



Young Israel of Sunny Isles Beach

Rabbi Meir M. Haber



George Kohn, President

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Iyar 11 - 18, 5785 | May 9 - 16, 2025

Shabbat Acharei-Kedoshim

Shabbat Schedule

Friday, May 9		Weekly Davening Schedule	
Candle Lighting	7:38 PM	Shacharit	8:00 AM
Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat	7:00 PM	Shiur	6:45 PM
Saturday, May 10		Mincha/Maariv	7:00 PM
Shacharit	8:45 AM	Monday, May 12 - Pesach Sheni	
Mincha	7:45 PM	Friday, May 16 - Lag BaOmer	
Shiur			
Maariv/Shabbat Ends (Kiddush Levana)	8:34 PM	Candle lighting next Shabbat	7:42 PM

This week's kiddush is being sponsored by

- **Judith & Solomon Sabo** in memory of Solomon's beloved mother Celia bat Shlomo.

Mazal Tov

- **Neta & Chaim Gidali** on the birth of a grandson in Israel, a son to Adi & Ben Greenberg.
- **Rabbi and Rebbetzin Korf** on the birth of a granddaughter, Amelia, daughter of Sarina and Boruch Korf.

Parasha tidbits from the Rabbi

“וּכְפַר בְּעַדוֹ וּבְעַד בֵּיתוֹ וּבְעַד כָּל-קְהַל יִשְׂרָאֵל” (Vayikra 16:17) “...and has made atonement for himself, and for his household, and for all the assembly of Israel” The Torah teaches the “business leaders” — the elite leaders of the people, both present and future — that before attempting to correct the broader community, they must first correct themselves, their immediate families, and their entire household. Only then can they hope to succeed in positively influencing the entire Assembly of Israel. By following the laws of the Torah, each and every one of us can ensure that we, along with our families, join together with *Klal Yisrael* in walking a righteous path.

Shabbat Shalom/שבת שלום ומבורך

Parasha thought from Rabbi Arthur Kirsch

In this week's double parsha, we read about the Yom Kippur service performed by the Kohen Gadol. As part of the ritual, he selects two identical goats: one is brought as a korban, and the other—the *se'ir la'azazel*—is sent off into the wilderness, ultimately pushed off a rocky cliff to its death. This selection is made by *goral*, a lottery, using two lots placed in a box. One interpretation is that it symbolizes two categories of people. The goat brought as a korban represents those who follow the Torah. The *se'ir la'azazel*, cast down the mountain, symbolizes those who stray from the path and fall into sin. Both goats were identical in appearance, just as people often are indistinguishable externally. What differentiates them is the choices they make—whether to live a life of kedushah (holiness) or to turn away. The *meforshim* offer an explanation for the tragic deaths of Nadav and Avihu, the sons of Aharon. One opinion suggests that their sin was remaining unmarried. Why? Because they were too particular—too selective—in finding a spouse. This attitude, unfortunately, still exists today among both young men and women. “The other side doesn't check every box on my list,” they say. This mindset, while understandable, can become a spiritual barrier. Excessive pickiness rooted in ego or perfectionism can prevent people from building a bayit ne'eman b'Yisrael. The parsha also challenges us to ask: *What does it mean to be holy?* We are commanded, “**Kedoshim tihiyu**”—“You shall be holy.” But what does holiness truly entail? We learn that Rabbi Yehuda HaNasi was called **Rabbeinu HaKadosh**. Before his passing, he lifted his hands and said, “I did not derive benefit from this world even to the extent of my small finger.” His level of holiness involved extreme restraint from physical indulgence, channeling all of his energy toward spiritual pursuits. Shabbos is called **Shabbos HaKodesh**, and the Torah is called **Torat HaKodesh**—both emphasizing the sacredness of time and wisdom when dedicated to Hashem. I once heard a remark from Rav Yisroel Belsky zt”l at a dinner. He said: “A person walks into his home, kisses the mezuzah... and then sits down to watch television for three hours. If it were up to me,” he continued, “he should kiss the television and stand by the mezuzah for three hours!” Holiness is not defined by symbolic gestures alone, but by how we live our lives consistently—by what we do behind closed doors, and where our priorities truly lie. May we strive to choose the path of the *korban*, to live with intention, to seek holiness in our relationships, and to align our actions with our values.

Have a great Shabbos Kodesh!

Shul Notes

- Thank you to the volunteers who organized the Shabbat kiddush.
- **Shabbat Group for Children:** We are happy to announce that we are now offering a morning Shabbat group for our children. The group will start at 9:30 AM and will conclude after davening. It will be fully supervised, and we hope you will bring your children for a fun and learning experience. Please bring the children to the Social Hall.
- **New Payment Option Available!** We are excited to inform you that our shul now accepts payments via Zelle! This convenient option allows you to make contributions, pay dues, and support our shul with ease. To make a payment, simply use the following email address: youngisraelofsib@bellsouth.net.
- **Reflective Belts Available for Pick-Up:** For your safety, reflective belts are now available for pick-up at the Shul's office. We encourage all members to take one and use it during early morning or evening walks to increase visibility and ensure your safety. Please stop by the office during regular hours to collect your belt. Stay safe and stay visible!
- **To Sponsor a Kiddush:** Anyone wishing to sponsor a Kiddush should notify the office (the earlier, the better). Do you have a family simcha or any special occasion you'd like to include in the bulletin? Please notify the office by Thursday.
- For any questions regarding kashrut, the eruv and other halachic issues contact Rabbi Haber.

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