

Bnai Torah Purim Schedule 5781—2021

2

Fast of Esther, Thursday, February 25

Fast Begins: 6:11 am

Shacharis: 6:45 am

Mincha: 6:05 pm

Maariv: 7:15 pm

Fast Ends: after 7:23 pm

1st Megillah: 7:30 pm

2nd Megillah: 9:00 pm



Please feel free to bring your children to the evening Megillah reading. Parents are expected to supervise their children. The back wall of the Shul will be opened up into the social hall to provide ample space for social distancing.

Purim Day, Friday, February 26

Shacharis: 6:55 am

1st Megillah: 7:40 am

2nd Megillah:
11:15 am *at the Shul*

Candle Lighting: 6:13 pm

(For Shabbos)

Mincha: 6:15 pm





Mishloach Manos



There are several reasons given for the Mitzvah of Mishloach Manos (sending food gifts) on Purim. Firstly, the mitzvah of Mishloach Manos is designed to enable Jews to enjoy fulfilling the Mitzvah of having a Purim meal. Gifts of prepared food are sent on the day of Purim in order to ensure that all people have the means to enjoy a lavish feast. According to this reason it is necessary for the recipient to accept the Mishloach Manos and not merely for the donor to extend the gift.

Another reason for Mishloach Manos is based upon the fact that the Jews of Shushan transgressed the laws of Kashrus by partaking in non-kosher food served at King Achashverosh's banquet. To demonstrate that they had truly repented from this sin, the mitzvah of Mishloach Manos was inaugurated. By sending food gifts one to another, Jews demonstrated their mutual trust in matters of Kashrus. As in the case of the first reason it is therefore imperative that the recipient accept and not merely that the donor extend the gift.

Finally, the sending of Mishloach Manos is to dispel the image of the Jewish People as a "scattered and dis-unified people" depicted by the wicked Haman. By exchanging gifts on the holiday of Purim the Jews demonstrate the strong bonds of friendship and love which truly exist among themselves. Unlike the prior reasons, this third reason would not necessitate the receipt of the gift but merely its extension, as that would be a sign of friendship in and of itself.



Why Hallel is Not Recited on Purim



Hallel is a collection of six chapters taken from the book of Psalms written by King David. They are recited following the Shacharis Amidah on the holidays of Pesach, Shavuot, and Sukkot as well as on Chanukah. During the Talmudic period it became customary to recite the Hallel on Rosh Chodesh in an abridged form.

Hallel is recited as a joyous response to G-d's wonderful miracles and powers of salvation. However, it is not recited on the holiday of Purim despite the fact that it appears to be most appropriate. This question is discussed in the Talmud (Tractate Megillah) and several answers are given.

Purim commemorates an event which occurred in a country outside Eretz Yisrael, namely Persia. Thus, Hallel is not recited since it is said only for miracles that take place in Eretz Yisrael.

Another reason offered is that the special reading of Megillas Esther containing the story of Purim is equivalent to the recital of Hallel and therefore the reciting of the Hallel is not necessary.

Finally, a third reason is cited to the effect that the reciting of Hallel on Purim would not be appropriate. While it is true that the Jews experienced a miraculous salvation on Purim, resulting in a cause for celebration, their freedom was not complete for they still remained subservient to a foreign ruler as subjects of King Achashverosh. Hallel is appropriately recited only after a complete deliverance – one that results in our being solely "servants of G-d".



Special Purim Mitzvahs



Reading the Megillah

Both men and women should hear the reading of the Megillah (Book of Esther) and also perform the other Purim Mitzvos, which include sending gifts of food, giving to the poor, and eating the Purim meal. It is customary to bring young children to the synagogue to hear the Megillah, but they should be prevented from making a disturbance, except for when Haman's name is read. Those who are unable to go to the synagogue should have the Megillah read to them from a kosher parchment scroll.



Mishloach Manos Sending of Food Parcels



On Purim day (and not at night), men and women should send to a friend at least one gift containing two kinds of food or drink. This mitzvah may be fulfilled only with ready-to-eat food; food needing preparation, money, clothing, or other gifts do not qualify. Although one is required to send only one parcel, it is customary to encourage joy, friendship, and brotherly love and send parcels to many friends. Nevertheless, it is of greater merit to distribute gifts generously to the poor than to distribute food to friends. There is no greater joy before G-d than the happiness of the unfortunate: it is therefore incumbent on us to aid the disadvantaged with an open hand. There are opinions that suggest a preference for the gift being sent with someone else and not delivered personally. A person in mourning should send a gift to one person only.



Seudas Purim The Purim Feast



Everyone joins together to rejoice in the salvation of the Jewish people. We enjoy a lavish meal and drink good wine. "Kreplach" and "Hamentashen" are among the traditional Purim foods. The reason for the wine drinking is that it recalls the seminal events of the Purim story which occurred during a "Banquet of Wine". Hamentashen and Kreplach contain a hidden treat inside the dough. This symbolizes the nature of the miracles occurring in the Purim story. They were hidden miracles masked by seemingly natural events.



Matanos L'evyonim Gifts to the Poor



All men & women should give gifts to the poor on Purim. The minimum requirement is to give gifts to at least two poor persons. Those who are liberal with their giving on Purim will be blessed.

CONGREGATION B'NAI TORAH SERVICE SCHEDULE

February 2021 19 Shevat - 16 Adar 5781



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Shabbos
	1 19 Shevat Shacharis: 6:50 am Mincha: 5:50 pm	2 20 Shevat Shacharis: 7:00 am Mincha: 5:50 pm	3 21 Shevat Shacharis: 7:00 am Mincha: 5:50 pm	4 22 Shevat Shacharis: 6:50 am Mincha: 5:50 pm	5 23 Shevat Shacharis: 7:00 am Candle Lighting: 5:49 pm Mincha: 5:50 pm	6 24 Shevat Yisro Shabbos Mevorchim Shacharis: 9:00 am Mincha: 5:45 pm Shabbos Ends: after 7:11 pm
7 25 Shevat Shacharis: 8:30 am Mincha: 6:00 pm	8 26 Shevat Shacharis: 6:50 am Mincha: 6:00 pm	9 27 Shevat Shacharis: 7:00 am Mincha: 6:00 pm	10 28 Shevat Shacharis: 7:00 am Mincha: 6:00 pm	11 29 Shevat Shacharis: 6:50 am Mincha: 6:00 pm	12 30 Shevat Rosh Chodesh Shacharis: 6:45 am Candle Lighting: 5:57 pm Mincha: 6:00 pm	13 1 Adar Mishpatim Shekalim Rosh Chodesh Shacharis: 9:00 am Mincha: 5:55 pm Shabbos Ends: after 7:19 pm
14 2 Adar Shacharis: 8:30 am Mincha: 6:10 pm	15 3 Adar Shacharis: 6:50 am Mincha: 6:10 pm	16 4 Adar Shacharis: 7:00 am Mincha: 6:10 pm	17 5 Adar Shacharis: 7:00 am Mincha: 6:10 pm	18 6 Adar Shacharis: 6:50 am Mincha: 6:10 pm	19 7 Adar Shacharis: 7:00 am Candle Lighting: 6:05 pm Mincha: 6:10 pm	20 8 Adar Terumah Zachor Shacharis: 9:00 am Mincha: 6:00 pm Shabbos Ends: after 7:27 pm
21 9 Adar Shacharis: 8:30 am Mincha: 6:15 pm	22 10 Adar Shacharis: 6:50 am Mincha: 6:15 pm	23 11 Adar Shacharis: 7:00 am Mincha: 6:15 pm	24 12 Adar Shacharis: 7:00 am Mincha: 6:15 pm	25 13 Adar Fast of Esther Fast Begins: 6:11 am Shacharis: 6:45 am Mincha: 6:05 pm Maariv: 7:15 pm Fast Ends: after 7:23 pm 1st Megillah: 7:30 pm 2nd Megillah: 9:00 pm	26 14 Adar Purim Shacharis: 6:55 am 1st Megillah: 7:40 am 2nd Megillah: 11:15 am Candle Lighting: 6:13 pm Mincha: 6:15 pm	27 15 Adar Tetzave Shushan Purim Shacharis: 9:00 am Mincha: 6:10 pm Shabbos Ends: after 7:35 pm
28 16 Adar Shacharis: 8:30 am Mincha: 6:25 pm	29 17 Adar Shacharis: 6:50 am Mincha: 6:15 pm	30 18 Adar Shacharis: 7:00 am Mincha: 6:15 pm	1 19 Adar Shacharis: 7:00 am Mincha: 6:15 pm	2 20 Adar Shacharis: 6:50 am Mincha: 6:15 pm	3 21 Adar Shacharis: 7:00 am Mincha: 6:15 pm	4 22 Adar Shacharis: 7:00 am Mincha: 6:15 pm