



ETZ CHAIM SEPHARDIC CONGREGATION

B"H

SHABBAT SHALOM

PARASHAT VAYIKRA D'VAR BY RABBI DAVID GINGOLD-ALTCHEK

The Mishna in Tractate Megila (3:4) features of that for the four weeks between the beginning of the month of Adar and the month of Nissan, four special parashiot (parsha's) are read. Ushering in the month of Adar, we read the portion of Mahatzit Ha'Sheqel (the half-shekel). The week proceeding Purim, we read Zachor (remembrance of the Amalakites) and the week following Purim we read Parah (the red heifer). Finally, we usher in Nissan with the reading of Ha'Hodesh (the new month).

The famed commentator Ovadia Bartenura succinctly describes the origins of this practice. The parasha of the half-shekel was read to remind all that the annual temple-tax was upon us and to prepare - a practice still preserved as a means of charity till this day.

The parasha of Zachor, remembering the acts of Amaleq, is read immediately before Purim since we always proceed remembrance to action. Where we are biblically required to communally remember the heinous deed of Amaleq and the commandment to blot our his name prior to Purim when we noisily stomp out the name of Haman - the last Amalekite mentioned by name in scripture.

The parasha describing the red-heifer is intended to remind us of our need to purify before the month of our redemption. And finally, the parasha regarding the new month is filled with the laws of Pesah.

Accordingly, one might understand these readings as a communal-psychological process of preparation. One that reminds us that while the words of the Hagada are true, "In every generation someone stands up to destroy us; but the Holy One, blessed be He, saves us from their hand." And while we see that in this period of time between Purim and Pesah - we also must remember the need for our own individual preparation of purity and acts of communal support and charity. Accordingly, we can be those who are worthy of the salvation we are promised!

Shabbat Shalom

Shabbat Vayikra Observance Times

Friday Night Services - Minha	7:30 PM*
Shabbat Candle Lighting	7:32 PM*
Shabbat Morning Services - Shaharit	9:00 AM**
Tzurba M'rabanan Class	1:15 PM
Shabbat Minha * followed by Seudah Shelishit	7:30 PM*
Arvit & Havdallah	8:32 PM*
Shabbat End	8:32 PM*

*Please note observance times change.

**Please arrive on time to help make a minyan, so Torah reading can begin on time. *Please silence your cellphone during Shabbat & holiday observances. Thank You*

Contact Information

<u>Rabbi:</u> Rabbi David Gingold-Altchek: Rabbi@etzchaimindy.org	
<u>President:</u> Alan Cohen: President@etzchaimindy.org	317-513-3056
<u>Immediate Past President:</u> Gadi Boukai: BGadi@att.net	317-727-6113
<u>Treasurer:</u> Mark Sigman: Treasurer@etzchaimindy.org	317-691-7553
<u>Deborah Sisterhood Pres.:</u> Maya Shmoel: Sisterhood@etzchaimindy.org	
<u>Donations:</u> Batya Auerbach: Batya@etzchaimindy.org	317-251-6220
<u>Oneg Sponsorship:</u> Rakhel Farahan	317-413-0373
<u>Life & Legacy:</u> Alan Cohen, President@etzchaimindy.org	317-513-3056
<u>Office:</u> Information@etzchaimindy.org	317-251-6220

Please Note: We have recently centralized the processing of donations for Prayer Books, Chumashim, donations to Etz Chaim and Sisterhood. Please indicate how your check should be applied. Mail all donations to Etz Chaim, Attn: Donations, P.O. Box 80004, Indianapolis, IN 46280. Thank you

BS"D

Etz Chaim Sephardic
Congregation
invites you to a: Sephardic
Purim

Come hear the Megilla and enjoy a festive Purim experience!

Thursday - March 21,
2019

Megilla @ 1:00 pm
Followed by Purim Fun
@ Etz Chaim

Purim fun for all Ages!

Refreshments, Orejas de Haman, Crafts, Music,
Dancing, Megilla Reading, Entertainment
Costume Contest and much, much more!

For more information, Call: (561) 413-4080 or rabbi@etzchaimindy.org

Anyos

Celia Greenbaum
Samuel D. Nahmias
Al Morris
Avraham Shabatai Toledo

Purim Schedule

Wednesday, March 20

Ta'anit Esther - Fast 6:28 AM - 8:28 PM

Purim

Arvit 8:30 PM

followed by

Reading of Megila Esther

Thursday, March 21

Reading of Megila Esther 8:00 AM
(after 7:00 AM Shaharit)

1:00 PM

Reading of Megila Esther,

followed by

Sephardic Purim Carnival

Weekly Services & Classes

Services and classes are open to the community & free of charge.

Sunday @ Chabad on 96th

Shaharit @ 9:00 AM

Monday - Friday @ Etz Chaim

Shaharit @ 7:00 AM

Wednesday

No Class 3/20 due to Purim!

Shabbat 1:15-2:15 PM

Torah Today - Cancelled for 3/16

Upcoming

Wednesday, March 20 - Thursday, March 21

Purim

Please see flyer(s) for more information on event(s).
Upcoming Events Calendar Year 5779/ 2018-2019 is available.

Question about your Statement?

If you have any questions regarding your statement, please do not hesitate to reach out to our president,

Alan Cohen / alanmtg@aol.com / 317-513-3056.

*Anything you discuss will be treated as confidential.

Thank you

to every one of our Volunteers who helped prepare for the Sephardic Scholar Shabbat last weekend!

This Week's Oneg
Sponsored by

Deborah Sisterhood

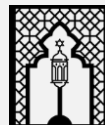
Oneg sponsorship opportunities are available!
Contact Rakhel Farahan
Volunteer in the Kitchen!

Join Sisterhood in the preparation of our Shabbat *onegs*. Both women and men are welcome to help in the kitchen.

Friday Mornings @ 10:00AM-1:00PM



Etz Chaim is a proud participant and recipient of the **LIFE & LEGACY** program. Contact Alan Cohen (317) 513-3056 for more information.



Etz Chaim is a proud member of
The Sephardic Jewish Brotherhood of America
La Ermandad Sefaradi
To receive their weekly newsletter,
La Boz Sefaradi The Sephardic Voice
Subscribe at www.sephardicbrotherhood.com

Bikkur Cholim: Please contact us 317-251-6220, if you know of someone who is ill or needs support of our community or Rabbi.