

## PURIM AT SHEARITH ISRAEL

Jews Among Persians and Greeks:

Reading Esther in Context

Monday, March 21 | 7:00 pm

**Bet Midrash Special Guest Speaker: Professor Joseph Angel**

Joseph Angel is a scholar of ancient Judaism with a focus on religion and history in the Second Temple Period. He is the author of *Otherworldly and Eschatological Priesthood in the Dead Sea Scrolls* (Studies in the Texts of the Desert of Judah 86; Leiden: Brill, 2010), which explores the imaginative depictions of angelic and messianic priestly figures in the Dead Sea Scrolls as a reflection of the religious worldview of the Qumran community and broader segments of Second Temple society. His other publications include articles on ancient Jewish magic, the Second Temple of Jerusalem, and Qumran liturgy, as well as commentaries on Second Temple period texts. He is the recipient of research fellowships from the Alexander von Humboldt and Yad Hanadiv/Beracha Foundations.

Sisterhood Mishloah Manot Project is coming!  
Members, watch your emails!

### Purim Dinner

Wednesday, March 23

Following 7:30 pm Megillah reading

Immediately following the *Megillah* reading, registered guests are invited to a festive family-style meal in Levy Auditorium. In addition to a tasty dinner, guests will enjoy our annual children's costume parade. Register for our Purim celebration at [shearithisrael.org/purimdinner](http://shearithisrael.org/purimdinner).

### Women's Megillah Reading

Thursday, March 24 | 8:00 am

Celebrate 26 years of women reading the Megillah on Purim morning at Shearith Israel. Contact Mrs. Lisa Rohde at [lrohde-csi@yahoo.com](mailto:lrohde-csi@yahoo.com) for more information.

### COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Condolences* to Mitchell Presser upon the passing of his mother, Rhoda Presser.

## To Attract God's Love, Structure Things Properly Rabbi Ira Rohde, Hazzan

*"And you shall make for me a Sanctuary, and I shall dwell in their midst. According to everything which I show you concerning the structure of the Tabernacle, and of the pattern of all its furnishings, so you shall make it. (Ex. 25:8-9)"*

"According to everything which I show you... This text is connected to the text above it, i.e., that you should make for me a sanctuary according to everything which I show you (Rashi ad loc.)" Rashi's point would seem to be that the phrase "and I will dwell in their midst" would seem to be an interruption of the instructions for building the Tabernacle. That God shall dwell in their midst is the purpose, the telos, for which the Sanctuary is to be built. But in order for God to dwell in their midst, the Tabernacle and all its furnishings must be patterned after the exact designs and instructions which God shows to Moses. Follow the pattern, follow the form carefully, and God will come to dwell.

I often quote these passages because they are Philo Judaeus of Alexandria's locus classicus for deriving the importance of following proper form in Judaism. Strive your utmost to follow the ideal patterns of God, the balanced patterns and formulae which have become classic, and God will come to dwell. Although this is good counsel in life in general, it especially applies in setting up a home, a home for God and, mutatis mutandis, our own homes as well. No, I've never gone to a feng shui expert, and my own home quarters and office are no one's model of order. But the idea that order and beauty are to be encouraged, that balanced, ideal patterns of architecture should be emulated, and lead to the most amazing results, is one of the most profound lessons of this Parashah. Lisa and I just got a decent set of dining-room chairs (de-accessed from the JTS Library), and it does make an impression, and a difference, in the atmosphere of the home. Many problems can be avoided – and others solved – merely by structuring things properly. If we structure our sanctuaries and homes attractively, then God and His Love will want to come to dwell therein. And that beauty and attractiveness which God seeks is not superficial adornment, but rather structural and classical, a mix of proper proportions. If we just concentrate on structuring things properly, we will avoid pitfalls, and we have God's promise that He will come to dwell.



CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL

The Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue

## Shabbat Terumah

February 12-13, 2016

Hertz Pentateuch: Torah Reading: p. 326; Haftarah: p. 336  
Kaplan Living Torah: Torah Reading: p. 380; Haftarah: p. 1120

CANDLE LIGHTING | 5:08 pm

MINHAH | 5:15 pm

FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS | following evening services | Rabbi Soloveichik gives a talk on "Happy Birthday President Lincoln: A Friday Night Lights Reflection" | 2015-2016 Season Sponsored by the Julis Family

ZEMIROT | 8:15 am | Main Sanctuary

SHAHARIT (NISHMAT) | 9:00 am | Rabbi Hiday will deliver a sermon on "Kotel Tunnel Vision"

TOT SHABBAT | Ages 0-4 | 10:00 am | Levy Auditorium

YOUTH GROUPS | Ages 5-12 | 10:00 am | Elias Room

JR. CONGREGATION | Ages 5-12 | 10:30 am | Little Synagogue

KIDDUSH | Levy Auditorium

TOPICS IN JEWISH PHILOSOPHY | Rabbi Hiday | 4:00 pm | For high school students | Held at the Hiday home, 1 W 85th St Apt. 6A

SEUDAH SHELISHIT AND SPECIAL SHABBAT AFTERNOON SHIUR | Rabbi Soloveichik on the topic "Readers of the Lost Ark" | 4:00 pm | *Spring semester sponsored by Lewis Lipsey*

MINHAH/ARBIT | 5:00 pm

KETER SHEM TOB | Rabbi Hiday | Main Sanctuary

HABDALAH | 5:58 pm

### Presidents Day Weekend

**Sunday:** Rabbi Hiday's class and Sjimón Den Hollander's class WILL meet. PTTS does NOT meet and will resume on Thursday, Feb. 25.

**Monday:** The synagogue office will be closed. Toddler Program does NOT meet. Bet Midrash and Monday night classes WILL meet.

### Weekday Service Times

Morning: Sunday: 8:00 AM;

Monday (President's Day): 8:00 AM; Tues.-Fri.: 7:15 AM

Evenings: Sunday – Thursday: 6:30 PM (Arbit only)

## UPCOMING EVENTS AND INITIATIVES

### HerringFest! With Rabbi Meir Soloveichik Tuesday, March 8 | 7:00 pm

HerringFest! will take place during Adar, the joyous month associated by our sages with the constellation of "dagim," or fish. Participants will be able to sample a dazzling variety of ways in which the herring can be enjoyed. Featuring a short shiur by Rabbi Soloveichik, HerringFest! is sure to be an unforgettable culinary experience of Shearith Israel's Dutch and Jewish heritage. Go to [shearithisrael.org/herringfest](http://shearithisrael.org/herringfest) to register. *Please consider sponsoring this unique event.*

### Where have all the paintings gone?

Have you noticed the temporary art installation as you walk into the synagogue? Our portraits of Mordechai Manuel Noah and Rebecca Jackson Noah are currently on loan to the Princeton University Art Museum. They are on display as part of an exhibition, *By Dawn's Early Light: Jewish Contributions to American Culture from the Nation's Founding to the Civil War*, through June 12. The opening will take place at 1:30 p.m. this Sunday, Feb. 14, in McCosh Hall, Room 10 and features a panel discussion with Jonathan Sarna, Rabbi Soloveichik and Princeton Professor, Esther Schor.

### Want to participate in the service?

If you are interested in learning to lead the *Zemirot* on Shabbat Morning, or, to perform any of the *Mitzvot* (honors) of the Torah Service (opening the *hehal*, carrying a *sefer*, *Levantar* or *Accompanian*) please contact our sexton, Zachary Edinger at [zedinger@shearithisrael.org](mailto:zedinger@shearithisrael.org) We welcome your interest and participation!

### Jr. Congregation Updates

Jr. Congregation meets weekly promptly at 10:30 am in the Small Synagogue. In an effort to encourage increased attendance at our weekly Jr. Congregation, we have decided to assign some parts every Shabbat. Please contact Mrs. Lisa Rohde to arrange a part for your child. ([lrohde-csi@yahoo.com](mailto:lrohde-csi@yahoo.com)) (cell: 646-339-7845).

### The Future Face of Israel: Ethiopian Shabbat Dinner Friday Night, March 11 | Following Evening Services *Co-sponsored by Chassida Shmella Ethiopian Jewish Community*

Operation Moses and Operation Solomon were two massive and miraculous emigrations of Ethiopian Jews to Israel in our time. Learn more about the adaptation and achievements of this last remnant of the Jewish people during this traditional Ethiopian meal, as the generations of Ethiopian Jews celebrate and share stories of their own personal miracles as productive citizens of the Jewish state. Dinner is followed by lectures and Q + A with our speakers, former MK Deputy Speaker Pnina Tamano-Shata and Professor Ephraim Isaac. To learn more and to register, go to [shearithisrael.org/ethiopianshabbat](http://shearithisrael.org/ethiopianshabbat).

### The Other Shearith Israel, South of the Sahara Saturday, March 12 | 8:00 pm | Levy Auditorium *Sponsored by the Shearith Israel League*

Join us for an interesting and festive evening about Shearith Israel's least known secret: A "daughter congregation" in the village of Putti, Uganda. Members of this African Jewish community call themselves Kahal Kadosh She'erit Yisra'el and use our prayer books. Shearith Israel member, Sjimón Den Hollander, will talk about his involvement with this unusual group of people, his trip to Uganda, and his close cooperation with rabbis like Shlomo Riskin, Ari Greenspan, Ari Zivitosky. We expect to host two members of the community who are currently in the United States, and to hear a few of their special melodies, straight from Putti's unique liturgical tradition. Finally, we hope to hear a Jewish Ugandan musician, Rachman Nachman, perform his reggae style songs with a Jewish twist. Admission: \$10 per person (cash or check at the door). All proceeds go to Putti Village Assistance Organization. Light refreshments served.

**Community, Caring, and Hesed Wednesdays:**  
*A new initiative co-sponsored by the Caring Connection*  
Join us each Wednesday immediately following evening services for an opportunity to help those in need in our community. Participants will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of community service or Hesed activities each week in a friendly and group environment. A light dinner will be served.

## WEEKDAY JUDAIC EDUCATION

For schedule and class details go to:  
[shearithisrael.org/judaic-education](http://shearithisrael.org/judaic-education)

### Sunday

- ◇ **The Book of Kings** | Rabbi Hidary | 8:40 am
- ◇ **Saadia Gaon's Book of Beliefs and Opinions** | Sjimón den Hollander | 9:30 am

### Monday

- ◇ **Second Temple Jewish History** | Rabbi Hidary | 7:00 pm
- ◇ **Bet Midrash** | Rabbi Hidary, Phil Getz, Dr. Josh Eisen, Rabbi Ira Rohde, Meira Wokenfeld | 8:00 pm

### Tuesday

- ◇ **Rambam's Mishneh Torah** | Rabbi Hidary | 7:45 am
- ◇ **Feasts and Fasts: The Festivals in Jewish Thought- A Class for Women** | Rabbi Soloveichik | 9:00 am
- ◇ **Talmud Class: Tractate Rosh Hashana and the Philosophy of Jewish Time** | Rabbi Soloveichik | 8:00 pm | *Spring semester sponsored by Gregory Bell. Sponsored this week by Lester Schwalb in Loving Devotion to his wife Peggy.*

Please consider sponsoring a class. Go to:  
[shearithisrael.org/sponsoraaclass](http://shearithisrael.org/sponsoraaclass)

**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:  
**Tuesday, March 8 at 11:00 am**