



## Shabbat Achrei Mot/Kedoshim

Friday May 1st: Candle Lighting: 7:52 pm  
 Saturday May 2nd: Shabbat ends: 9:01 pm

Friday May 8th: Candle Lighting: 8:01 pm

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A virtual Kiddush has been sponsored by Leonard Kerzner in commemoration of the yahrzeit of his mother, Pearl Kerzner, z"l

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Mazel Tov to Rosalie and Harold Schwartz on the birth of their grandson, son to Leah and Jeff Engel and new brother for Mira

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## דברי הרב

### Parashat Acharei Mot Kedoshim

The opening comment of Rashi on this week's Torah reading sets in motion the proper response of sensible people to the admonitions of health and government authorities to stay at home and to shelter in place. Rashi quotes Rabbi Elazar ben Azaryah from the Yalkut Shimoni who says that a doctor's directive to a patient to refrain from certain activities and foods is strengthened when the doctor provides anecdotal evidence to support his remarks. In other words, the doctor provides examples of those failing to adhere to appropriate medical advice who suffered or died as a result. In modern times, we add that a doctor would provide diagnostic proof as well to give credence to his remarks.

Today, we are experiencing two types of individuals who believe that doctors' orders and statements are to be ignored in light of the onslaught of Covid-19. One may recommend disinfectants, even sarcastically, to ward off this disease, and another

may feel that public health official and medical expert opinion based on fact is an interference with the rights of assembly or free enterprise. Dangerous solutions or inattention to the reality of this disease contribute to the higher hospitalization and death count that we are seeing on a daily basis.

In Halacha, there is a discussion in regard to two categories of law: Gerama, or indirect action, or Garmi, direct action. In applying these two terms to the situation of Covid-19, a case can be made to declare that those who are insensitive and negligent in applying the public health directives, are guilty of either indirectly or directly causing harm to others.

Indeed, the second parsha this week of Kedoshim clearly prohibits one from standing idly by while his fellow's blood is being spilled. We are required by Jewish law to be responsible citizens which by definition implies a connection to and accountability by a community. Hillel, in Pirkei Avot, declares that one should not separate from a community, which is a statement that speaks to all of us to obey those health directives. The human right of selfish freedom of choice as representative as resistance to these declarations is overridden by communal responsibility.

With G-d's help, we and others shall pull through this crisis, and overcome it. Our political leaders in Canada, specifically Prime Minister Trudeau and Premier Ford, have demonstrated great wisdom and fortitude in these trying times. They lead calmly and intelligently, and have deferred to those who have the expertise to guide us in terms of how all of us can persevere and succeed in outlasting Covid-19, and resuming our normal lives.

Shabbat Shalom.

On Tuesday, April 28, our congregation joined with Congregation Kehillat Shaarei Yonah Menachem of Modiin, Israel, to commemorate Yom Hazikaron and celebrate Yom Haatzmaut together. There were approximately 150 people in attendance, roughly half from our shul.

I want to thank Ian Sadinsky and Jonathan Isserlin for participating and the board of the shul for its support. On behalf of our shul, I also thank Rabbi David Fine of Barkai Israeli Rabbis.org, Rabbi Reuven Tradburks of the Rabbinical Council of America and Rabbi Shlomo Sobol of Congregation Kehillat Shaarei Yonah Menachem for enabling this program to go forward.

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[Rabbi Finkelstein's Classes](#)

Shuls and schools may be closed, but classes continue

If you have trouble connecting to Zoom for the following classes, contact Rabbi Finkelstein directly by phone.

Thursday evenings recurring class at 8:30 PM in Ketubot and on Friday mornings at 10:00 AM. Thursday Zoom code: 892-0099-7154. Friday: 982-1270-5134

Sunday evenings at 8:00 PM-Class in Contemporary Issues in Parshat Hashavua-  
Topic: Imitation, the Sincerest Form of Flattery or Assimilation. Zoom code- 812-7935-5667

#### [Class in Pirkei Avot](#)

Class on Pirkei Avot meets on Sunday mornings at 11:00 AM., starting April 26, 2020. People who are observing yahrzeits can participate in the Pirkei Avot classes as a means of remembering their loved ones. Class is open to all. Each week's Pirkei Avot class will be dedicated in memory of those whose yahrzeits are observed that week. The list of yahrzeits for the week will be read at the beginning of each class which take place on Sunday mornings at 11:00 A.M. Zoom code-941-7285-5022.

[For more classes check out our calendar](#)

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#### **[Yahrzeits To Be Observed Next Week: May 3 - May 9, 2020:](#)**

(Yahrzeits commence on the evenings prior to the dates listed below)

Irving Finkelstein z"l, observed on Sunday May 3  
Abebu Mekonnen z"l, observed on Monday May 4  
Fanthune Mekonnen z"l, observed on Monday May 4  
Pearl Kerzner z"l, observed on Tuesday May 5  
David Sher z"l, observed on Tuesday May 5  
Arnold Rose z"l, observed on Thursday May 7  
Naphtali Benguigui z"l, observed on Friday May 8  
Hannah Hudis z"l, observed on Friday May 8  
Judy Silver z"l, observed on Friday May 8

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#### [CBTO Donations](#)

**[Please note that we are still accepting donations at this time, but will only be sending out e-cards. All donations will still be listed in the Shabbat Flyer.](#)**

A class on Pirkei Avot has been sponsored in memory of Abraham Schwartz, z"l  
Rosalie and Harold Schwartz

Mazel Tov to Rosalie and Harold Schwartz on the birth of their grandson  
Marsha and Murray Kaiserman  
Naomi and Marvin Krym  
Linda and Jeff Laks

In commemoration of the yahrzeit of Percy Marcus, z"l  
Susan Marcus, Mark Silver and family

Mazel Tov to Deborah and Lou Davis on the birth of their grandson  
Naomi and Marvin Krym

Mazel Tov to Sol Rauch in honour of his 80th birthday  
Marsha and Murray Kaiserman  
Naomi and Marvin Krym

Mazel Tov to Lisa and Harold Sandell on the birth of their grandson  
Marsha and Murray Kaiserman

Mazel tov to Magda and Peter Benedek on the recent Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter, Nessa Benedek  
Marsha and Murray Kaiserman

Mazel Tov to Shaindel Simes on the birth of her grandson  
Naomi and Marvin Krym

Mazel Tov to Marion Silver and Alan Brass on the birth of their grandson  
Candice and Stan Wilder

Wishing Valerie Terkel continued good health  
Candice and Stan Wilder

Mazel Tov to Erin and Ben Gailor on the birth of their granddaughter  
Candice and Stan Wilder

Mazel Tov to Elaine and Marten Brodsky on the birth of their grandson  
Candice and Stan Wilder

Mazel Tov to Naomi and Marvin Krym on the birth of their grandson  
Candice and Stan Wilder

Mazel Tov to Joyce and Howard Nadler on the occasion of Lonnie's marriage to Jenna  
Candice and Stan Wilder

Condolences to Harry and Linda Prizant, on the passing of Harry's mother, Judy Prizant, z"l  
Karen and Walter Fogel  
Naomi and Marvin Krym

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*Shabbat Shalom and Shavua Tov!*  
**שבת שלום ושבוע טוב**

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