



Welcome to our Synagogue! ברוכים הבאים

Daniel Ettedgui, Rabbi

Judge Jerry Berkowitz, President | Ron Scholder, Vice-President
Miriam Zien-Edgar, Administrative Support

Religious School Faculty:

Robin Doroshow, Rabbi Daniel Ettedgui,
Roz Ettedgui, Uri Koppel, Suzie Nemer, Elana Warren
Sheryl Sue Warren, Miriam Zien-Edgar and Ross Fishman -*Music*

Vayigash - ויגש

December 26, 2020 – 11 Tevet, 5781

In last week's Parasha, Miketz, we left the brothers in turmoil, having been brought back before Joseph because, supposedly, Benjamin had taken Joseph's goblet. Joseph told the brothers that they can all return to Canaan, but Benjamin, in whose bag they found the goblet, must remain in Egypt.

This week's Parasha begins with Judah walking up to Joseph and pleading for his brother's release. In one of the longest speeches in the entire book of Genesis, Judah calls upon Joseph to show compassion for an elderly father who has already suffered the loss of one son. There is only Benjamin left from Rachel, whom he loved. If Jacob notices the absence of Benjamin, he might die from the shock he would suffer.

Judah offers to remain as a slave in the service of Joseph, but Benjamin should be returned to his father. Joseph can no longer hide his identity and he reveals himself to his brothers. He comforts them by saying that, although they had meant him evil when they sold him, it had really been ordered from God so that he can be at the right place to save all the people from famine. He urges them to go back to Canaan and bring Jacob and all their families to Egypt, because there are still 5 years of famine to come. All the brothers return to Canaan and inform Jacob that Joseph is still alive. He does not believe them until he sees all the food and gifts that Joseph had given them.

The Parasha ends with Jacob and his family (70 souls) going down to Egypt. On the way there, Jacob receives the divine promise that God will go down with him to Egypt and will bring him back in due time.

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Sharei Chesed Congregation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Mazel Tov!

Happy Birthday!

December 21: Julie Miller

December 22: Bonnie Farb

Jane Strauss

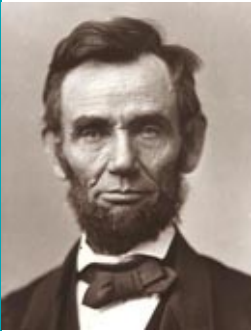
December 24: Berle Richman

Happy Anniversary!

December 26: Ragna & Bruce Colton



On This Day in History: 11 Tevet



In 1861, President Abraham Lincoln pledged to amend a federal law granting only Christian clergy the right to serve as military chaplains. During the Civil War (in which 6,500 Jews served for the North, and another 2,000 for the South), a religious Jew named Michael Allen had been elected as the non-denominational chaplain of his army regiment. When Allen's Jewishness became "publicized," rather than subject his family to the humiliating ordeal of his dismissal, Allen resigned, citing poor health. The regiment then elected Rabbi Arnold Fischel as its chaplain, in order to test the constitutionality of the "Christian-only"

law. Much lobbying ensued, including Fischel traveling to Washington to meet with Lincoln. Six months later, the law was amended to permit Jewish clergy to become military chaplains. It is regarded historically as the first case of American Jews successfully challenging federal legislation.

Religious School Calendar: December

**REMINDER: Classes Resumes on
Sunday, January 10, 2021
@10am via Zoom.**

**December 20—January 3rd:
NO CLASSES/Winter Break**

Our Prayers and Good Wishes for Refuah Shleimah to:

אבינו אבינו מלכנו שלח רפואה שלמה רפואת הנפש רפואת הגוף לחולי עמך
אל נא רפא נא אל נא רפא נא לה שלח שלח רפואה שלמה לחולי עמך

- Sybille Aaron
- Linda Botwinick
- Maurice Etedgui
- Chaya Golda bat Reyna
- Alan Green
- Jane Harry
- Chaim Horovitz
- Amy Joyce
- Sara Koplik
- Bronya Lipnik
- Cameron & Jack Moskowitz
- Betty Lorraine Proffitt
- Alex Samuels
- Harrison Paull Shae
- Rita Spain and Meira Tikvah
- Miles Vaughn
- Semyon Zaretsky
- Sofia and Moisey Zhuravel
- Yuriy ben Maya & Yefem
- Edward ben Natalie
- Sorka bat Dvora
- Sarah bat Chara
- Conella
- David Assouline
- Arnold Burton
- Jeffrey Fursetzer
- Amira Gomez-Valdes
- Raisa Gringauz
- Christopher Hirte
- Rosalee Hulse Larson
- Valda Kaye
- Amy Koppel & Uri Koppel
- Andrew Mills
- Art Nettis
- Betty Russell
- Shayna bat Shifra
- Miles Snyder
- Morrie Toretsky
- Harriet & Art Wiss
- Matthew Zuyev ben Luba
- Ezra ben Elana Aviva
- Sara Batya bat Meira Valon
- David ben Batya
- Martselah bat Esther
- Aliza Francisca Bat Yosefa
- Nasko
- Judge Jerry Berkowitz
- Martha Cohen
- Aaron Geller
- Rivia Goldberg
- Richy Harris
- Lindsey Hork
- Lana Itskovich
- Dennis Kearney
- Shel Libson
- Elvi Mochtar & Lin Mochtar
- Yuri Peskin
- Igor Sagalov
- Beverly and Burt Shacter
- Annick, Ali, and Aria Strauss
- Alice Truskinovsky
- Nechamit Yaari
- Alex Zevelev
- Zohra bat Ayisha
- Chaya Chapoval bat Veruska
- Efrat bat Velvel
- Esther bat Ruth
- Elina bat Margarita



**Yahrzeits for week of
December 25—January 1, 2020 / 10 Tevet, 5781 — 17 Tevet, 5781**

Yahrzeit of

Remembered by

Friday, December 25 (10 Tevet)

Doba Bergazin	Doba bat Yakov Yehoshua	Paul Abzug
Arkadiy Gurevich	Avram	Alla Bartlova
Ida Ansel	Chaya bat Myer	Jack Moskowitz
Rakhil Gendel	Rakhil bat David v'Edith	Galina Mazelev, Julia Kravchenko
Simah Traktovenko	Simah bat Yitzchak	Maya Peskin
Mary Toretzky	Mirel bat Zurach	Morris Toretzky

Saturday, December 26 (11 Tevet)

Beila Galant	Beila bat Mendel	Evelyn Galant
Dorothy Polikoff Ritt	Dena bat Eliyahu Mendel	Steve Tillinger
Devorah Krasnynsky	Dvorah bat Leib	Nadia Ustyev

Sunday, December 27 (12 Tevet)

No Yahrzeits

Monday, December 28 (13 Tevet)

Konstantin Portnov	Constantin ben Alexander v'Tamar	Yuliya Portnova
Samuel Zieve	Sender ben Leib Shmuel v'Malka	Stan Zieve
Louis Eichler	Mayshe Leib	Eva Gross

Tuesday, December 29 (14 Tevet)

Larry Marcus		Bonnie Farb
Rose Cooperstock	Rachel bat Shmuel	Sandra Johnson

Wednesday, December 30 (15 Tevet)

Sara Edith Miller	Sarah bat Avraham	Sandra Miller
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Thursday, December 31 (16 Tevet)

Semion Grintsveyg	Semion ben Sergey Grintsveyg	Sam Dorfman
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Friday, January 1 (17 Tevet)

Rachel Murachavska	Rachel bat Avrum	Boris Gerber
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MAY THEIR MEMORIES ALWAYS BE FOR A BLESSING

Shloshim:

Leanne Affias	Albert Djahn	Bambang	Harvey Herzog
Phillip Karter	Misha Krivoshey	Phyllis Richman	Nesya Tsukerman