

KOL MEVASSER

Rabbi's Message

American lifestyles have been good to us when it comes to our material needs. What we now experience as normal features of the average home were untold luxuries even a few short generations ago. We are truly blessed to live in a time when it is common for people under the Federal Poverty Level to have multiple changes of clothes, appliances like refrigerators and ovens, and access to private and public resources for easing their worst pressures.



In the Jewish community, we are further blessed with a civic-minded culture that fosters high personal achievement and organizational sophistication. For many of us today, the knowledge of what it feels like to skip a meal goes no deeper than our calendar of religiously mandated fast days, while the truly poor can approach multiple benefactors for assistance. Our community can even indulge in less urgent forms of giving, so great are the resources and so strong the will to help.

This physical security is exactly what we pray for, and it is surely something to celebrate, but does it expose us to spiritual risks? Moses certainly thinks so, and he devotes several verses of Parashat Ekev to exploring them:

"Beware lest you forget the Lord your God by not keeping His commandments, ordinances, and statutes that I command you this day – lest when you have eaten and are satisfied, and have built fine houses for your living quarters; and when your herds, flocks, silver, gold and all that you

have is multiplied – your heart be aggrandized, and you forget the Lord your God Who brought you out of Egypt, the House of Bondage ... and you say, 'my own power and the might of my hand earned me this wealth.'" (Deut. 9:11-17)

In other words, given a long enough period of time, consistent personal comfort could make us forget God's leading role in making our lives so enjoyable. This is not an unfounded worry for Moses: he lived through the Golden Calf incident, which came right after a bout of conspicuous consumption (Ex. 32:6), and he is about to send us into Eretz Yisrael, whose very nourishing qualities make us prone to turning away from our Redeemer (Deut. 31:20, and cf. Sifre Debarim, Piska 43).

Applying this concern to the American context, we may recognize our own situation of plenty with its accompanying vulnerabilities. To guard against these risks, we should consider Moses' example and the model he proposes. It may be worthwhile to develop a clear language for our core values. Having done so, we might also invest a meaningful portion of our resources into applying those values to the world and into teaching them to our children.

There is nothing inherently wrong with success and plenty. Like anything, they can be tools or liabilities depending on the hands that wield them. Rather than make us feel guilty for doing well, Moses is simply encouraging us to put some thought into what we do with our resources as well as into how we place safeguards around what we hold most dear. If we don't know what is valuable to us, or we do know but don't know how to protect it, then his words are a fitting reminder that the time to start figuring that out is right now.

Parashat Ekev

Second Week of Consolation

Torah: Deut. 7:12–11:25, 111 Pesukim
Hertz 780–793; Stone 980–997
Haftara: Is. 49:14–51:3
Hertz 794–798; Stone 1197–1199
Tefillot: Morid Hatal

KJ Schedule

Erev Shabbat

Friday, August 11th

Shaharit	6:25 am
Candle lighting	7:26 pm
Minha	6:30 pm
Kabbalat Shabbat / Arvit	7:00 pm

Yom Shabbat

Saturday, August 12th

Shaharit / Morning Prayer	8:30 am
Keri'at HaTorah	10:15 am
Musaf	11:40 am
Women's Tehillim	5:45 pm
Minha	6:45 pm
Se'uda Shelisheet	7:30 pm
Arvit	8:15 pm
Havdala	8:28 pm

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Shabbat Kiddush

is sponsored
in memory of

Mohtaram Esther
bat Yaacov and Jahan, z"l

by
Ron, Jay and Jack Shadi

Mazal Tov

Jennifer and Michael Halimi
on the birth of a baby girl

**Chloe Johanna
Hannah bat Moshe**

Besiman Tov to grandparents
Johanna & Lief Rosenblatt, Reggie Judah
Lida Cohen, Sherry & Shawn Halimi
and to the entire family

Mazal Tov

Stephanie Shimon & Daniel Levy
on your engagement

Besiman Tov to parents
Yael & Yaron Levy
Michelle & Danny Shimon
to grandparents, Yoel and Tikva Iny
and to both families

Mazal Tov

Melissa Yaghoubian & Daniel Loewy
on your engagement

Besiman Tov to parents
Sylvia & Leon Zekaria
Cheryl & Steve Loewy
grandparents, Alice Zekaria and
Shirin Elghanian, and to both families

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Sunday, August 13th

Shaharit 7:30 am

Monday-Friday, August 14th-18th

Shaharit 6:25 am

Next Shabbat

Friday-Saturday, August 18-19

Shabbat Candle lighting 7:18 pm

Friday Mincha 6:30 pm

Shaharit 8:30 am

Saturday Mincha 6:30 pm

Havdala 8:20 pm

In Memoriam

We remember the following yahrzeit anniversaries from
August 12 to 19, 2017. It is customary to light a memorial
candle, donate tzedaka & attend Shabbat services.

21 Av / Sunday, August 13th

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

22 Av / Monday, August 14th

Rahel bat Zivar

23 Av / Tuesday, August 15th

Gloria Levi *Gloria Mazal bat Rahel*
Rachel Moses *Rachel bat Moshe*

24 Av / Wednesday, August 16th

Isaac Ezra *Itzhak ben Abdullah Ezra*

25 Av / Thursday, August 17th

Matty Yaqub *Simha bat Sulha Mitana*

27 Av / Shabbat, August 19th

Lulu bat Shereen

Refua Shelema

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

SAVE THE DATE

KAHAL JOSEPH INVITES YOU!

A High Holy Day Celebration Musicale

HAFLA OF ISRAELI/ARABIC MUSIC AND SONGS

FEATURING GUEST HAZAN MICHAEL BEN ATAR & HIS BAND

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 AT 7:30PM

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED

\$40 PREREGISTRATION - - - \$50 AT THE DOOR



*The Sam and Norma Dabby
Talmud Torah*

FAMILY OPEN HOUSE
SUN. 8/27, 10:30 TO NOON

**KOSHER BRUNCH * MEET THE
TEACHERS * EXPLORE THE SCHOOL *
REGISTER FOR CLASSES * ART &
BAKING ACTIVITIES * & YOU!**

RSVP to Molly at Molly@kahaljoseph.org



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NEVER LEARNED ANY?**

**HEBREW FOR BEGINNERS
WITH RABBI MELHADO**

Enhance your prayer experience

Start from the beginning with a small group

Enjoy a mix of online & in-person lessons

Email Rabbi Melhado at

RabbiMelhado@kahaljoseph.org to join!

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS
SHABBAT DINNER
FRIDAY. August 18 AT 7:30 PM

Interested in....

a delicious dinner?

meeting new people?

invigorating 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.

CELEBRATE HIGH HOLY DAYS WITH KAHAL!

High Holy Day Tickets

Members - look for your tickets in the mail soon!

Guests - order your tickets now!

Order online at www.kahaljoseph.org/high-holy-days.html,
call 310-474-0559 or stop by in person!

MEMBERS RECEIVE:

- * Two adult tickets with family membership OR one single ticket with single membership
- * Free tickets for preregistered teens
- * Free playroom wristbands for preregistered children
- * Favorable rates for members' children in college

GUEST TICKET RATES:

*Remember, your ticket package can be applied to
the cost of a new membership!*

* \$300 for adults

* \$150 for teens from bar mitzva through college

* \$50 for children under bar mitzva age



Children's Program



Join us for our exciting High Holy Days children's programming. We'll have engaging activities, lively entertainment, nutritious snacks, and an age-appropriate exploration of the holidays.

Registration required! Registration forms are in the mailing, or register online at www.kahaljoseph.org/hhd-kids. Free for members, \$25 per holiday for non-members.

ROSH HASHANAH

Thursday, Sept. 21 - 10AM - 2PM

Friday, Sept. 22 - 10AM - 2PM

YOM KIPPUR

Friday, Sept. 29 - 5:45 - 10PM

Saturday, Sept. 30 -
10AM - 2PM, 3:45PM - 7:30PM

Welcome Back Hazan Ben Atar

We are thrilled that the wonderful voice of Hazan Michael Ben Atar will once again grace us from Jerusalem for Rosh Hashanah & Yom Kippur. He will join our beloved Hazanim Sassoon Ezra and Saeed Jalali, so that our prayers will be as beautiful to our own ears as they are to God.

Born into two Iraqi families, the Hazan avidly follows Mizrahi cantors Moshe Habusha, David Halabi, and Gourgy Yair. After studying at Yeshivat Oz Meir, he made music the centerpiece of his professional life. He plays the oud & violin, performs hazanut and at semahot, and teaches music to children and adults.



FALL HOLIDAY CALENDAR

Rosh Hashanah
September 20-22

Yom Kippur
September 29-30

Sukkot
October 4 - 11
Shemini Atzeret/
Simhat Torah
October 11-13

Mitsvot

Make a donation to reserve your
mitsva for the High Holy Days!

Call the office at 310-474-0559