

CONDOLENCES *May G-d comfort you among the other mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.*

Gertie Denenberg on the loss of her sister

Myra Polins, Leonard Polins & Marilyn Aldridge on the loss of a husband, brother and father, **Stanley Polins**

Yahrzeits *Rabbi Bar and the whole community wish the following members, Long Life.*

(Yahrzeits begin the night before the date below)

Shabbat – 26 December / 14 Tevet Mr & Mrs Arnold Baum, Mrs Gillian De Metz, Mrs Roma Linton, Mr Jack Goldstein, Mrs Alice Lapp, Mr Brian Lester, Mrs Ruth Dix, Mrs Adrienne Cordery, Mr Philip Muslin, Mrs Sandra Winston

Sunday – 27 December / 15 Tevet Mrs Louisa Levy, Mrs Barbara Black

Monday – 28 December / 16 Tevet Mr Chesney Lewis, Mr Spencer Dobkins, Mr Lee Dobkins, Mrs Anita Salomon, Mr Michael Joseph, Mr Jack Saunders, Mrs Margaret Shine, Mr Martin Solomons

Tuesday – 29 December / 17 Tevet Mrs Clare Greenbaum, Mr Maurice Kaufman, Mrs Lily Bloch, Mr Victor Stender

Wednesday – 30 December / 18 Tevet Mr David Black, Mr Gary Black, Mr Andrew Levene, Mrs Sheila Blaine

Thursday – 31 December / 19 Tevet Ms Jacqueline Coleman, Mrs Janice Linden, Mr Stephen Rosenthal, Mrs Hettie Basco, Mr Sasson Zecharia

Friday – 1 January / 20 Tevet Mrs Wendy Vandecar, Mr Jeffrey Barcan, Mr Arnold Baum, Mr Leslie Lesser

Saying Kaddish in Shul? *Please ensure you bring at least two relatives or friends to help with the Minyan.*

VISITING THE SICK If you know anyone who would like a hospital or home visit from Rabbi Bar or a member of the *Community Care Committee*, please email swhcf@gmail.com or leonardshulton@live.com, call Janice 07752874065 or Shul Office 01702 344900.

REGULAR EVENTS AT SWHC

SEED Monday 4 th Jan 8:45pm in Beit Hamidrash	J.A.C.S. Wednesdays Call Allan Goldstein 01268 771978 for more info	Bereavement Support Group Call Janice on 07752 874065
Cemetery Opening Times Winter: Sunday - Friday 10am - 3pm GMT Summer: Sunday - Friday 10am - 4pm BST	connect@southend Thursdays, Talmud Torah Contact Chris Sternshine 01702 334655 csternshine@jcare.org	Monday Club - Shul Hall Closed til 11 th Jan Call Maurice on 01702 351845
Little Latkes—Closed til 12th Jan Baby & Toddler Group Tuesdays 10:30 – 12:00 Call Karen on 07887 847059	Pop-In – Talmud Torah Tuesday 12 th Jan 2pm - 4pm Email Janice swhcf@gmail.com	Cheder & SJYC Closed til 5 th Jan southendyouth@outlook.com or call Barry 07876 685826



Newsletter No. 911

26 December 2015 | 14 Tevet 5776

SHABBAT COMMENCES 3:34pm

Rabbi Binyamin Bar

Rabbi

Stanley Robinson

Geoffrey Pepper

Gabbaim

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SHABBAT VAYECHI TIMES

FRIDAY NIGHT

Mincha / Carlebach-Style Kabbalat

Shabbat **3:35pm**

SHABBAT MORNING

Shacharit **9:15am**

Children's Service **11:00am**

Kiddush after the Service

Mincha **Immediately following Morning Kiddush**

Shabbat ends **4:53pm**

Ma'ariv **5:15pm**

WEEKDAY SERVICE TIMES

SUNDAY/MONDAY

Shacharit **9.00am**

Ma'ariv **6:00pm**

TUESDAY-THURSDAY

Shacharit **8:30am**

Ma'ariv **6:00pm**

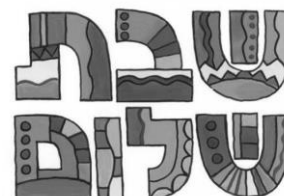
NEXT FRIDAY

Shacharit **9:00am**

Shabbat Commences **3:34pm**

Mincha / Carlebach-Style Kabbalat

Shabbat **3:40pm**



The Shul Office will be CLOSED on Friday 25th, Sunday 27th, Monday 28th December and Friday 1st January.

Torah Reading
Haftorah Vayechi

Rabbi Bar
Stanley Robinson

Soncino page 296
Soncino page 315

If you would like to repeat your Barmitzvah Haftorah, please contact the Gabbaim.

MAZEL TOV *A hearty Mazel Tov from the SWHC Community!*

Tina & Cedric Jacobs on the Barmitzvah of their grandson, Yisroel.
Josie Frank on the occasion of her 85th Birthday.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHILDREN *Thoughts on the Parasha.*

Just like Golde & Tevye blessed their “five daughters” in “*Fiddler on the Roof*”, each week we ask G-d to help our children to become like the sons of Yosef: Ephraim and Menashe. The custom of invoking these two great ancestors of our People actually comes from this week’s Parsha. Yosef’s Father, the Patriarch Yaacov, summons his Children to give them a final blessing from his deathbed. But first, Yaacov requests the presence of two of his grandchildren – Ephraim and Menashe – to receive blessings. Why would Jacob prioritize his grandchildren over his Children? And in our time, why wouldn’t we bless our children to be like the Patriarchs, Avraham, Yitzchak and Yaakov (which would parallel the blessing on behalf of Jewish daughters: that they should be like the matriarchs Sarah, Rivka, Rachel, and Leah)?

Perhaps first and foremost, we invoke the names of Ephraim and Menashe because we’re told they had brotherly love. In addition, they had nearly every temptation imaginable to contend with: they grew up in the morally depraved society of ancient Egypt; their Father Joseph was Egypt’s Viceroy, making them part of the Royal Family in a decadent culture (having to deal with fame, wealth, etc.); one of them became directly involved in Egypt’s government affairs, assisting Joseph in his leadership roles. And yet, in the face of those challenges to assimilate and forfeit their integrity, Ephraim and Menashe were steadfast in their consistent loyalty to the G-d of Israel. So too, in all of our Exiles throughout history we pray that our children will emulate Ephraim and Menashe, and will not be lured away from their People by the seductive appeal of assimilation.

As to why did Ya’acov prioritize his grandchildren over his children, I saw a wonderful explanation from Rabbi Shraga Simmons who writes: “Most creatures in the world have parent-child relationships – whether it is a mother lion protecting her cubs or a mother bird feeding her young. But only the human being has a concept of grandchildren, of perpetuation beyond a single generation. This is an effect of our spiritual soul, which is rooted in infinity. Being a grandparent therefore connects us deeply to our uniqueness as human beings... Far more than children, it is grandchildren who reveal the foundation and future direction of a family line. Hence the popular saying: ‘The issue is not whether you have Jewish children, it’s whether you have Jewish grandchildren.’

May we all be blessed to have Jewish grandchildren who will live their lives according to the path that was paved by Ephraim and Menashe!

Have a wonderful Shabbat!

Rabbi Binyamin Bar

WHAT’S ON AT SWHC

Dirshu Bahalacha - Code of Jewish Law 15 minute interactive *Halacha Shiur* with Rabbi Bar. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday following the morning service.

Jewish Women’s Circle | Tuesday 5th January 7:45pm for 8:00pm

Rebbetzin Sufrin, in conjunction with Chabad, will be enlightening us with her invaluable knowledge at the home of Florette Lieberman. Those needing a lift should contact Rochelle Samuel Rockyboobah@gmail.com and she will do her best to arrange.

AID Society Bridge | Thorpe Bay Bridge Club

10th January. Call Geoff Cohen 339601 or Jan Linden 343289

Jewish Men & Women’s Circle | Monday 11th January 7:45pm for 8:00pm

Rabbi Bar will hold a ‘question & answer’ learning event on contemporary subjects. Men and Women welcome. Venue to be confirmed.

Jewish Learning in Southend (JLS) | Monday 25th January, 6:45pm

Limmud-style event. Shul Hall

• 7:00pm - 8:00pm | “Celebrate Tu B’shevat with a Coconut” light dinner.

• 8:00pm - 8:50pm | Choice of Talks

1) Gustav Mahler: An Introduction to his Life and Music

2) Islam, Koran and The Jews: Commonalities and Conflict.

• 9:00pm - 9:50pm | “Tu B’shevat Today: The Message of the Trees and The Challenge of Instilling Ideology in the IDF Today”.

£12.50 per person, £22.50 per couple for the whole evening. Call the Shul Office to book your place on, or before, 20th January. For more info please call Rabbi Bar 01702 393535.

Holocaust Memorial Day | Wednesday 27th – Thursday 28th January

Tree planting at 12noon on 27th January at junction of Rayleigh Road and Whitehouse Road, Leigh-on-Sea, SS9 5XE and a Service of Commemoration at 5:30pm at the Civic Centre, Southend. On 28th January at 6:30pm the film “Night will Fall” will be shown at The Forum Theatre. A series of exhibitions will be displayed at the Civic Centre and in The Forum. All events are free to attend.

Ashley Blaker: Unfiltered | Thursday 18th February, 7:30pm

The Jewish Chronicle presents a stand-up show from the only Charedi Jew in British comedy! Tickets £15. Information on how to purchase tickets will follow shortly.

Jewish Museum London | Exhibition “Blood” – til 28th February 2016

Email admin@jewishmuseum.org.uk for more information.

THE SHOP

Normal Opening Hours - Sunday, 9.30am-11.30am Thursday, 10.00am – 4:30pm

Friday, 9.00am-12:30pm Monday, 12noon – 3pm (Cash only)

CLOSED Friday 25th – Wednesday 30th December inclusive

Thursday 31st December

10:00am – 2:00pm

Email alanmarkovitch@yahoo.co.uk or leave a message on 07956 597271.