

## KOL MEVASSER

## Rabbi's Message

As Jews, we pride ourselves on having protected the Hebrew text of the Tanakh. Despite living in a far-flung diaspora, and in countries that have sometimes been hostile to Jewish books, our manuscripts and prints of the Holy Scripture are amazingly identical. When the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered in the 1940s and 50s, one researcher noted that "It is a matter of wonder that through something like one thousand years [between the Scrolls and the next known fragments], the text underwent so little alteration... Herein lies its chief importance, supporting the fidelity of the Masoretic tradition" (Millar Burrows, *The Dead Sea Scrolls*, p. 304).



1992 edition of *The Jerusalem Bible*, Genesis Ch. 31 ends at verse 54, and the verse that begins this week's Aliyat Maftir is marked as 32:1. However, in the 2008 edition from the same company, this verse is marked as 31:55, and the numbering of chapter 32 is off by one throughout the rest of the chapter.

Technically this is not a change to the Hebrew, which did not initially include chapters and verses. That system was introduced by two Christians, Stephen Langton and Robert Stephanus in the 13th and 16th centuries, respectively. However it does appear to break with several hundred years of tradition, as many Hebrew editions end chapter 31 at verse 54, and it is typically the Christians who continue to verse 55. As of this writing I have not found the reason that the change was made, but when I do, I will share it with my dear readers.

54 סדרתה בנפח דבשך תהיה: סדרתה דנפחא דבשך  
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 55 סדרתה. סדרתה. סדרתה. סדרתה. סדרתה. סדרתה.  
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סדרתה: סדרתה.

1 סדרתה. סדרתה. סדרתה. סדרתה. סדרתה. סדרתה.

Modern Syriac Bible, 1893.  
 Last verse in Ch. 31 is 55.

יעקב בפחד אביו יצחק: ויזבח יעקב  
 זבח בהר ויקרא לאחיו לאבד-רחם  
 ויאבדו לחם וילינו בהר: מפטיר  
 לב וישכם לבן בכרר וינשק לבניו

Livornese Humash, 1930.  
 Last verse in Ch. 31 is 54.

This incredible feat was made possible through several protective measures. Firstly, we have avoided supplanting the Hebrew with our own translations. When we do translate, we typically present it alongside the original under names like "Targum" and "Tafsir," which emphasize its lower status. Secondly, when there is a dispute over the authenticity of a word, we retain the problematic spelling even if we require a verbal alteration to understand it (for an example in this week's Parasha, see Gen. 30:11). Finally, our communities maintain an ongoing investment in Jewish education, so that the copyists and printers who prepare our Scriptures know what they are doing, and can correct each other's errors.

Given this long history of guarding our text from change, I was surprised to discover that during my lifetime, the Koren Publishing Company has made a small alteration in how they present the Hebrew text of this week's Parasha. In my

## Parashat Vayetse

Torah: Gen. 28:10–32:3, 148 Pesukim  
 Hertz 106–117; Stone 144–169  
 Haftara (Sephardim): Hos. 11:7–12:12  
 Hertz 135–137; Stone 1139  
 Tefillot: Mashiv Haruah, Birkat Halevana

## Reminder: Winter Shabbat Times

The time change makes Shabbat come in very early in November and December. For the next six weeks...

- Minha on Friday will be at 4:15 pm
- Minha on Saturday will be at 3:45 pm

## KJ Schedule

## Erev Shabbat

Friday, November 16th

Candle lighting ..... 4:30 pm  
 Minha ..... 4:15 pm  
 Kabbalat Shabbat & Arvit ..... 4:45 pm

## Yom Shabbat

Saturday, November 17th

Shaharit ..... 8:30 am  
 Keriat HaTorah ..... 10:15 am  
 Sermon ..... 11:20 am  
 Musaf ..... 11:30 am  
 Women's Tehillim ..... right after kiddush  
 Minha ..... 3:45 pm  
 Seuda Shelisheet ..... 4:30 pm  
 Arvit ..... 5:15 pm  
 Havdala ..... 5:33 pm

(Continued on page 2)

## Condolences

With sorrow we send our deepest condolences  
to the family and friends of  
**Molly Zachariah, z"l**  
Mazal bat Shalom

She passed away on November 13th 2018,  
the 5th of Kislev.

Molly was born in Calcutta and was a member  
of Kahal Joseph for many years. Her mother  
Lilly came from India; her father Silas from Iraq.  
As a result, Molly was well-versed in the Iraqi  
musical tradition. Family and friends describe her  
as a person of style, always well turned-out re-  
gardless of the occasion. A regular face at  
semahot, she loved to be with people & enjoy life.

Molly was predeceased by her husband, Sam  
Zachariah, z"l.

She is survived by her sister, Sally David; her son,  
Michael (Lynne) Zachariah; her grandchildren,  
Leah and Sara Zachariah; nieces, nephews, and  
grand-nieces and -nephews.

Our thoughts & prayers go out to her family and  
loved ones. May they be comforted with all the  
mourners of Tsion. *Min hashamayim tenuhamu.*

*(Continued from page 1)*

### Sunday, November 18th

Shaharit ..... 7:30 am  
Talmud Torah ..... 9:45 am

### Mon-Wed and Fri, November 19-21 & 23

Shaharit ..... 6:25 am

### Thanksgiving / Thursday, November 22nd

Shaharit ..... 7:00 am

### Next Shabbat / Fri-Sat, November 23-24

Candle lighting ..... 4:27 pm  
Friday Minha ..... 4:15 pm  
Shaharit ..... 8:30 am  
Saturday Minha ..... 3:45 pm  
Havdala ..... 5:30 pm

## Sponsor a Kiddush or Seuda Shelisheet!

**Celebrate a family milestone!**

**Honor the memory of a loved one!**

**Share a simha with the community!**

**Celebrate and commemorate with  
your Kahal Joseph community by  
sponsoring a Kiddush or Seuda  
Shelisheet for all to enjoy**

**Contact Sarah in the office at  
310.474.0559 to reserve your date**

## Membership Benefits Everyone! You get...

**\*To be a part of the Kahal family**

**\*High Holy Days tickets**

**\* Rabbi for lifecycle events**

**\*Pastoral counseling**

**\*Preferential rates for space  
rentals, Talmud Torah tuition  
and children's programs**

**You support...**

**\*Educational programs**

**\*Social events**

**\*Prayer minyanim**

**\*Keeping Kahal here for you  
when you need it!**

**Contact the office at 310-474-0559  
or speak to Rabbi Melhado to join!**

## In Memoriam

We remember these yahrzeits anniversaries from  
November 17 to 24, 2018. We light memorial can-  
dles, donate tzedaka and attend Shabbat services  
to honor the memory of our loved ones.

**9 Kislev / Shabbat, November 17th**

Isaac Joseph *Itzhak ben Yoseph*

Ezra Itzhaki *Ezra ben Reuven*

Sholkat Zekharia *Sholkat bat Zekharia*

**10 Kislev / Sunday, November 18th**

Ruhama Abbo *Ruhama bat Chana*

**11 Kislev / Monday, November 19th**

Ludwig Altman *Ludwig ben Avraham*

Sassoon Cohen *Sassoon Shimon Duek Hacohen*

*Rachel bat Simha*

**12 Kislev / Tuesday, November 20th**

Yedidiah Yehudah *Yedidiah ben Yehudah*

**13 Kislev / Wednesday, November 21st**

Eliza Maslavi *Eliza bat Tifaha*

**14 Kislev / Thursday, November 22nd**

Helen Levi *Habiba Havah bat Farha*

**15 Kislev / Friday, November 23rd**

Nora Isaac Ives *Naima bat Simcha*

Sassoon Menashe Sassoon *Sassoon ben*

## Refua Shelema

Sassoon Ezra • Moselle Amron • Sally Amron  
Sylvia Cohen • Esther Duke • Mehry bat Miriam  
Hakimpour • Tilda Levy • Yvonne Moalim • Florice  
Newberry • Aliza bat Rahel • Aliza bat Victoria  
Arlette bat Rashel • Chaya Chana bat Batya • Katie  
bat Farha • Malka bat Rahel • Miriam bat Yetta  
Miryam bat Malka • Moshe Ezra ben MazalTov  
Simcha bat Rooha • Habiba bat Farha • Meir Ezra ben  
Rahel • Dina bat Rahel • Chaya Rachel bat Simcha  
Rahel bat Ramah Regina • Eti Esther bat Fortuna

## KJ Children's Room

While children are always welcome in the sanctuary,  
the playroom upstairs is available every **Shabbat from  
10 am to 12pm** for children needing a break or for  
those too young to sit for very long. *Have questions or  
suggestions? Talk to Rabbi or Jessica Melhado!*



## *"Journey into Iraqi Kurdistan" a Huge Success!*

For the Global Day of Jewish Learning, nearly 100 people packed into Kahal to hear Alan Niku's vivid account of his trip to Iraqi Kurdistan last year. With captivating photographs and a storehouse of memorable anecdotes, he brought an enthralled audience along on his quest for Jewish self-discovery.

Alan is a heartfelt seeker with a passion for his Persian and Kurdish heritage. Exploring the Sephardi scene in Southern California reignited his dreams of visiting his grandfather's hometown of Sanandaj, in Western Iran. Though return to that country was impossible, he was surprised to discover that the Iraqi Kurdish side of the border was both safe and hospitable to Jewish visitors.

Traveling alone with only a local guide and help from friendly strangers, he traversed the length and breadth of this semi-autonomous region. In addition to meeting with residents and learning about their cultures, he was able to personally bear witness to the remnants of a once thriving Jewish life in the area.



## *Young Professionals Hanukkah Dinner*

Join the rabbi and his family for an intimate dinner to celebrate the eighth night of Hanukkah!

*Sunday, December 9 at 6:30pm*

Hanukkah Candelighting - Light Dairy Dinner  
Special Belgian Waffle Desserts!





# *You're Invited!*

For 50 years of  
magnanimous generosity  
and love of our community,  
the Board of Directors  
and the Sisterhood  
of Kahal Joseph Congregation  
will honor

*Moselle and Michael Amron*  
*the first night of Hanukkah,*  
Sunday, December 2, 2018 at 6:00 PM

*Dinner  
&  
Dancing*



*Valet  
Parking*

\$100 minimum donation, tax deductible  
RSVP at [www.kahaljoseph.org/50-years](http://www.kahaljoseph.org/50-years)  
or call the office at 310.474.0559 by Nov. 26  
Kahal Joseph Congregation - 10505 Santa Monica Blvd  
Los Angeles, CA 90025 .

## The Kahal Joseph HANUKKAH PARTY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2  
11AM TO 12:30PM

Join us for  
candelighting,  
games, crafts,  
friends, food  
and more!

RSVP at  
[WWW.KAHALJOSEPH.ORG/HANUKKAH](http://WWW.KAHALJOSEPH.ORG/HANUKKAH)

SPONSORED BY HANNIE, JONATHAN  
AND SIGAL KELLY