



Kiddush this Shabbos is sponsored by Janis and Richie Fine and Bob and Sue Bernstein in honor of the Aufruf of their son, Noach Aryeh Bernstein. Noach and his kallah, Batsheva Lam are getting married on Sunday, March 5th.

Seudah Shlishit this week is being sponsored by Janis and Richie Fine in honor of Noach's upcoming wedding.

Chevra Mishnavos

The Chevra Mishnavos siyum on Seder Moed will be this Shabbos, **Parshas Mishpatim, February 25** at the kiddush. The siyum is being sponsored by Gary and Andrea Diamond.

Mazel Tov to...

...Mrs. **Sharyn Chase** on receiving the Rabbi Israel M. Axelrod Excellence in Education Award at the upcoming Torah Academy Annual Banquet.

...**Rabbi & Rebbetzin Steinberg** on the birth of a baby boy this past Monday night. The Shalom Zachor will be Friday night at **9:00 PM** at the Steinberg home (**302 Pembroke Road**).

...**Janis and Richie Fine** on the Aufruf of **Noach Bernstein** this Shabbos, and on his upcoming marriage to **Batsheva Lam**. We welcome all of the friends and family of Noach and Batsheva joining us for this joyous Shabbos.

Women's Weekly Halacha Shiur

Please note – The Women's Weekly Halacha Shiur with R. Steinberg will resume on Wed., March 8th at 8:15 PM. Topic: **Halachos of Purim**.

Nichum Aveilim

We regret to announce the passing of Mr. Bernie Rosen z"l, father of our member Dennis Rosen. The funeral took place on Friday. Shiva will continue at the Rosen home (8 Concord Circle) until Thursday morning, March 2. May the family be comforted among the aveilei Zion v'Yerushalayim.

Minyan Times:

Mincha-Maariv: Sun.-Wed. – 5:35 PM
Shacharis: Mon., Thurs. – 6:40 AM
 Tues., Wed. (Rosh Chodesh) – 6:30 AM

Young Israel of the Main Line



Weekly Update

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 Stan Sved, President



Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004
www.yiml.org
 Rabbi Avraham Steinberg

February 24- March 3, 2006

Parshas Mishpatim

פרשת משפטים

Shabbos Davening Times

Candle lighting: 5:28 p.m.
Mincha - Friday: 5:30 p.m.
Sof Zman Krias Shema: 9:27 a.m.
Shacharis: 8:45 a.m.
Mincha- Shabbos followed by Shalosh Seudos: 5:15 p.m.
Maariv: 6:33 p.m.

Weekday Davening Times

Shacharis –Sunday: 8:00 a.m.
Mincha- Sunday: 5:35 p.m.
Shacharis- Mon, Thurs: 6:40 a.m.
Shacharis- Tues, Wed (Rosh Chodesh Adar): 6:30 a.m.
Shacharis- Friday: 6:50 a.m.
Maariv (Mon-Thurs): 7:45 p.m.

There will be no weekday Mincha in shul until the spring.

Schedule Change for This Shabbos

Please note that there will be a special **Shalosh Seudos** this Shabbos hosted by Janis and Richie Fine in honor of Noach's Aufruf. **The Sefer HaMitzvos Shiur will not meet** as originally scheduled, but will be postponed until a later date.

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Shiurim*



| DAY | TIME | TOPIC | SPEAKER | NOTES |
|--|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Shabbos | 8:15 a.m. | Parshas Hashavua | Rabbi Steinberg | |
| Shabbos | Between Mincha & Maariv | Gemara Sukka | Rabbi Steinberg | CANCELLED |
| Sunday Morning | After Davening | Sefer Hachinuch | Dov Gottlieb | |
| Sunday | 9:15 p.m. | Conceptual Shiur in Gemara | R' Judah Goldberg | At the home of Michael Gordan (113 Summit Lane) |
| Mon., Wed. | After Maariv | Mishna Berura Hilchos Shabbos | Eli Back | |
| 15 minutes before Shacharis on Sun.-Fri. | | Shaarei Teshuva | Rabbi Steinberg | |
| Monday | 9:30 a.m. | Women's Tehillim Group | | At the Eisenberg home |
| Wednesday | 8:15 p.m. | Practical Halacha Shiur for Women | Rabbi Steinberg | CANCELLED |
| Thursday night | 10:15 p.m. | Nefesh Hachaim | Rav Sholom Kamenetsky | |

*All shiurim are at YIML unless specified.

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| <p><u>Pirchei of Philadelphia</u> Pirchei of Philadelphia will not meet this Shabbos.</p> | <p><u>B'nos of Bala Cynwyd</u> B'nos of Bala Cynwyd will meet this Shabbos at Lower Merion Synagogue from 3-4 p.m. *DON'T FORGET* - B'nos sponsored family concert with Rebbi Alter on this Sunday, Feb. 26 at 1:00 p.m. at Torah Academy.</p> |
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| <p><u>Chelkeinu</u></p> |
| <p>CHELKEINU's "Conceptual Look at the Jewish Calendar" shiur with Rabbi Judah Goldberg is being replaced by a Weekly Conceptual Shiur in Gemara, Sundays at 9:15 PM, at the home of Michael Gordan (113 Summit Lane). The shiur will study the fourth perek of Megillah. All are invited.</p> |

Swimming Against the Current

By Rabbi Moshe Peretz Gilden

Following the revelation at Sinai of last week's parsha, the Torah now starts a presentation of civil and tort law. True to the maxim that the Torah's holiness is as manifest in the scrupulous adherence to its business laws as it is in pious observance of its rituals, the Torah opens with the laws of financial obligations, property damage and the integrity of the judicial process.

From the discussion of civil court procedure our sages exegetically derive the rule probably most central to Jewish, and now western, legal systems: "yielding to the majority" (Shemos/Exodus 23:2), the concept that the legal truth is determined by a majority of voices, even if not unanimous. Some note the peculiarity of the Jewish people, as members of societies throughout the world, who never quite seem to blend in. We maintain unique facets of dress, different laws and customs, our own language. Why do we not follow our own dictum and concede to the majority; why do we not just "go with the flow"?

The famed Ba'al Shem of Michelstadt (Rabbi Yitzchak Wormser; 1768-1847; descended from a line of men who were great alike in worldly affairs, talmudic scholarship and kabbalism, and combined all these qualities in himself; rose to become the uncrowned leader of the people of Michelstadt (Hesse), both Jews and Gentiles) was renowned for his genius even as a youth. The boy's fame spread quickly and the local Duke became aware of the child prodigy. Inviting the lad to his sprawling home, with its maze of hallways and countless rooms, the Duke excused his staff and cleared out the palace to leave the guest to his own means to find the intended meeting room. As the bewildered nine year old came to realize there was no one about to assist him in finding the Duke's reception room, he deduced that the sole room to have the curtain drawn over the window must be the intended room, and was, indeed, the room in which he found the Duke waiting for him. The Duke, intrigued, asked him what he would have done if the servants had been there to assist. "I would have followed the recommendation of the majority of them." The Duke, focusing his stare on the boy, challenged, "Is it not true that you have a legal tradition to follow the majority? You know that you Jews are a very small minority. Why do you continue your unique practices?"

The boy, stunned by the power and implication of such an overwhelming question, recovered quickly and with great conviction offered a brilliant response. "My Lord, I now know without a doubt that this is the room in which you receive your guests. If now the ENTIRE staff of the castle would point me in a different direction I would not follow. The rule of following the majority is relevant only when one is unsure of the truth, when there is an unresolved doubt. Where there is no doubt, because the truth has previously been indisputably determined, the greatest multitudes of people cannot, with their opinions, change the truth. Sir, the convictions of my forefathers are the indisputable truth; thus, I do not need, nor would it be appropriate, to follow the opinions and beliefs of the masses."

Our sages have compared the Children of Israel to a school of fish, whose healthy members naturally swim against the current. It is not that we search out a current to swim against; rather, the nature of the world is that it perpetually presents goals and ideals in conflict with the Torah. The deception of the masses is irrelevant in light of a clear truth. We must maintain the strength to swim against the current.

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