

The President, Robert Hershan, together with the Board, Rabbis and staff of TBI, welcomes you to our community.

SHABBAT EIKEV

Parashah: Deuteronomy 7:12 - 8:6 (page 1379)

Haftarah: Isaiah 49:14-26; 51:1-3 (page 1599)

KABBALAT SHABBAT

MAIN SYNAGOGUE

6.15pm Friday Night Shabbat Service

Board member: Rebecca Silk and Victor Kay

Shammashim: Ron Aarons and Sandra Farber

Darshan: Rabbi Gersh Lazarow

Shira: Cantor Michel Laloum, Max Jared Einsohn,
Sharon Mattatia and Patrick Prunster

SHACHARIT SHABBAT

FRIEDLANDER SYNAGOGUE & CULTURAL CENTRE

10am Geshet Service

MAIN SYNAGOGUE

10am Saturday Morning Shabbat Service

Board members: Robert Hershan, Rob Sward, Rebecca Silk,
Alain Grossbard, Joanne Loewy Irons and
Sue Silberberg

Shammashim: Denise Joyner, Dot Nathan and
Jadwiga Holcdorf

Darshanit: Rabbi Kim Ettlinger

Bat Mitzvah: Ella Jakobovits

Shira: Cantor Michel Laloum accompanied by
Joe Stupel

Torah readers: Jade Karp, Alon Trigger, Simon Jakobovits
and Ella Jakobovits

Kiddush: Kindly sponsored by the Jakobovits family

MINCHAH SHABBAT R'EIH

MAIN SYNAGOGUE

2.30pm Afternoon Service

Parashah: Deuteronomy 11:26 - 12:7 (page 1417)

Board member: Rebecca Silk

Shammash: Dot Nathan

Darshan: Rabbi Gersh Lazarow

Shira: Max Jared Einsohn

Bat mitzvah: Sienna Mason

Torah readers: Devorah Komesaroff and Sienna Mason

GARDENING WORKING BEE

In advance of the approaching High Holy Days, we will hold our traditional gardening working bee on Sunday 10 September, 9.30am-12noon.

Gardening tools will be available, but feel free to bring your own pair of favourite gloves or some gardening tools such as brooms, rakes or clippers.

Morning tea will be provided.

RSVP to Rob Sward or Jenny Schulman in the TBI office.

**We kindly ask that phones and cameras
not be used during services***

DRASH FOR SHABBAT EIKEV BY RABBI KIM ETLINGER, TBI

You shall be blessed above all other peoples: there shall be no sterile male or female among you or among your livestock.

The thing I love about Torah, are that there are many difficult verses to challenge. And, lately, I've been thinking a lot about Deut. 7:14 which is found in this week's parashah. In context, the verse occurs as part of Moses's continued speech to the Israelites on behalf of God. If Israel does everything God wants, then all will be good for the Israelites. We read this type of theology many times in the Torah. Certainly, as a contemporary Jew, I, like many others struggle with this literalism and we look for the meaning behind, or ask the question, what can we learn from this challenging text?

Imagine living in Biblical times and a couple who struggles with infertility, reads this verse. Over the centuries people would assume that they had not followed God's commands appropriately and were receiving Divine punishment. The verse is specific, fertility is a blessing. And, it is a reward for obeying God's rules. Further, it is part of the covenant as well as an oath God made with our ancestors. There is a lot of theological and practical pressure.

Some who read this text only on a basic level, would believe that it's because of their lack of attention to the detail of following God's mitzvot that things do not go well. However, we recognise that this type of theology does not sit well with us moderns.

This is the only reference to male infertility in the Tanakh. This stands in stark contrast to the usual focus on female infertility. For example, we know that our matriarchs - Sarah, Rachel and Hannah - struggled. All these women are 'barren.' The Women's Torah

Commentary, points out that Ruth's first husband may have been infertile, as they were married ten years without children, before he died and when she married Boaz, they have a child.

Fertility technology today is indeed incredible, and perhaps even 'godly'. Many couples who may have felt and experienced the 'curse' of infertility are enjoying the birth of children. Couples who never dreamed of children, through fertility treatments are too, raising beautiful and healthy children. God gave us the ability to create technology, to create ideas. To me, God's work, even if through an indirect path has the potential for not so small miracles.

Today, many people who wish to have children have the potential. Fertility treatment along with the various types of IVF technology allows for different types of families. The technology doesn't discriminate between individuals or same sex couples wanting to enrich their lives with children, only, society, conservative ideas wrapped in religion does. I recognise, that even with technology, children may not be an option for some. The journey towards desired parenthood can be extremely painful and heart wrenching.

One of the main points of this verse is often overlooked and certainly under-estimated. It brings male infertility to the forefront. Fertility does not solely rest on the woman. It is a shared difficulty. We are only human, and our bodies at times can only do so much. Infertility is not a personal failure, nor a Godly one.

May God comfort all who have and those who struggle with fertility. May they be comforted among all our ancestors who too have struggled with this age old phenomena.

* TBI services are now streamed live and archived on our website tbi.org.au for the benefit of the community. If you are positioned near the front of the synagogue or near the bimah your image will be recorded. Attendance and participation in our services will be deemed as consent for your image, or the image of minors in your care, to be used for the purposes of filming and promotion. We thank you for your support.

TBI PYJAMA HAVDALLAH PARTY**SATURDAY 12 AUG 5PM FOR KIDS AGED 2-7**

A fun evening of stories, craft and a musical Havdallah whilst comfy in your PJs sponsored by PJ Library

TBI FILM CLUB**SUNDAY 13 AUGUST 6.30PM ENTRY FOR 7PM START**Free entry. This month we will be showing 'Still Life' starring Eddie Marsan. To join the TBI Film Club and receive alerts for upcoming films, contact vklooger@netspace.net.au**EMMY MONASH KABBALAT SHABBAT (OFFSITE)****FRIDAY 18 AUG 3.45PM GATHER 4.15PM SERVICE**

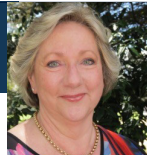
For residents, their families and friends. Led by TBI Rabbis.

TOT SHABBAT**SATURDAY 19 AUGUST 9.30AM**

For babies to five-year-olds and their families. A relaxed, interactive and fun celebration with songs, stories and crafts.

**Noam Banai****Around the Bonfire Tour**

Sunday 20 August - 7.30pm at TBI

www.trybooking.com/RAIR**LUNCH 'N' LEARN****Saturday 26 August 12.30pm****KATHY KAPLAN OAM****'Mah Tov... Really?'**Please RSVP: info@tbi.org.au

Sponsored by pjcf

CALENDAR

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Sunday 13 August5.15pm Kol Simchah choir rehearsal
6.30pm TBI Film Club**Monday 14 August**

7.30pm Melton School - Maintaining Balance

Tuesday 15 August10am TBI Archive Group
4pm TBI Tamid
7.30pm Introduction to Judaism
7.30pm Parashat Hashavua**Wednesday 16 August**1:30pm Older Congregant Afternoon Tea
7.30pm Melton School - Beyond Borders
8pm TBI Choir rehearsal**Thursday 17 August**10am Melton School - Jewish Denominations
7.30pm 'Aleph Isn't Tough' Hebrew class**Friday 18 August**10am Bubs & Bagels
4.15pm Emmy Monash Kabbalat Shabbat (OFFSITE)
6.15pm Kabbalat Shabbat service**Saturday 19 August**9.30am Tot Shabbat
10am Shabbat Re'ih service
Raphael Light bar mitzvah
5pm #underthestars Havdallah**2017/18 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL**

Reminder: 2017/18 memberships are now overdue. High Holy Day tickets will only be sent to members who have paid their membership. We ask that you kindly attend to this as soon as possible.

The success and long-term continuation of all our programs and activities depends upon your continued support.

REMEMBRANCE

זכור

SHLOSHIM

- Regina Berman Mother of Moira, Arlene, Gary, Ian and Clive z"l
- Suzanna Erdos Mother of Robert Erdos and Eva Elias
- Diane Fredman Mother of James and Jacob
- Esther Friedman Mother of Ruth Leonard and Norma Brand
- Elizabeth Geiger Mother of Mary Dorembus, Lillian Rosental, George and Jenny Geiger
- David Hayat Father of Paul and Shaun
- June Helmer Mother of John Helmer and Michael Stevenson-Helmer, sister to Shirley Spivakovaky, sister-in-law to Lady Anna Cowen
- Harry Lew Husband of Theresa z"l, father of Max

Yahrzeits Observed This Shabbat

- Bella Beraha • Mike Aron Bonus • Alfred Bourne • Anne Brand
- Irvin B. Braverman • Myer Caplan • Morris Barnet Dabscheck
- Kurt Geiger • Jeffrey Goldman • Gerda Grebler • Morris (Moshe) Gross
- Adi Hammerman • Frank Kindler • Olga Lippmann
- Harry Herman Martin • Joseph Melwit • Barbara Nelson
- Johanna Sachs • Sol Sandler • Wolfgang Schilling • Hugo Schwarz
- Szmil Silberscher • Sonia Smith • Elsie Sonenberg
- Boris Abraham Stupel • Chaya Szulkapler • Esther Weiss

MISSION: Temple Beth Israel is a kehilla kedosha (spiritual community) bringing innovation and creativity to Jewish traditions. We provide multiple pathways for our members and friends to enjoy an engagement with Progressive Judaism that enhances their lives through spiritual enrichment, learning and community. We are guided by principles of egalitarianism and respect for others. We are inspired to continually develop and grow and to provide a spiritual home for all who wish to embrace our values. Temple Beth Israel acknowledges that we are assembled on land whose traditional custodians are the people of the Kulin Nation.

Please take this news sheet with you

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