

YOUNG ISRAEL OF THE MAIN LINE

Weekly Update

Rabbi Avraham Steinberg
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Parshas Ki Sisa Shabbos Parah

פרשת כי תשא שבת פרה

י"ח אדר תשס"ט—March 13–14

Shabbos Davening Times

Earliest candle lighting: 5:51pm
Candle lighting: 6:47pm
Mincha - Friday: 6:45pm

Sof Zman Krias Shema: 10:12am
Shacharis: 8:45am
Mincha followed by Chabura: 6:40pm
Maariv: 7:51pm

Weekday Davening Times

Shacharis Sunday: 8:00am
Shacharis (Mon., Thu.): 6:40am
Shacharis (Tue., Wed., Fri.): 6:50am
Mincha/Maariv (Sun.–Thu.): 6:55pm

Next Shabbos Times

Candle lighting: 6:54pm
Mincha - Friday: 6:55pm

משנכנס אדר מרבנים בשמחה!

Calendar of Shiurim

DAY	TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKER	NOTES
Shabbos	8:15am	Parsha Chabura	D. Rosen	Special Time
Shabbos	8:15am	Mishlei Shiur	R. Steinberg	OFF WEEK
Shabbos	After Mincha	Chabura	C. Saiman	
Shabbos	After Mincha	Medical Halacha	D. Eisenberg	
Mon., Wed.	After Maariv	Mishna Berura	Eli Back	
Sun.–Fri.	15 min. before Shacharis	Sefer Hamaspik L'Ovdei Hashem	R. Steinberg	
Tuesday	9:00pm	Choshen Mishpat	R. Steinberg	
Thursday	10:10pm	Nefesh Hachaim	Rav Sholom Kamenetsky	

*All shiurim are at YIML unless specified.

THIS SHABBOS

Kiddush:

Kiddush this week is being sponsored by Drs. Ron & Marguerite Werrin to commemorate the yahrzeits of their fathers, ה"ע, Nathaniel Werrin and Elliott Weill.

Chabura:

This week between Mincha and Maariv, the chabura will be given by Chaim Saiman.

Bnos and Pirchei:

Both Bnos and Pirchei will ה"א meet this week from **4:30pm to 5:30pm** at LMS.

Shabbos Kallah:

Women and girls are invited to join the Pendrak family for a Shabbos Kallah in honor of Karen Pendrak, at their home, 342 Winding Way, from 4:00pm this Shabbos.

RABBI STEINBERG AWAY

Please note that R. Steinberg is away this week. If the need arises to contact him please call Mrs. Steinberg at their home (610) 664-3796, or contact Rabbi Josh Weinberger (610) 668-0575. (Leave a message if no one answers.)

All submissions, suggestions, and sponsorships should be directed (by Wednesday evening) to the editor of the Weekly Update, פלוני בן פלוני (weeklyupdate@yiml.org).

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Aish Gala:

On Tuesday, March 31, at 6:00pm Aish Philadelphia will host it's Annual Community Gala in our new building honoring Rabbi Joshua & Michele Levy and Naphtali & Hanna Perlberger. Food by Elite Catering; ad journal deadline is March 13. For more information please call our office or visit our website www.aish.com.

ONGOING EVENTS

Chevra Mishnayos:

The Chevra Mishnayos is now learning Seder Nashim.
See the shul bulletin board to sign up.

Women's Tehillim Group:

The Tehillim Group meets Mondays at **10:45am** at 8 Concord Circle.

Women's Chovos haLevovos Group:

The Chovos haLevovos Group meets Tuesdays at 9:30am at 8 Concord Circle.

Are you on our e-mail list?

To subscribe to the shul mailing list, send a message to majordomo@chaseplanet.us with the following in the message body (all one line): `subscribe yiml YOUR-EMAIL`

Rabbi Steinberg Contact Information

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D'VAR TORAH by Rabbi Berel Wein

The Talmud teaches us that in every generation a portion of the punishment for the construction of the Golden calf in the desert by the Jewish people is exacted. I think that in a greater measure we can state that the sin of the Golden Calf itself is repeated in every generation.

The obvious problem arising out of the Golden Calf is how could the Jewish people, fresh from the miracles of Egypt, Yam Suf, manna and the revelation at Sinai revert to paganism and to the worship of a man-made deity. What possessed them to be so blind as to their own recent experiences and to their stated destiny?

Of course, this incident is the ultimate proof of the allowance for free will in human affairs, even for the most destructive form of free will. And, yet, it is most troubling to realize how seriously error prone the Jewish people can be.

And, the fact that this weakness constantly asserts itself in every generation is itself part of the punishment. This portion has been meted out to us over the many generations since that Golden Calf was constructed and worshipped in the desert of Sinai. After all, one could hope that after 3321 years something might have been learned.

And yet we are witness to the fact that the Golden Calf in all of its modern and secular manifestations still dances and prances amongst us. Apparently this punishment still exacts its pain and finds its victims even though much time has elapsed since the original sin of the Golden Calf.

There appears to have been multiple causes for the construction of the original Golden Calf. The absence of Moshe, Aharon's vacillation, the presence of a large and vocal non-Jewish section within the Jewish people—the eirev rav—the always present memories of Egypt and its pagan society and culture, and the uncertain self-worth of a recently emancipated people from slavery, are all contributory factors in the unfolding tragedy of the Golden Calf.

Almost all of these factors exist in our time as well. The absence of inspiring religious leadership, the inability to formulate a positive vision for the people and the state, the influences of a non-Jewish world that has turned all basic human values on its face, the revival of pagan ideas and lifestyles of the ancient world in the guise of new liberal ideas and permissive values, the difficulties of adjusting to national independence after millennia of exile, all combine in our time to allow the Golden Calf to still exist within us.

The failures of assimilation, secularism, and Westernization at all costs, are all visible to all of us. Yet, we are all reluctant to abandon the allure of the shine of the Golden Calf.

Only when we will have our fill of these false hopes and retrograde ideas will we be free to accept Moshe's dramatic act of destroying the Golden Calf to dust and powder. Perhaps then will our bill for the original Golden Calf be finally stamped as being paid in full.

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