ..... 11:40 am

*(Continued on page 2)*



## The Travails of Jewish Basra

The association of Shavuot with the 1941 riots in Baghdad known as "Farhud" makes the first week of Sivan an opportunity to commemorate our persecution. Last year we observed the 75th anniversary of the Farhud, so this year we turn to Basra.

In the summer of 1948, Israel's independence brought the loyalty of the entire Iraqi Jewish community into question. Sir Henry Mack, British Ambassador to Iraq, summed up the situation on July 14th (redacted for length):

"There is a growing tendency to undertake a 'witch hunt' against Iraqi Jews and use military courts to make money or pay off old scores. Some of them were sentenced on the flimsiest of pretexts and the conduct of some trials was certainly most unfair to the defendants. In one case a man was arrested at 1 p.m. on one day and sentenced to a year's hard labour at 10 a.m. the next day."

By September, the situation boiled over with the surprise arrest of community president Shafiq Ades. His abrupt execution turned Basra into a center of clandestine emigration that continued until the border was opened. May the memories and scarifies of Jewish Basrawis be honored through our rekindled Iraqi Jewish life in Los Angeles.

## Tikkun Lel Shavuot

delicious refreshments  
are sponsored by  
Yvette Dabby

in loving memory of her aunt  
**Victoria Cohen, z"l**

*(Continued from page 1)*

### Yom Shabbat / Saturday, May 27th

Women's Tehillim .....	5:45 pm
Minha .....	6:45 pm
Se'uda Shelisheet .....	7:30 pm
Arvit .....	8:25 pm
Havdala .....	8:41 pm

### Sunday, May 28th

Shaharit .....	7:30 am
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### Memorial Day / Monday, May 29th

Shaharit .....	7:00 am
<b>Shabbat Matters</b> , online class .....	8:00 pm

### Erev & Lel Shavuot / Tuesday, May 30th

Shaharit .....	6:25 am
Minha .....	read individually
Candle lighting .....	7:40 pm
Kiddush .....	after 8:44 pm
Arvit of Shavuot .....	8:30 pm
Kiddush & Refreshments .....	8:45 pm
Class w/Rabbi Melhado .....	9:30 pm
Traditional Shavuot Readings .....	10:30 pm
More at Westwood Kehilla .....	11:30 pm

## Shavuot

*Wed, May 31st & Thurs, June 1st*

See p. 3 for complete Shavuot schedule

### Next Shabbat / Fri-Sat, June 2-3

Shabbat Candle lighting .....	7:41 pm
Friday Minha .....	6:30 pm
Shaharit .....	8:30 am
Saturday Minha .....	7:00 pm
Havdala .....	8:48 pm

## Seuda Shelisheet

is sponsored  
in loving memory of

**Nassim Hay Mussry, z"l**

by  
The Mussry Family

## In Memoriam

We remember these yearzeit anniversaries from May 27 to June 3, 2017. It is customary to light a memorial candle, donate tzedaka & attend Shabbat services.

### 3 Sivan / Sunday, May 28th

Abraham Blank *Avraham ben Yaacov Dov*  
George Sher *Gedaliah ben Moshe Litman Hacohen*

### 4 Sivan / Monday, May 29th

Victoria Cohen *Victoria bat Hanina*

### 5 Sivan / Tuesday, May 30th

Ezra Kelly Elias Levi *Ezra Kadoori Eliyahu Levi*  
Sara Moses *Sara bat Sarah*  
Turan Pourati *Turan bat Aghajan*  
Khodadad Zakariyaie

### 6 Sivan / Wednesday, May 31st

Tahereh Hakimipour *Taherah bat Kokab*

### 8 Sivan / Friday, June 2nd

Rivkah Kohanzadeh *Rivkah bat Shimon*

### 9 Sivan / Shabbat, June 3rd

Ester Bekhore *Ester bat Amam*  
Ester Ezekiel *Ester bat Amam*

## Refu'a Shelema

Moselle Amron • Sally Amron • Sylvia Cohen  
Simcha bat Rooha • Mordechai Cohen  
Esther Duke • Sassoon Ezra • Tilda Levy  
Haskell Avrahamy • Florice Newberry  
Miriam bat Yetta • Aliza bat Rahel  
Aliza bat Victoria • Yvonne Moalim  
Miryam bat Malka • Moshe Ezra ben Mazal Tov  
Malka bat Rahel • Chaya Chana bat Batya  
Mehry bat Miriam Hakimipour • Katie bat Farha



## CONGRATULATE Your Graduate!

Don't let your graduate go unnoticed! Let's celebrate the success and accomplishments of all our graduates from preschool to PhD.

Email the name, school and field of study of your graduate to [jessica@kahaljoseph.org](mailto:jessica@kahaljoseph.org) and they will be mentioned in the June 16 Kol Mevasser!

## Shavuot Kids Room

Wednesday, May 31  
Thursday, June 1  
10:00 AM - 12:00PM

The playroom will be open and staffed with special snacks and games for Shavuot!

## Shavuot May 30-31, June 1

### Tikkun LeI Shavuot - May 30

7:40 PM - Candlelighting, Kiddush after 8:44 PM

8:30 PM - Arvit                      8:45 PM - Dinner

RSVP to [rabbimelhado@kahaljoseph.org](mailto:rabbimelhado@kahaljoseph.org)

9:30 PM - Matan Torah's Missing Pieces

10:30 PM - Shavuot Readings

### Shavuot I - Wednesday, May 31

8:15 AM - Shaharit

7:00 PM - Azharot

10 - 12 - Kids Room

7:20 PM - Minha

11:30 - Book of Ruth

7:50 PM - Arvit

### Shavuot II - Thursday, June 1

8:30 AM - Shaharit

7:20 PM - Minha

10 - 12 - Kids Room

7:45 PM - Seuda

7:00 PM - Azharot

8:30 PM - Arvit

8:44 PM - Havdala



## Color Me Mine at Kahal! Sunday, June 4, 1 to 3PM

Express your creativity!

Connect with friends, new and old!

A variety of pottery pieces will be available, tons of paint colors, and a Color Me Mine staff member.

\$50 registration fee includes piece, paint, glaze, fire and snacks!

RSVP at [www.kahaljoseph.org/events.html](http://www.kahaljoseph.org/events.html) by May 29

# Young Professionals Shabbat Dinner Friday, June 16 at 7:30 PM

Interested in....

a delicious dinner?  
meeting new people?  
an interesting discussion?

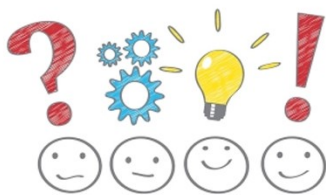


Join Rabbi Melhado and his family at home for a relaxed, joyful Shabbat dinner with good people.

Open to members and friends in their 20s and 30s.

Register now by emailing Rabbi at [rabbimelhado@kahaljoseph.org](mailto:rabbimelhado@kahaljoseph.org).

# Living Room Learning



**Got a pressing Jewish question?**

**Something on your mind? A topic of interest?**

Host Rabbi Melhado in your home for a class to explore a topic of your choice, or work with the rabbi to find something that interests you. Invite your friends, and learn together with the rabbi in a relaxed environment.

Interested? Questions?

Email the rabbi at [RabbiMelhado@kahaljoseph.org](mailto:RabbiMelhado@kahaljoseph.org).

# Shabbat Matters!

**Rules, Rituals and Meaning  
Mondays at 8PM live on YouTube!**

Join Rabbi Melhado for an interactive, online series on all aspects of Shabbat

Email [rabbimelhado@kahaljoseph.org](mailto:rabbimelhado@kahaljoseph.org) for the direct link

## Session I:

**May 22:** What's it all about? The Philosophy of Shabbat

**May 29:** Get the Spirit: Honoring & Protecting Shabbat

**June 5:** Who/What/Why? Candles, Kiddush, Meals & Havdala

**June 12:** Trumped! Shabbat v. Special Circumstances



## Session II:

**July 3:** What are we resting from: The 39 Labors

**July 10:** Is that Practical? Food & Transportation

**July 17:** Bend Me, Break Me: Shabbat & Other Values

**July 24:** Crescent & Cross: Shabbat & Non-Jewish Society