

CONGREGATION BAIS TORAH

November 15, 2008 · 89 West Carlton Rd · Suffern, NY 10901 · (845)352-1343 · www.baistorah.org י"ז מרחשון שבת פרשת וירא

ערב שבת פרשת וירא

הדלקת נרות 4:20 PM
מנחה 4:25 PM
שקיעה 4:38 PM

שבת פרשת וירא

היוםי 8:00 AM
שחרית 8:45 AM
סוף זמן קריאת שמע 9:12 AM
גמרא שיעור 3:20 PM
מנחה 4:05 PM
שקיעה 4:37 PM
סעודה שלישית
מעריב 5:21 PM

Sunday שחרית 7:45 AM

Weekday שחרית

Mon. and Thurs.: 6:20 and 7:45 AM
Tues., Wed. and Fri.: 6:30 and 7:45 AM

Weekday מנחה-מעריב

Sun. through Thurs.: 4:20 PM
Mon. through Thurs.: 8:00 PM

ערב שבת פרשת חיי שרה

הדלקת נרות 4:14 PM
מנחה 4:20 PM
שקיעה 4:32 PM

Shiurim

Sundays at 8:30 AM – מסכת סנהדרין – Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb
Tuesdays at 8:15 PM – Partners in Torah
Tuesdays at 8:15 PM – Ladies Mishnayos Class- Rabbi Avromy Fein
Wednesdays at 8:15 PM – מלכים א – Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb.
היוםי I, Monday through Friday 5:25 AM and Sunday at 6:30 AM – Mordechai Rudman
היוםי II, Monday through Friday 7:00 AM – Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb
היוםי III, Sunday through Thursday 9:45 AM – Rabbi Yosef Fischer
Monday through Friday at 7 AM - ירושלמי - Mordechai Rudman
Monday through Friday after the second שחרית עם רשי - שחרית שיעור - Rabbi Yosef Fischer
Monday through Thursday at 9:45 AM - גמרא שיעור - Rabbi Leibel Reznick
Women's תהלים group מנדל בת מנחם לז'נ פיגל meets on שבת 45 minutes before מנחה.

Shul Announcements

סעודה שלישית this week is open for sponsorship.

Please reserve this Friday night, November 14th for our first **Oneg Shabbos** of the season. it will be held at the Deutsch home, 93 Highview Road at 7:45 PM.

Our **Avos U'Banim** is a success and has grown to a four-pizza-pie group! It meets this Motzoei Shabbos at 6:30 PM in the Library and is being sponsored by Abe and Phyllis Frankel. Bring your children and grandchildren for hot pizza and a chance to win prizes. Weekly sponsorships are invited at \$50 per session and all information is listed on our website. For details, contact Jonathan Rosenstock at (845)369-6349.

Bottle of red, bottle of white: Calling on all oenophiles and oenophiles-to-be to come to Bais Torah next Saturday night, November 22nd for a **wine- and cheese-tasting** event. On hand will be Ilan Tokayer, a wine columnist for the Kosher Wine Society, who will introduce a variety of red and white wines and explain how and when they should be served. A gourmet selection of cheeses will also be on hand. There is no charge for Bais Torah members, \$10 admission for non-members.

Save The Date - **Annual Carlebach Shabbas** - December 19th and 20th - Parshat Vayashaiv. This year we are honored to host Yisroel Williger and Rabbi Eliyahu Bergstein for Shabbos!. Please join us for Friday evening Seudah and Tisch in Shul - Details to follow. For early reservations contact Aviva 352.1343

The shul has acquired **new seforim** that are available for sponsorship. See our web site, www.baistorah.org and click on resources and then seforim for the list or contact Jack Gross.

Mazel Tov

Ronnie and Jennifer Herrmann on the engagement of their daughter, Penina to Menashe Mazurek.

Refuah Shelaimah

Henry Shapiro- חיים מאיר יחיאל בן מלכה לאה
Manny London מנחם מונש בן חנה פרידא
Tova Eizik's grandson - שלמה יעקב יונתן בן חנה רייזל
Esther Lutwak - אסתר מלכה בת קילה
Bob Schore - חיים ראובן בן הענדל יהודית
Suzie Kirshenbaum's father- יוסף בן שרה
Bella Helprin's mother- פיגע בת חיה רבקה

Joel Rosenwasser's parents-
שמעון בן בלומא רבקה
פשע לאה בת שפרינצא
בנימין בן בילה- Ben Zauderer
לייב יוסף בן חיה - Lenny Wulwick
אריה לייב בן רבקה - Larry Seligson
הילני בת רחל - Leni Loebenstein

How to Reach Us

Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb 357-3913, rabbigottlieb@gmail.com – Daytime emergency 362-8362

President Allen Nussbaum president@baistorah.org

Treasurer Barry Lifschitz, 352-0226, Fax 352-0841 or barry@lifschitz.net

Maintenance Yis Helprin 494-7446

Shul Secretary Aviva Schmutter 352-1343 aviva@baistorah.org M-TH 9:00-3:00

Simcha Room Reservations/Kiddushim Jack Gross, 357-4121

Bikur Cholim Eveline Kranzler, 352-8410 and

Eiruv 362-4302

Chosh Levy, 425-6827

Mikvah 425-6101

Chesed Committee Charlie Grandovsky, 425-4683

Youth Michael Kronenberg 368-1064

Sisterhood Liaison Betty Schloss, 369 – 1833

Hachnosas Orchim Facility for homeless, Shea Jacobs 425-9617

Lost and Found Michael Loebenstein, 425-8895

Chevre Kadisha Steve Fessel, 425-1713, Ephraim Pessin, 914-420-6714 or Gloria Gordon, 425-1276

Sisterhood Tribute Cards, Mona Selzer 356-0129

Bais Torah Bulletins Email baistorah@taxprof.net, Fax (845) 368-4172, or call (845) 368-2222. To receive e-mail updates, write to baistorah@gmail.com. This bulletin is downloadable from the web at www.baistorah.org.

In Case of Emergency

The **red Hatzoloh phone** is in the hallway on the wall between the rear washing station and the Simcha Room.

The **defibrillator** is in a cubby in the coat room opposite the Hatzoloh phone.

Vayera

Sacrificing one's own son was undoubtedly the supreme test of Avraham's life and faith. When Avraham and Yitzchak came down from the mountain of Moriah their lives and the destiny of the Jewish people was changed forever. The *akeidah* remains the central story of Jewish history and destiny.

Its grim reminder of Jewish vulnerability has never departed from the people of Israel. Though we have survived the myriad periods of *akeidah* in our history, it has always been with great cost and almost always some sort of permanent trauma. Why God demanded that test from Avraham and why it is continuously still demanded from the Jewish people is a question that has no real answer. It is a situation that remains a stark fact of life and an ever-present reality - its inscrutability notwithstanding.

We will see in later *parshiyos* of the Torah how strongly Yitzchak remains affected by his near death experience. It governs his personality and makes him to us the most inscrutable of all of the *avot* of the Jewish people. Surviving the *akeidah* takes an enormous toll on one's soul and psyche. And, as the rabbis teach us that the occurrences in the lives of the *avot* are harbingers of the future of their descendants, the *akeidah* has certainly become an oft repeated theme in Jewish history.

We should not be pessimistic about our present situation and our future. But we should certainly be realistic and wary as to what difficulties certainly face us now and later.

There are two witnesses to part of the *akeidah* drama – Yishmael and Eliezer. Their impressions of the event are not related to us by the Torah itself. Yishmael will remain the antagonist of Yitzchak and his descendants until our very own time. The descendants of Yishmael will even attempt to substitute their ancestor Yishmael for Yitzchak as the central character of the drama of the *akeidah*. However the history of the descendants of Yishmael does not conform to the pattern of historical *akeidos*.

Yishmael remains the aggressor in history and his character, as delineated in the Torah as warlike and constantly dissatisfied, has been amply justified in human history. It is not the character of someone who has experienced an *akeidah*. Yishmael is willing to be the hero of the *akeidah* but not to suffer its experience and trauma.

Eliezer will play an important role in the life of Yitzchak. He is the person entrusted by Avraham to find the proper mate for Yitzchak and he performs his task flawlessly. But then he somehow disappears from the scene of biblical history and the story of the Jewish people. There is a lack of continuity in Eliezer and his descendants that does not allow him or them to remain any longer an integral part of the Jewish story.

Thus the two other participants in the *akeidah* story depart from the mountain of Moriah unchanged by the event. Apparently, immortality and eternity in Jewish history is gained only by experiencing the *akeidah* itself. Not necessarily a pleasant thought, but it is a proven reality. May the Lord test us with *akeidos* no longer.

Shabat shalom.
Rabbi Berel Wein