

EDMOND J. SAFRA SYNAGOGUE
AVENTURA, FLORIDA

SHABUOT NEWSLETTER 5782 - 2022

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— ❁ Halachot of Shabuot ❁ —

- The holiday of Shabuot falls out on the fiftieth day of the Omer. This year Shabuot begins on Motzae Shabbat, June 4th - Please refer to last page for complete schedule and Halachot.
- It is customary to adorn the synagogue and home with flowers on Shabuot.
- We recite Sheheheyanu on both nights for Kiddush

— ❁ Tikun Lei Shabuot ❁ —

A Powerful Tradition: Staying Up All Night

It is our tradition to remain awake the entire first night of Shabuot and learn Torah. The rewards for doing so are tremendous. People who are able to stay up are written in H-shem's "Book of Remembrances" and are given many Berachot for simply staying up and learning.

Why do we stay up?

During the actual giving of the Torah, which lasted all night, Bene Yisrael were falling asleep. H-shem needed to keep them awake with loud sounds of thunder and visually stimulating cracks of lightening. This tradition has been implemented to show H-shem how we yearn to be His Nation by staying up all night and learning His Torah.

People who decide to take part in this grand unifying global tradition, must be careful to not speak of idle things during the night. One must not lose sight of the fact that the objective is to remain awake and learn Torah, and not to speak about business or sports. A Great Blessing is given to those who observe the night of Shabuot properly!!!!

**Join us for all night learning and Seudah Mitzvah on
Motzae Shabbat, June 4, 2022
PROGRAM WILL BEGIN @ 11:30 PM
SHAHARIT @ 5:20 AM & RECEIVING OF THE TORAH @ 6:45 AM**

— ❁ The Day of Shabuot ❁ —

- We say a complete Hallel on both days of Shabuot.
- On the first day we read the Aseret Hadibrot - The Ten Commandments.
- After the reading of the Torah, we say the first three and last three stanzas of the Azharot, a poem which contains all of the 613 Misvot.
- The custom of our community is to read the Azharot of the Misvot A'seh (positive commandments) on the first day and the Azharot of the Misvot Lo Ta'aseh (negative commandments) on the second day.
- Megilat Ruth is read on Shabuot, part on the first day and part on the second day.
- David Hamelech was born on Shabuot and died on Shabuot. It is therefore customary to read the Tehillim on this day.
- It is customary to eat dairy foods on Shabuot. It is preferable to have one dairy meal and one meat meal each day.



SHABUOT NEWSLETTER 5782 - 2022

— ❁ The Giving of the Torah – Shabuot ❁ —

On the sixth of Sivan, after 49 days of counting the Omer, the holiday of Shabuot begins. The holiday's name, "Shabuot", means "weeks" in Hebrew. There are seven full weeks counted from the second day of Pesah until Shabuot. It is important to learn as much as one can during Shabuot, for this holiday is the commemoration of the giving of the Torah to Bene Yisrael. There is no better appreciation we can show H-shem, than learning and being involved in His Mitzvot.

— ❁ Why was the Torah not given immediately? Why was there a delay of seven weeks until the Giving of the Torah? ❁ —

When the Nation of Israel came out of Egypt, they were physically crippled by the strenuous labor. In addition, the Nation of Israel was also spiritually unprepared to receive H-shem's Torah. Both these aspects affected their ability to accept the Torah. Therefore, they were given the Mitzvah of Sefirat Ha'omer, which for forty-nine days prepared them both physically and spiritually for Matan Torah. H-shem said, "Let them take pleasure in the Man (manna) and the fresh spring water and the s'lav (fowl) and then I shall give them the Torah."

— ❁ Where did H-shem give the Torah? Why wasn't the Torah given in the Land of Israel? ❁ —

The Torah was given freely, in an ownerless, public place. If the Torah had been given in the Land of Israel, the nations of the world would say that they have no portion in it. Anyone who wishes to properly accept the Torah is welcome to do so.

Why was Mount Sinai chosen as the site for the Giving of the Torah? The conventional answer is that the choice of Mount Sinai teaches us humility, since Mount Sinai was the most humble of all mountains. If so, why was the Torah not given in a low-lying valley? Surely that would have been a stronger lesson in humility? Thus, we learn that a Jew must be able to distinguish between being proud and being arrogant. Arrogance is distasteful. Being proud of one's roots is a virtue. The Torah, therefore, was given on a humble mountain.

— ❁ The Children – The Guarantors of the Torah ❁ —

The Jewish People were excited; H-shem was ready to give them the Torah on Har Sinai. But then H-shem said, "Before I can give you the Torah, there is something you must do. You must find me someone that will guarantee My People will always learn Torah and do Mitzvot." The Jewish People said, "Our Fathers will promise to learn Torah and Mitzvot. They are old and cannot work so hard anymore. They will have lots of time to study Torah." But, H-shem was not pleased with this answer. Then the Jewish people said, "The Rabbis will sit and learn Torah all day." H-shem, again, was not pleased with the answer. Finally, the Jewish People said, "Our Children, they will make sure that we will never forget our holy Torah." H-shem was now pleased with their reply.

Why was H-shem not pleased with the first two replies? Isn't it true that our Rabbis and Elders have a greater understanding of the Torah and its importance than do children? Why did H-shem pick the children as guarantors? H-shem said that it is not sufficient that the old people and the Rabbis learn Torah, just because they have nothing else to do. H-shem wants everyone to learn Torah, even if they are very busy and very work hard. And H-shem chose the little children to be the guarantors, since children represent the future generations of the Jewish people.

— ❁ We will do and we will listen ❁ —

H-shem asked all the other nations of the world if they wanted the Torah. Each nation first asked what was written in the Torah and then refused to accept it, providing one reason or another. When H-shem asked Bene Yisrael if they wanted the Torah, they responded, "Na'ase Venishma'h", we will do and we will listen. The Angels placed two golden crowns on each Jewish person at the time of the Giving of the Torah, one was inscribed with Na'ase, the other with Venishma'h.



SHABUOT NEWSLETTER 5782 - 2022

—❁ The Ten Commandments ❁—

When G-d revealed Himself on Mount Sinai, our entire People heard His voice proclaiming the Ten Commandments. These ten commands range from the highest and most refined concepts, such as the belief in the Oneness of G-d, to the most basic laws of any society, such as not killing and not stealing.



1. I am the L-rd your G-d who took you out of the Land of Egypt.
2. You shall have no other gods before Me.
3. Do not take the name of the L-rd your G-d in vain.
4. Remember the Sabbath. Keep it Holy.
5. Honor your father and mother.
6. Do not murder.
7. Do not commit adultery.
8. Do not steal.
9. Do not bear false witness.
10. Do not covet.

—❁ Eating Dairy ❁—



Our Sages provide several reasons for the custom of eating a dairy meal on Shabuot. One of them is that on Shabuot, the Jewish People were given the laws of Kashrut and they were unable to use their utensils that day until they were rendered Kosher by the proper process of "kashering" utensils. Thus their meal was a dairy meal.



Another reason is that on the 6th day of Sivan, Moshe was drawn out of the water and he was willing to be nursed only by a Hebrew woman. We recall this merit of his through eating of milk foods on Shabuot. Still another reason for eating dairy on this day is that the numerical value of the

Hebrew letters for Milk (Halab) add up to forty, corresponding to the forty days spent by Moshe on Mount Sinai.

—❁ Flowers and Greens ❁—

It is a custom in many communities to adorn the Synagogue and home with fruits, flowers and greens in honor of Shabuot. Our Sages provide some beautiful explanations:

1. The greenery and fragrant flowers remind us that the giving of the Torah took place on a mountain full of greenery.
2. Moshe was born on the seventh of Adar and was hidden by his mother for three months. On the sixth of Sivan, his mother placed him in a basket among the river reeds (Shemot 2:2-3). We therefore place reeds and other greenery in our homes and synagogues to commemorate the miracle performed for Moshe Rabbenu.
3. The Bene Yissachar explains that the source for the custom is a Midrash (Vayi'kra Rabba, Parasha Achare Mot), which relates the following parable: To what can this be compared? A king had a garden which had become overgrown with thorns. The king brought gardeners to cut down the garden, but he then saw a single rose blooming. He said, "for the sake of this rose, let the whole garden be saved!"



Similarly, G-d declares, "In the merit of Torah study, the entire world shall be saved."

—❁ Megilat Ruth on Shabuot ❁—

The five megilot are connected to five occurrences in the year. Kohelet is read on Succot, Esther is read on Purim, Shir Ha'Shirim is read at the Pesach Seder, Ruth is read on Shabuot, and Echa is read on Tisha Be' Ab.

—❁ Why is Megilat Ruth connected to Shabuot? ❁—

Our Sages tell us that this Megilah contains no new laws or matters pertaining to our Halacha. This Megilah was solely written to teach the reward for those who perform acts of loving-kindness. Ruth exemplified this attribute of Hesed (kindness) by giving up her family and nation in order to selflessly help her mother-in-law, Naomi. She did so without any thought of her own needs, a true act of Hesed.

Ruth accepted the Torah without expecting anything in return. Similarly, on Shabuot, our forefathers accepted the Torah on Har Sinai without seeking anything in return, as they proclaimed during that eternal historic moment, "Na'ase Venishma" - we will do and we will listen. As a reward for Ruth's selfless conversion and acceptance of the Torah, she merited being the great-grandmother of the greatest king of Israel, King David, from whom will descend the Mashiah.



SHABUOT NEWSLETTER 5782 - 2022

SHABUOT SCHEDULE

For those praying in the Early Minyan, it is appropriate for their wives to light the Shabbat candles before reciting the Kiddush at home OR, at the regular candle lighting time -WHICHEVER IS EARLIER

DATE	ACTIVITY	EARLY	REG	
Ereb Shabbat June 3rd "Shabbat Kallah" Bamidbar	Shir Ha'Shirim	6:25 pm	7:25 pm	
	Minha	6:40 pm	7:40 pm	
	Remember to leave a fire on from Friday Afternoon for Candles and Cooking on Shabuot.			
	Candle Lighting		7:49 pm	
	Kabbalat Shabbat / Arbit	Earliest 7:09 pm	8:00 pm	
	Lock the Gate		8:05 pm	
	Last Night of Omer	8:35 pm	After Arbit	
	Recite Shema (After)	8:50 pm	8:50 pm	
Shabbat June 4th	Shaharit Ness Minyan, Karbanot	Main Sanctuary	5:30 am	
	Shaharit, Karbanot	Main Sanctuary	8:30 am	
	Young Adult Minyan	Khafif – 1st floor Midrash	9:00 am	
	Father & Son Minyan	Guindi – 2nd floor Midrash	9:00 am	
	Girls Program	Library – 2nd floor	9:00 am	
	Recite Shema (Before)		9:17 am	
	All Services are followed by Kiddush			
	Gemara Class		5:00 pm	
	All Classes		5:45 pm	
	Minha/Seudah Shellsheet, light meal before sunset		6:45 pm	
	Class		8:00 pm	
	Note: Do not prepare anything for Yom Tob until after 8:49 pm. Prior to preparations, recite "Baruch Hamabdil Ben Kodesh Le'Kodesh"			
	1st Night of Shabuot	Candle Lighting (From a pre-existing flame) after		8:49 pm
		Arbit (VaTodienu is recited during Arbit)		8:30 pm
The usual Habdalah is not done. Instead a special addition is said in the Kiddush. We do not light the Habdalah Candle. We look at the Yom Tob Candles when saying the blessing of - Boreh Me'ore Ha'esh. Smelling Spices is not done.				
Tikkun Lel Shabuot - All night study session			11:30 pm	
Classes throughout the night for everyone - Special teens, girls and kids programs				
1st day of Shabuot Sunday, June 5th	Shaharit Ness Birkot Hasha'har – Korbanot		5:20 am	
	Earliest Talet		5:41 am	
	Amidah		6:29 am	
	Reading of Ten Commandments		6:45 am	
	Shaharit Main Sanctuary (One Minyan Only)		8:30 am	
	Reading of Ten Commandments		9:45 am	
	All Services are followed by Kiddush			
	Daf Yomi Class		5:30 pm	
	All Classes		6:20 pm	
	Minha / Megilat Ruth – Part 1 / Arbit		7:20 pm	
*Candle Lighting (Before Kiddush) - Use a flame that has been burning before the beginning of Yom Tob				
2nd day of Shabuot Monday, June 6th	Shaharit Ness Minyan, Korbanot		5:25 am	
	Shaharit Main Sanctuary		8:30 am	
	Teens Minyan		9:00 am	
	Father and Son Minyan		9:00 am	
	Morah Orly		9:00 am	
	Services are followed by Kiddush and ice cream party for kids			
	Daf Yomi Class		5:45 pm	
	Class & Tehilim		6:30 pm	
	Minha / Megilat Ruth – Part 2 / Songs		7:30 pm	
	Arbit		8:30 pm	
	Habdalah on wine only / Birkat Halebana		8:49 pm	
	Yom Tob Ends		8:49 pm	

From Rosh Hodesh Sivan, Tuesday, May 31st, UNTIL Sunday, June 12th, 2022 "NO Tahanun", Yehi Shem ONLY.

Hang Same'ah - Tizku Leshanim Rabbot!