

Press Release - Pesach

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

*** * * Photo and Interview Opps Available * * ***

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**This Passover, Amid Rising Antisemitism, Dobbs Ferry Jews
Turn to Faith and Tradition, Recalling the Exodus**

Rabbi Available to Talk About Passover's Message for this Fraught Time for Jews

Dobbs Ferry, New York— This Passover — beginning at nightfall on Wednesday, April 1 and concluding at nightfall on April 9 — Dobbs Ferry will see a surge in engagement for what is the most observed Jewish holiday in the United States.

[Passover](#) marks the Exodus of the Jewish people from slavery in Ancient Egypt some 3,330 years ago and has become America's most observed Jewish holiday. Each year, over 70% of American Jews gather with family and friends to celebrate the salvation of the Jewish People by G-d at Passover [Seders](#) — the festive, ritual-filled dinners on the first two nights, marking the beginning of the eight-day holiday.

And, at this fraught time for Jews, this Passover holds heightened significance. The enduring trauma of the Oct. 7 attacks — the worst murder of Jews since the Holocaust — the resulting war in Israel, the perilous fate of the 100+ hostages in Hamas captivity, and the distressing rise of antisemitism globally puts a new meaning to the themes of Passover.

“This year, as the Jewish community prepares to mark the Festival of our Freedom, our celebrations are increasingly meaningful,” said Rabbi Benjy Silverman, who directs Chabad of the Rivertowns. “Passover ultimately reminds us that through turning to G-d, our faith, and our tradition, G-d will grant us freedom.”

In Dobbs Ferry, Chabad of the Rivertowns has launched a Passover awareness campaign, encouraging observance of the holiday and ensuring that everyone will be able to celebrate Passover this year. A key initiative is sharing [shmurah matzah](#) — a special handmade matzah considered ideal for the Passover Seder — with those celebrating at home. Additionally, Chabad

of the Rivertowns is welcoming participants to its user-friendly community Seders on April 1 at 7:45 PM.

The Dobbs Ferry Passover campaign is part of a larger Passover initiative launched 70 years ago by the [Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson](#), of righteous memory, leader of the world-wide Chabad-Lubavitch movement. In the years since, Chabad has been on the forefront of educating Jews around the world about the meaning and observances of Passover, and distributing traditional Passover items, with a special emphasis on round, hand-baked Shmurah Matzah. Today, due to the Rebbe's campaign, more than [1 million lbs. of hand made Shmurah Matzah](#) are baked every year, connecting Jews to the original "Bread of Healing" their ancestors once ate on the hallowed nights of Passover.

"Passover is a unique time on the Jewish calendar, when families gather together and retell the story of our people's liberation from enslavement in Ancient Egypt," said Rabbi Benjy Silverman. "But it is not just a story. Each and every one of us seeks freedom to be our true selves, both as individuals and as a community. By eating the matzah, [drinking the four cups](#) and remembering the miracles our ancestors experienced, we commit to recognizing the miracles in our lives. This is something we need now more than ever before."

Additional information about the Passover holiday is available at [Chabad.org/Passover](#), and more information about local events and initiatives can be found at [ChabadRT.org/RSVP](#).

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EVENT RECAP:

- **What:** Passover Seder
- **Where:** Chabad of the Rivertowns - 303 Broadway Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522 United States
- **When:** April 1, 2026 | 7:45 PM
- **Cost:** \$60 – Adults | \$25 – Children
- **RSVP:** https://www.chabadrt.org/templates/articlecco_cdo/aid/5406080/jewish/Community-Passover-Seder-2026.htm

ABOUT PASSOVER

The eight-day festival of [Passover](#) is celebrated this year from sundown on Wednesday, [April 1](#) until after nightfall on Monday [April 9](#), 2026. Passover commemorates [the exodus](#) of the Jews from Egypt and will be [celebrated](#) with ritual-packed festive "[Seder](#)" dinners on April 1, 2026, where the liturgy recited is called the [Haggadah](#). Other holiday [observances](#) include restricting

the consumption and possession of leavened products, such as bread and pasta, known as [Chametz](#), instead eating unleavened [Matzah](#).

Additional information about the Passover holiday is available at Chabad.org/Passover.

- To interview a rabbi about the festival of Passover, to photograph/film preparations or for information about Passover, contact Rabbi Benjy Silverman at 914-330-1307 or rabbi@chabadrt.org.

ABOUT CHABAD OF THE RIVERTOWNS

CHABAD OF THE RIVERTOWNS offers Jewish education, community and social service programming for families and individuals of all ages, backgrounds and affiliations. For more information, contact Chabad of the Rivertowns at 914-693-6100 or visit online at www.chabadrt.org

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