



Congregation Etz Chaim

Rabbi Yonatan Gorin

74 Billings Street, Sharon, Massachusetts 02067
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Synagogue
Member



President: Joshua Maier
Treasurer: Susan Cable
Secretary: Leonard Gerber, Ph.D.

Director: Michael Ferber
Director: Janis B. Monat
Director: Tzila Pass

**Parshas Tetzaveh
Shushan Purim**
Adar 15, 5781
February 27, 2021

Friday Night

Candle Lighting 5:13PM

Shabbos Day

Latest Shema 9:10AM
Latest Shacharis 10:05AM
Sunset 5:32PM
Shabbos Ends 6:15PM

Erev Shabbos March 5th

Candle Lighting 5:21PM

Davening Times

~ 2/27 - 2/28 ~

****Before attending, please review
our COVID-19 policy in its
entirety and pre-register. The
signup can be found on the shul
website.****

Shabbos

Shacharis 8:30AM
Mincha 5:05PM
Maariv 6:15PM

Sunday

Shacharis 8:00AM
Mincha/Maariv 5:15PM

Torah Learning

Women's Shmiras HaLashon

Daily 9:05AM

<https://zoom.us/j/8709646716>

Password: bjn6R3

Rabbi Hartman's Class

(Topic: Ecology)

Sunday 9:30AM

Zoom ID: 903 917 1656

Password: 170smain

Rabbi Gorin's Class

Tuesday 8:00PM

Zoom ID: 508 201 1855

Password: 665202

~ Announcements ~

DRASHA SPONSORSHIP

This week's drasha is sponsored by the **Chernins**, "in memory of Tanta Frieda. She was a Holocaust survivor and close friend of my family. I have wonderful memories of her generosity. She would often be with us for Shabbos dinner and yom tov meals" -Naomi Chernin.

COMMUNITY MINCHA/MAARIV

Mincha/Maariv Monday through Thursday is at Young Israel of Sharon at 5:13 p. m. Everyone who attends MUST register ahead of time at <https://www.yisharon.org/form/minyanim>.

SHMIRAS HALASHON STUDY GROUP

A Shmiras HaLashon 15-minute daily study group invites interested women to join Sunday – Friday mornings from 9:05 a.m. to 9:20 a.m. You can learn every day or whenever your schedule allows. It is led by Susan Cable. By learning two Shmiras HaLashon laws a day you can become more aware of your speech and its impact on others.

<https://zoom.us/j/8709646716>

Password: bjn6R3

RABBI HARTMAN'S CLASS

Rabbi Hartman's class will meet this Sunday at 9:30. Topic: Ecology.

Please use the following link to sign in:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/9039171656?pwd=ZW5vbHhVWXVSMGJZRGZJYmNwL3JpQT09>

PLANNING MEETING

Planning meeting is this Monday, March 1 at 5:00 p.m. Those interested please contact Susan Cable.

RABBI GORIN'S CLASS

Rabbi Gorin's class will be Tuesday, March 2 at 8:00PM over Zoom - Meeting ID: 508 201 1855 | Passcode: 665202. Topic: Laws of Berachos: *Pas Ha'Ba'a B'Kisnin* – Mezonos Rolls, Pizza, Matzah...

BOARD MEETING

The next board meeting is Sunday, March 21 at 7:30 p.m.

DRASHA SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Our Etz Chaim community has the Rabbi's weekly Shabbat Drasha video for sponsorships. The Rabbi will open his broadcast with the messages of sponsorship. We would like to ask for a donation of \$18 to Etz Chaim per message. If you would like to sponsor this in honor of a yahrtzeit of a loved one, a simcha in the family or just to offer your gratitude, please email Janis Monat with your message at jbmonat@aol.com and send a donation to the shul via PayPal through the shul's website or mail your donation to the shul, 74 Billings Street, Att: the Treasurer.

REFUAH SHELAIMA

Please daven for Tzila Pass' brother, Avram Yeshayahu ben Rachel; Eli Picards's mother, Faiga Zlata bas Esther Leah; Leisha Martin, Rus bas Sarah; Leisha Martin's son, Yisrael Yitzchak ben Rus, and for all those who need our prayers for a complete and speedy recovery.

PARASHA NOTE – Tetzaveh and Purim by Janis Monat

The middah of **Anavah, humility**, is entwined with Tetzaveh and Purim.

The common phrase, "Clothes make the person", can be applied to the Kohen Hagadol, the High Priest. He dons 8 pieces of specially commanded and described clothing before entering the Kodesh Hakodeshim, the Holy of Holies, the room with the ark containing the Ten Commandments in the Holy Temple.

One in particular the High Priest wears is the breast plate, the "choshen". It has four rows of three precious stones, each one representing the 12 tribes of Israel. The instructions for the precise placement

of the gems represent the making of a certain place for every tribe and to ensure that no one's space dominates the other. This is a lesson in **anavah** –humility.

What a contrast to today's celebrity culture with its flash of outrageous clothing to make a loud fashion statement. Some people affirm their identities by how many "likes" or "followers" they receive on social media. "Selfies" make sure that we are always front and center.

Quite the opposite is with Hashem as described in the Kabbalah. G-d acted with **anavah**, **humility** when He contracted some of His light in order to make space and room for the world to exist.

The High Priest, himself, could have challenges with **Anavah**, humility. A person in such a position might have to watch that his ego doesn't get inflated. By wearing the "choshen" over his **chest** the High Priest is reminded of his service and responsibility to Hashem and to the Jewish people. Literally and figuratively the weight of the finest gems, fabrics, and metals press on his shoulders and chest to remind him that he is a servant of Hashem. He carries the burdens and responsibilities of the Jewish people on his shoulders and in his **heart**. Four rows of three stones leave no single center point just as there is no single individual that is the center of Am Yisrael, the Jewish people.

According to the 19th century Netziv, Rabbi Naftali Tzvi Yehudah Berlin, in Ha'amek Davar, the "choshen" lay over the High Priest's **heart** to remind him that it was his duty to pray and offer sacrifices on behalf of the whole community. Our parasha, ch.28:29 states, "Aaron shall bear the names of the sons of Israel on the breastplate on his **heart** when he comes into the sanctuary as a constant reminder before Hashem."

To bring this theme in with Purim, our heroine, Esther, expresses humility, **anavah**, in the way she approaches the King, unrequested. Her life is on the line like the High Priest's is when he enters the Holy of Holies. Queen Esther is carrying the burden of the Jewish people on her shoulders and in her **heart**. Using "the clothing" of discretion, humility, and courage she reveals her true identity and religion to her husband, King Achashverosh. She goes further in ch. 8: 5-6, "If it pleases the king, and if I have won his favor, let a decree be written to countermand those dispatches devised by Haman ordering the destruction of the Jews in the King's provinces. How can I bear witness to the disaster which will befall my people!" She comes through with a plan approved by the king for Jews to be "allowed" to defend themselves.

Though Hashem's name is not explicitly mentioned in Megillat Esther, His interventions engineer the intricate twists and turn of our ancient Persian Jewish history and continue doing so right until today. We Jews have a destiny and G-d is behind the scenes securing it.

A Shabbos of humility, and remnants of "marbim b'simcha", increased joy of "light, and happiness!"