

# SHAAREI TEFILA

## Shabbat Bulletin

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Rabbi Moshe Kesselman, Rabbi

Sholom Feigelstock, President



## SHABBAT MEVORCHIM - PARSHAT VA'ERA

Tevet 25-26 5778

January 12-13, 2018

### SHABBAT SCHEDULE

#### FRIDAY, January 12

Shabbat Candle lighting..... 4:47 pm

Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat

MAIN SANCTUARY MINYAN:..... 4:55pm

#### SHABBAT, January 13

.. BEIT MIDRASH MINYAN..... 7:15 am

MAIN SANCTUARY MINYAN..... 9:00 am

**Shabbat Morning Kids' Group:** Beginning 9:00 am for all kids in the upstairs Lowy Youth Rooms.

NUSACH ARI MINYAN IN BEIT MIDRASH:..... 10:15 am

Latest Time for Shema (GR"A)..... 9:28 am

Latest Time for Shacharit Amida (GR"A)..... 10:19 am

Shiur ..... 4:15 pm

Mincha ..... 4:45 pm

Followed by Seuda Shlishit in Beit Midrash

Maariv ..... 5:38 pm

Shabbat ends (Havdallah)..... 5:47 pm

**We are concluding the series of Shiurim entitled: 'King Herod and the Second Beit Hamikdash' This week at 4:15 pm followed by Mincha and a Gala Seuda Shlishit.**

**Shiur and Seuda Shlishit in honor of Daniella Shaina Lee Casper A"H!**

**Shiur series is sponsored by the Lee Family.**

**Rosh Chodesh Shevat is this week Wednesday.**

**The Molad (birth of the new moon) will be on Wednesday, 2:25 am and 2 Chalakim.**

### ABOUT THE TORAH READING

*Artscroll Stone Chumash: pages 318—339*

**1st Aliyah:** Parshat Va'era begins with G-d reassuring Moshe that the redemption of Israel from Egypt is at hand.

**2nd Aliyah:** The narrative is interrupted to record the names of the family heads of the tribes of Reuven, Shimon, and Levi and the families of Moshe and Aharon. **3rd Aliyah:** G-d commands Moshe to go to Pharaoh and tell him to let the people go. **4th Aliyah:** Ten plagues begin with all the water of Egypt turning to blood and the second plague of frogs. Pharaoh summons Moshe to remove the

frogs. **5th Aliyah:** Moshe prays to G-d to remove the frogs. All the frogs die, but Pharaoh refuses to let the people go. The third plague of lice. Moshe warns Pharaoh about the fourth plague, swarms of wild beasts. **6th Aliyah:** The wild beasts plague Egypt. The fifth plague, an epidemic that kills all the livestock of Egypt. The sixth plague of boils. G-d tells Moshe to warn Pharaoh about the next plague. **7th Aliyah:** The hail comes and destroys everything left outside in the field. Pharaoh summons Moshe and begs Moshe to remove the plague. But after the hail stops, Pharaoh again refuses to let the people go.

**Haftarah (pages 1149 – 1150):** The Haftarah is taken from the book of Ezekiel (28:25-29:21).

### A Fascinating Ramban

**Contributed by Rabbi Kesselman**

How could Pharaoh be punished for refusing to comply with G-d's demands to grant freedom to the Israelites, if G-d Himself "hardened Pharaoh's heart"? This seems terribly unjust! Ramban (Nachmanides) offers an answer which is as profound as it is astoundingly simple. Ramban argues that had G-d refrained from hardening Pharaoh's heart, he would have then been deprived of the ability to make a coherent and true choice. Indeed, the plagues would have *compelled* him to let the Israelites go—an option he most certainly would not have chosen in the absence of G-D's strong hand. Since the scale was so heavily weighted towards Pharaoh's sending the Jews out – after all, what would any normal sovereign choose to do when his country is slowly and systematically being destroyed – G-d steered Pharaoh's resolve, causing that the plagues shouldn't interfere with his decision-making process, and allowing him to continue expressing his true desire. G-d hardened his heart so that he would have the strength and ability to freely choose his course of action – and he freely chose to retain the Israelites as slaves. Thus Pharaoh rightfully earned divine retribution for his shameful behavior.

To check the Eruv status each week, call 877-ERUV INFO or online at [www.laeruv.com](http://www.laeruv.com)

## SHAAREI TEFILA BULLETIN BOARD

- **Early Minyan Kiddush** (9:00 am) after the Beit Midrash 7:15 am Minyan.
- **Sanctuary Minyan Kiddush** (at 11:30 am) after Shabbat morning davening in Kanner Hall.
- **Nusach Ari Minyan Kiddush** (at 12:30 pm) after Shabbat morning davening in Kanner Hall.
- **Seuda Shlishit** following Mincha in the Beit Midrash.

**Seudah Shlishit** this week is sponsored by: **Efraim and Marrieta Nissim** in memory of Marrieta's mother **Luba Flatowicz, Luba bat Avraham**. Her yartzeit is Rosh Chodesh Shevat. May her Neshama have an Aliya. The Shul wishes Effi, Marrieta and the entire family only Brochas and Simchos.

- **Farbrengen Yud Shevat-Chof Beis Shevat:** Thursday, February 1, 2018 in Shaarei Tefila Kanner Hall at 8:00 pm. Featuring enlightening interview with the personal Mazkir (secretary) of the Rebbe, **Rabbi Yehuda Leib Groner**. Question and answer session moderated by **Rabbi Moshe Weiss**, Shliach in Sherman Oaks, CA. For men and women.

### DEFIBRILLATOR

On behalf of the Shul and community we wish to extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to the **Shaarei Tefila Senior Program** for sponsoring a new defibrillator. We hope we never have to use it but is necessary in case of an emergency.

- **Shaarei Tefila Trip: "The Chosen"** at the Fountain Theatre. Sunday Matinee, February 11, 2018. Bus leaves Shaarei Tefila at 1:00 pm and returns at 5:00 pm. Cost: \$25, includes orchestra seats, coach bus and refreshments. For reservation call Bernice Gelman at 323-938-7147.
- Tuesday's from 11am-12 pm: **'Exercise with Ceaser.'**
- Wednesday's from 10:00 am-11:00 am: **'Classical Stretch with Miranda Esmonde'** and from 11am-12pm: **'Aerobics and Balance with Ceaser'.**
- **Five Star Passover Program in San Diego:** For more information call Bernice Gelman at 323-938-7147.

### Shaarei Tefila Hosts Honest Reporting

Shaarei Tefila is proud to host **Mr. Joe Hyams** from Honest Reporting. Joe will be with us on Shabbat, January 20, 2018 and will be delivering the Shabbat sermon. Honest Reporting works to combat anti Semitism and anti Israel bias in the media. Many thanks to **Frank and Kerri Lee** for hosting Mr. Joe Hyams.

## PERSONALS

- We wish sincere condolences to **Mrs. Sylvia Gul** on the passing of her sister **Bracha Kolangui bat Nekadam Rina a'h** of Mexico City. We wish the family only Brochas and Simchos for the future. **Hamakom Yenachem Etchem B'toch Shear Aveilei Tzion V'Yerushalayim.**

### TEFILA SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY 14-18

#### Weekday Shacharit

Sunday.....7:00 & 8:00 am  
Monday - Friday.....6:00, 6:45 & 7:30 am  
**Mincha-Maariv**.....4:55 pm  
**Friday, January 19**  
Shabbat Candle Lighting.....4:53 pm  
Mincha.....5:05 pm

**Next week: Parshat Bo**

### SHAAREI TEFILA CLASSES

- **Ein Yaakov** with Rabbi Izchak Kin (in Yiddish), half hour before Mincha in the Goldstein-Baim Beit Midrash (daily).
- **Gemora Shiur** Tuesday evenings from 8:00-9:00 pm with Rabbi Dovid Grossman in the Goldstein-Baim Beit Midrash.
- **Tuesday Lunch 'n Learn this week.** Please join us on Tuesday morning at 11:30 am in Kanner Hall Annex for Lunch 'N Learn with **Rabbi Kesselman**.
- **Weekly Parsha Class:** Thursday Morning, 11:00-12:00 in the Shaarei Tefila Beit Midrash in memory of the Kedoshim from Har Nof.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

- **Bnei Akiva & Moshava California:** Join us this weekend for a special **Shabbat Moshava!** Fri night 1/12 - Oneg for 11th grade & up, @ home of Avi Matanky, 1465 S Beverly Dr #4; Shabbat 1/13: Mincha & Moshava-style Seuda Shlishit, 4:15pm @ Beth Jacob; Motzash 1/13: Bowling night for 3rd-9th graders, 7:15pm @ Pinz..
- **Tai Chai Classes** being formed for Men Only. If interested call Shaarei Tefila 323-938-7147.

### Refuah Shleima

Sholom Ben Chana	Rivkah Esther Bat Chava
Yosef Yitzchak Ben Bracha	Chaya Sara Bat Esther
Gitta Rivka Bat Chaya Risa	Zev Ben Chaya
Yaakov Simcha Ben Itka	Leah Zohar Bat Esther Jonn
Mordechai Ben Simcha	Rochel Bat Simcha Chaya
Chaya Bat Hinda	Risa Chana Bat Chasya Geula
Malka Bat Rochel	Faiga Rochel Bat Bryna Leah
Deena Bat Leiba	Refael David Ben Ella
Leah Bat Sara	Aharon Yoseph Ben Nechama Raizel
Tzvi Halevi Ben Tova	Chava Shoshana Rachel bat Sarah