



CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL  
The Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue

## Shabbat Lekh Lekha

*November 11-12, 2016*

Hertz Pentateuch: p. 45; Haftarah p. 60  
Kaplan Living Torah: p. 52; : Haftarah p. 1058

CANDLE LIGHTING | 4:23 pm

MINHAH | 4:30 pm | Main Sanctuary

FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS | Following evening services | Rabbi Soloveichik gives a talk on the topic "The Several Sabbaths of John Quincy Adams" | *2016-2017 season sponsored by the Julis Family*

ZEMIROT | 8:15 am | Main Sanctuary

SHAHARIT (NISHMAT) | 9:00 am | Rabbi Soloveichik delivers a lecture on the topic "UNESCO and Us: Archaeology, Theology, and Jerusalem"

WOMEN'S SERVICE (NISHMAT) | 9:00 am | Little Synagogue

TOT SHABBAT WITH LIZ AND SHANADE | Ages 0-4 | 10:00 am | Levy Auditorium

YOUTH GROUPS WITH RACHEL | Ages 5-12 | 10:00 am | Fidanque Auditorium

JR. CONGREGATION | Ages 5-12 | 10:30 am | Levy Auditorium

KIDDUSH | Levy Auditorium

SEUDAH SHELISHIT AND PIRKEI ABOT AFTERNOON SHIUR |

Rabbi Soloveichik on the topic "Between Athens and Jerusalem: Shimon the Righteous and Antigonus of Sokho" | 3:30 pm | Levy Auditorium | *Fall semester sponsored by Lewis Lipsey*

MINHAH/ARBIT | 4:15 PM

HABDALAH | 5:08 pm

### Weekday Service Times

Mornings: Sunday: 8:00 AM, Monday-Friday: 7:15 AM  
Evenings (Arbit Only): Monday - Thursday: 6:30PM

### A Note About Our Weekly Dibrei Torah

Our Debar Torah this week is written by **Rabbi Harris Guedalia**. Over the course of this year, in addition to our Shearith Israel cast of writers, we will expose you to guest Debar Torah contributors from other Spanish and Portuguese communities around the world.

Thank you Rabbi Guedalia for this week's excellent Debar Torah!

### COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Welcome to the Shearith Israel Family:*

**Evelyn and Manny Gross**

**Susan and Roger Hertog**

**Judith and Isaac Sherman**

**Alexandra and Chalom Silber**

*Hazak U'barukh* to many-time marathon participant, honorary trustee, and esteemed nonagenarian member, **Col. Jonathan de Sola Mendes**, on completing the NYC Marathon!

### Shearith Israel Cufflinks

Did you see the fabulous sterling silver cufflinks we presented to our gala honorees? You too can look like a CSI hero for only \$180 a pair. Treat yourself, a friend or loved one with a Hanukkah gift. Order by December 8 at [shearithisrael.org/cufflinks](http://shearithisrael.org/cufflinks)



### Parnas Office Hours

Louis Solomon would be delighted to meet with you. Please schedule a visit at [parnas@shearithisrael.org](mailto:parnas@shearithisrael.org).

Our next public tour is:  
**Wednesday, December 14 at 11:00 am**

### Lekh Lekha

**Rabbi Harris Guedalia (with Hershel Sennett)**

Rav Kook identified two Jewish ideals, the national and the spiritual: The land of Israel and The Torah. Below we will consider the origin of these fundamentals.

Genesis 15, 1-8, God tells Abram ... "*your reward is very great*". Verse 5 explains, And He (God) took him (Abram) outside and said "*Look now toward heaven*"... Apparently this is the reward. Rashi points out that the simple explanation of this verse is, God took him out of the tent to see the stars. Rashi adds that according to the Midrash, God took Abram away from his fate: As Abram and Sari your fate is not to have children - but as Abraham and Sarah you will.

The conversation concludes in verse 8 . "*There will be children and these children will inherit this land*". This is the great reward. Only the children of Abraham and Sarah will inherit this land.

But Abraham had other children with other women. With Hagar, (Genesis 16,6) and with Ketorah (Genesis 25, 1.) Although these children are also descendants of Abraham they have no share in the land. In Genesis 7: 4-5, God tells Abram that he will be the father of many nations, and that his name is now Abraham. Rashi adds that he will be the father of the entire world. Biologically he will be the father of many peoples, but spiritually he will influence the entire world.

What was Abraham's universal message? Maimonides tells how Abraham taught the message of one God to all people and wrote books affirming this great principle and taught it to Isaac his son. This world view was followed until the days of Egyptian slavery when many turned away from monotheism. In consequence this tradition was given to Moses and the Jews only on Mount Sinai. Abraham taught God's ways to all, Moses only to the Jewish people.

The Rabbis understood that at times a Jew may have to decide between these two values, land and Torah. It is taught a resident of Israel may leave the land only for certain approved reasons. One is to study Torah. The Torah has sustained us throughout history. We are blessed that today we have the opportunity to do both.

Rabbi Harris Guedalia is the founder and director of the Gimmel Foundation, an educational and social service organization serving Southern Israel, centered in Kiryat Malachi. He is the son of the late Judah & Selma Guedalia (and the uncle of our shamash, Zachariah Edinger.)

UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

**The Esther Goldfarb Memorial Blood Drive**  
**This Sunday, November 13, 2016 | 10:00 am - 4:00 pm**  
Give the Gift of Life and be a Blood Donor. To sign up, email [RitaRodin165@aol.com](mailto:RitaRodin165@aol.com). *Sponsored by the Shearith Israel League*

**A Very American Community Shabbat Dinner**  
**Friday Night, November 18**  
**Deadline: Tuesday, November 15**  
In anticipation of Thanksgiving, come to Shearith Israel for a special Shabbat dinner program featuring award winning writer-journalist, **Melanie Kirkpatrick**, author of *Thanksgiving: The Holiday at the Heart of the American Experience* in conversation with Rabbi Soloveichik. Together, they will give a vivid portrait of the history of our nation's- and our synagogue's-- most beloved national holiday.  
Procrastinators Pricing has now kicked in. Register at [shearithisrael.org/american-dinner](http://shearithisrael.org/american-dinner).

**Thanksgiving Pack-a-thon 2016**  
**Thursday, November 24 | 10-11:30 am**  
Building on the success of last year's Pack-a-thon, this year, for this very important *hesed* project, we will be partnering with the **West End Collegiate Church** and also with the **Jewish Center** as part of our "Achdut in Action" Initiative. On Thanksgiving morning, after Rabbi Soloveichik's special Thanksgiving address, UJA will have us set up in Levy Auditorium to pack over one thousand meals to be distributed to hungry New Yorkers. We are delighted to report that we have already secured a matching grant from a generous donor who will give \$3 for every \$1 donated to this project (with a \$10,000 cap). We have a variety of roles for volunteers and volunteers are asked to donate a minimum of \$18 to help us reach our overall goal of \$18,000. **We have over 55 volunteers and have raised almost \$12,000 so far!** All proceeds will go to the **Met Council on Poverty's** hunger relief program. Register at [shearithisrael.org/pack-a-thon2016](http://shearithisrael.org/pack-a-thon2016)

**Pack-a-thon 2016**

Amount
\$18,000
\$16,200
\$14,400
\$12,600
\$10,800
\$9,000
\$7,200
\$5,400
\$3,600
\$1,800
\$0

**\$11,952**

**THANKSGIVING DAY ACTIVITIES**  
Start the day with morning services at 7:45 am followed by:  
Rabbi Soloveichik's Thanksgiving Address  
Children's Hessed Craft Activity  
Refreshments  
Parade Viewing for Youth  
Hunger Alleviation Pack-a-thon (registration required)

**Sign up for the Spring Semester of Caregiver and Me Toddler Program**  
**Mondays & Wednesdays 9:30-11:30am**  
**For ages 16 - 34 months | Begins January 4, 2017**  
Led by our veteran early childhood specialist, Liz Rios, toddlers learn colors and shapes, create arts and crafts, sing songs, explore Jewish holidays, music and enjoy special visits by Rabbi Ira Rohde. Spaces are limited. 1 or 2 day options. Preferred pricing for members. Register now at [shearithisrael.org/toddlerprogram](http://shearithisrael.org/toddlerprogram).

**Like Us on Facebook**  
Did you see our posts about Jon Mendes' marathon run, our gala photo album, and Rabbi Meir Soloveichik's standing room only pre-election shiur? Join the conversation. Like us on Facebook and share your favorite posts. [facebook.com/shearithisrael.nyc](https://facebook.com/shearithisrael.nyc)

**Exclusive Tour of "The First Jewish Americans: Freedom and Culture In The New Word" Exhibit**  
**Rabbi Meir Soloveichik and Museum Curator, Debra Bach**  
**The New-York Historical Society**  
**170 Central Park West (At 77th street)**  
**Sunday, December 18 | 10:00 am**  
**(one hour before the museum opens to the public)**  
Building upon the overwhelming enthusiasm of our recent exclusive tour at the Morgan Library and Museum, our congregants have more reason than ever to take interest in this extraordinary exhibit. This exhibit is directly connected to the history of our community and congregation and showcases several important objects from our collection as well as extensive loans from the private collection of our member, Leonard Milberg. And who better to guide us through this exhibit, vividly bringing the history to life, but our own resident historian, Rabbi Soloveichik along with Debra Bach, the curator of the exhibit.  
As spaces are highly limited, we are opening registration for now to sponsors ONLY. We will open the program to non-sponsors, subject to remaining spots as we get closer to the date. Register at [shearithisrael.org/The-First-Jewish-Americans](http://shearithisrael.org/The-First-Jewish-Americans)

**WEEKDAY JUDAIC EDUCATION**  
For details go to: [shearithisrael.org/judaic-education](http://shearithisrael.org/judaic-education)

*Sunday*  
◇ **Saadiah Gaon's Book of Beliefs and Opinions** | Sjimon den Hollander | 8:45 am

*Monday*  
◇ **Monday Night Learning: A Series of Series** | Series 1 "Early America and the Jews" | Rabbi Soloveichik | 7:00 pm | on select Mondays | *Sponsored this week by Joe Blank in memory of Jakob Blank*

*Tuesday*  
◇ **Katzap Class and Breakfast** | Following Morning Services  
◇ **Feasts and Fasts: The Festivals in Jewish Thought- A Class for Women** | Rabbi Soloveichik | 9:00 am  
◇ **Talmud Class** | Rabbi Soloveichik | 7:00 pm (NEW TIME) | BEGINS THIS WEEK

To sponsor a single class or an entire semester, go to [shearithisrael.org/sponsoraaclass](http://shearithisrael.org/sponsoraaclass)

Join the email lists that you are interested in and follow our class schedules and topics. Go to [shearithisrael.org/join-our-mailing-lists](http://shearithisrael.org/join-our-mailing-lists) to select your lists.

**OTHER INITIATIVES**

**Yoetzet Halakha**  
If you have any questions regarding Taharat Hamishpaha (Jewish Family Law) laws of Niddah, sexuality and women's health, please contact our Yoetzet Halakha, Ilana Gadish in confidence at (646) 598-1080 or [nycyoetzet@gmail.com](mailto:nycyoetzet@gmail.com).

**Hard time remembering RSVP deadlines?**  
We can remind you by text. Enroll at: [shearithisrael.org/text-message-notifications](http://shearithisrael.org/text-message-notifications)

**Don't let us go dry.**  
Be a scotch or arak sponsor. To sponsor or contribute go to [shearithisrael.org/scotch-and-arak-sponsorships](http://shearithisrael.org/scotch-and-arak-sponsorships)