

## *Upon Coronation Shabbat*

### **Keep Soldiering On: Exemplifying Duty Coming First**

The beginning of Parashat Emor prohibits Kohanim from rendering themselves impure through contact with the dead or observance of any burial or mourning rite with the exception of for their very closest relatives. There follow other laws for the Kohanim, such as special marital restrictions, special rules for a daughter, as well as special rules for the High Priest, who may not even defile himself in mourning for his closest relatives. The High Priest must keep soldiering on even when he loses his parents and the other close relatives which ordinary priests are allowed to mourn. Under no circumstances may he even leave the Sanctuary precincts to express his mourning. Many of these laws spell out what was implicit in the preceding story of the death of Aaron's sons Nadab and Abihu and the instructions of God and Moses to Aaron in its aftermath, to show that duty comes first, and that priests must continue soldiering on, especially the leadership.

Of course, we understand this necessity upon "duty first" in the context of an army at war, or of doctors in the field, when there is a real emergency. But the Torah sees the Priesthood and the Divine Service as exemplifying the classic ideal of discipline and the primacy of duty for the society as a whole. The Torah values this perfect exemplification of the primacy of duty and discipline among its religious leaders as well as among its political leaders, much like the strict discipline and devotion to duty which King Charles and the Royal Family have been and will continue to be expected to exemplify. It's interesting that the Torah doesn't actually make this kind of command to exert discipline upon political leaders, but rather this type of discipline in terms of ritual purity is demanded from ceremonial leaders. In a number of ways this parallels the contrast in the demands made upon the Royal Household as ceremonially representing an ideal of discipline and duty and the actual demands placed upon the actual political leadership which often has to allow for the vagaries of political reality and occasional circumstance.

The Sanctuary and the Priesthood represent the Kingship of God, the True Monarch of the Realm of our Earth and Universe. Ideals of purity and devotion and duty, keeping to a schedule of daily meals and offerings without fail, which must serve as an ideal example our more flawed political reality can aspire to imitate. The Kingship of God in the Torah serves many of the same functions of providing an ideal example of devotion to the ideal of duty, discipline and classic majesty which a ceremonial kingship is intended to provide. Without such idealized examples, devotion, dedication, and discipline suffer. That's why we need detailed laws spelling out the theme of duty coming first and that is why we need classic, if ceremonial examples to exemplify devotional ideals. May God bless us with His True Example, and here upon earth may His Royal Highness King Charles and the Royal Family succeed in exemplifying those ideals so that they may be imitated in the vagaries of our political and cultural realities so that those ideals may never die! Long Live the King!



### **Shabbat Emor**

*May 5-6, 2023 | 15 Iyar 5783*

#### **SCHEDULE**

Kaplan: p. 610 | Haftarah: p. 1172

Hertz: p. 513 | Haftarah: p. 528

**Candle Lighting** | 7:38 pm

**Friday Evening Services** | 7:00 pm | Main Sanctuary

**Zemirot** | 8:15 am

**Shahrit** | 9:00 am | Main Sanctuary

**Youth Groups/Tot Shabbat** | Meet at 10:00 am | Fidanque Youth Room

**Jr. Congregation** | 10:30 am | Small Synagogue | Led this week by Rafe & Elie Sasson and Seth Haberman

**"Hebra Awareness Kiddush"** | following services | *Sponsored by the Hebra Hased VaAmet*

**Shabbat Afternoon Class** | 6:50 pm | Rabbi Soloveichik

**Evening Services** | 7:35 pm | Main Sanctuary

**Habdala** | 8:37 pm

*Lag La'Omer begins on Monday night.*

#### **Weekday Service Times**

##### **Mornings:**

Sunday: 8:05 am

Monday-Friday: 7:05 am

##### **Evenings:**

Sunday-Thursday: 6:30 pm

*If you can help out and attend minyan, please contact Z. Edinger.*

## 2023 SPRING FUNDRAISER

---

THANK YOU!

To all of you who have signed up and sponsored over the past week

You can still sign up! 4 lectures to go!

### WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS:

Seven Iconic Images in the History of Israel,  
and the Stories Behind Them

An Important 7-Part Virtual Series by Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

Session #3: THIS Tuesday, May 9

“Golda: From the Photographs to Helen Mirren”

Sign up at [shearithisrael.org/giving/SpringFundraiser2023](https://shearithisrael.org/giving/SpringFundraiser2023)

Congregation Shearith Israel cordially invites you to our  
2023 SPRING FUNDRAISER SEVEN-PART VIRTUAL SERIES

**WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS:**  
Seven Iconic Images in the History of Israel, and  
the Stories Behind Them

April 17th through May 23rd  
As we recognize the significance of Israel's 75th year, this extraordinary series by Rabbi Soloveichik will examine seven of the most iconic images in Israeli history, revealing largely unknown aspects.

---

## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mazal tob to **Benjamin Herschman** for being accepted to NASA's nationally competitive summer internship program.

Congratulations to **Dov Zigler**, upon the publication of his book, *Israel's Declaration of Independence: The History and Political Theory of the Nation's Founding Moment*, co-written with Neil Rogachevsky, which is now available for purchase [on Amazon](#).

---

## COMING UP

### Girls' & Young Women Book of Ruth Reading on Shabu'ot

In-person only | Shabuot, Shabbat, May 27

Rehearsal: May 14 | 10:00 am

New readers are warmly invited to participate!

Any girls or young women (through college age) who are interested in participating should contact Mrs. Lisa Rohde ([lrohde-csi@yahoo.com](mailto:lrohde-csi@yahoo.com)) as soon as possible.

---

### Sponsor Kiddush in Honor of our Readers

Shabuot, Shabbat, May 27 | Following the reading

Congratulate our readers by sponsoring Kiddush in their honor! Your enthusiasm helps our young girls maintain their commitment and active role in our community.

Sponsor at [shearithisrael.org/events/ruth-reading5783](https://shearithisrael.org/events/ruth-reading5783).

---

### Memorial Day at Chatham Square Cemetery

Memorial Day, Monday, May 29 | 55 St. James Place

Please join us to pay tribute to those who have died in active service to our country, and to honor the members of our community who have served in the Armed Forces.

Special presentations will be made by Ambassador John L. Loeb, and Col. Carl Singer, US Army, Retired. The graves of 18 patriots of the American Revolution buried in this historic cemetery will be decorated. A color guard and field music will participate in this always meaningful and delightful ceremony. Veterans are encouraged to attend in uniform.

---

### 5th Annual *Smash The Stigma* Event

Presented by Shearith Israel's Caring Connection

Wednesday, May 31 | 7:00 pm | In Person at Shearith Israel

Held annually during Mental Health Awareness Month and co-sponsored by a consortium of neighborhood synagogues and Jewish institutions, these profoundly important Smash the Stigma events help to raise awareness and facilitate conversation about the difficult realities of mental illness and suicide in the Jewish community.

For panelist details & to register, visit [shearithisrael.org/smash-the-stigma](https://shearithisrael.org/smash-the-stigma).

---

### Minyan Happy Hour with Z. Edinger

Thursdays | Following Evening Services

Join us for “Happy Hour” every Thursday night following evening services - free for those who attend services. You'll be glad you came!