



# The sorts of tidbits

my father, Rav Meir Zlotowitz zt"l, made sure his family was up to date on from the mundane, to the profound, to the 'thanks for reminding me!'



Parashas Shemini  
Hachodesh 5784  
April 5th • 26 Adar II

## Shabbos Mevorchim

This week is Shabbos Mevorchim Chodesh Nissan. Rosh Chodesh is on Tuesday, April 9th. The *molad* is on Monday night at 10:57 PM and 7 *chalakim*.

According to most opinions, the words "U'lechapas Pasha" are no longer added in *Mussaf* of Rosh Chodesh.

The first opportunity for Kiddush Levana is Thursday night, April 11th. The final opportunity is Monday night, April 22nd.

## Reminders

*Parashas HaChodesh* is *leined* this Shabbos, the Shabbos preceding Rosh Chodesh Nissan. Many congregations say *Yotzros* during Shacharis and *Mussaf*. Two Sifrei Torah are taken out, and the special *maftir* of *Parashas HaChodesh* (Shemos 12:1-20) is *leined* from the second sefer. The *haftarah* for *Parashas HaChodesh* is *leined*. *Av Harachamim* is omitted.

Many have the custom of reciting the *Kel Mallei* this Shabbos during Minchah for any *yahrzeit* which falls in Chodesh Nissan. This is done as *Kel Mallei* may not be said during Chodesh Nissan and is also not recited before *Mussaf* when *Mevorchim HaChodesh* is said. *Kel Mallei* can also be said after *Kerias Hatorah* this Monday, Erev Rosh Chodesh Nissan.

Chodesh Nissan begins on Monday night, April 8th. For the duration of the month, *Tachanun*, as well as the *Yehi Ratzons* recited after *Kerias Hatorah*, are omitted from the weekday davening. On Shabbos, *Av Harachamim* (before *Mussaf*) and *Tzidkoscha* (after *Minchah*) are omitted as well. The *Kel Mallei* recited by one who has a *yahrzeit* is also not said. Fasting and *hespeidim* are generally prohibited as well.

The *berachah* of *Bircas Ilanos* (a blessing on a newly blossomed fruit tree) should be said during the month of Nissan. Many have the *minhag* not to eat matzah from Rosh Chodesh Nissan (some do not eat matzah beginning from Shushan Purim).

One must donate money for *Maos Chittim*, money which will be used to provide the needy with food during Pesach. The donation may be given from *maaser* funds.

As the precarious situation in Eretz Yisrael continues, each person should increase reciting *tehillim* and performing other *mitzvos* as a *zechus* for the many *Acheinu Beis Yisrael* 'in travail and captivity'.

Daf Yomi - Friday: Bavli: Bava Metzia 37 • Yerushalmi:

Terumos 94 • Mishnah Yomis: Nedarim 11:12 & Nazir 1:1. Mazal tov! The siyum on Masechta Nedarim is today, Friday. • Oraysa: Next week is Yoma 81b-83b.

Make sure to call your parents, in-laws, grandparents and Rebbi to wish them a good Shabbos. If you didn't speak to your kids today, make sure to connect with them as well!

## Next on the Calendar

A Solar eclipse will be visible in North America, April 8th | Shabbos Hagadol is Shabbos Parashas Metzora, April 20th | Leil Bedikas Chametz is on Sunday evening, April 21st | Pesach begins on Monday evening, April 22nd.

## Parshah in a Paragraph

**Shemini:** The offerings on the eighth day, Rosh Chodesh Nissan, after the Seven Days of Inauguration • Moshe and Aharon bless the people • Hashem's glory is revealed • Nadav and Avihu offer unauthorized incense; their *neshamos* leave them as Hashem's fire enters their nostrils • Moshe comforts Aharon, Aharon remains silent • Aharon and his surviving sons are instructed not to show signs of mourning • Kohanim may not serve - and no Jew may render a halachic decision - after drinking wine • Moshe instructs Aharon and his sons to eat of the day's offerings • The *Chatas* of Rosh Chodesh is completely burned; Moshe is angered that it was not eaten • Aharon explains his rationale for burning that Korban; Moshe admits that Aharon is correct • Laws of kosher and non-kosher animals, fish, birds and insects • Various forms of *tumah*

**Parashas HaChodesh:** This special *keriah* (Shemos 12:1-20) discusses the mitzvah of Kiddush HaChodesh, as well as the commandment in *Mitzrayim* to sacrifice a sheep for *Korban Pesach*.

**Special Haftarah:** The *haftarah* (Yechezkel 45:16-46:18) details the inauguration of the third Beis Hamikdash that will take place in Chodesh Nissan and the *Korban Pesach* that will be brought then, in the days of *Mashiach*.

## 613 Taryag Weekly

**Shemini:** 91 Pesukim • 6 Obligations • 11 Prohibitions

- 1) A Kohen may not enter the *Mikdash* with long hair.
- 2) A Kohen may not enter the *Mikdash* with torn clothes.
- 3) A Kohen may not leave the *Mikdash* while in the midst of *avodah*.
- 4) A Kohen may not enter the *Mikdash* after drinking wine.
- 5) Do not eat non-kosher animals.
- 6) Check animals for their signs of kashrus.
- 7) Check fish

- 8) Do not eat non-kosher fish.
- 9) Do not eat non-kosher birds.
- 10) Check for the signs of kashrus of creeping creatures.
- 11) *Tumah* of the eight dead *sheratzim*.
- 12) *Tumah* regarding foods.
- 13) *Tumah* of a *neveilah* (dead animal).
- 14) Do not eat crawling *sheratzim*.
- 15) Do not eat *sheratzim* that live in plants.
- 16) Do not eat amphibious *sheratzim*.
- 17) Do not eat maggots.

**Mitzvah Highlight:** The Sefer HaChinuch explains that the Torah forbids certain foods due to their harmful effects on the *nefesh*. Just as we would never second-guess a doctor's advice without fully understanding the workings of the human body, so too we cannot doubt the negative impact of forbidden foods, as we cannot comprehend the lofty nature and holiness of the Jewish *nefesh*.

## For the Shabbos Table

*וְאֵת אֲלֵהּ תִשְׁקֹצוּ מִן הַבְּהֵמָה... וְאֵת הַחַסִּידָה*  
"These shall you abominate from among the fowl... the *chasidah*" (*Vayikra* 11:19)

The Sefer Hachinuch explains that non-kosher birds are forbidden because they engage in negative behavior, and these instincts can influence the person who consumes them. Among the forbidden species is a bird called *chasidah*. Rashi explains that the *chasidah* earned its name from its characteristic of doing *chessed* by sharing its food with friends. This seems to be a praiseworthy characteristic; if so, why is the *chasidah* forbidden?

The Chiddushei HaRim explains that while the *chasidah* engages in *chessed*, it does so only for its friends, and only those in its own circle benefit from the kindness. This discriminatory behavior makes the *chasidah* unfit for Jewish consumption, as the Torah wants us to give freely without discrimination against "outsiders". A Jew is responsible for a fellow Jew's needs - even for those far from himself, whether literally or figuratively. Additionally, a Jew must do *chessed* simply because he is commanded to do so by Hashem, and not only when he is sympathetic to the cause or the recipient.

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# זמנים לשבת



Parshas Shemini | April 5-6

	ר"ת	שקיעה שבת	סקש גר"א שבת	סקש מ"א שבת	שקיעה Friday Night	הדלקה עש"ק	פג מנחה עש"ק
Atlanta	9:14	8:02	10:28	9:51	8:01	7:43	6:42
Baltimore	8:47	7:35	9:55	9:14	7:34	7:16	6:14
Boston	8:28	7:16	9:32	8:48	7:15	6:57	5:54
Catskills	8:42	7:30	9:46	9:03	7:28	7:10	6:08
Chicago	8:34	7:22	9:38	8:55	7:21	7:01	6:00
Cleveland	9:10	7:58	10:14	9:32	7:57	7:39	6:36
Detroit	9:16	8:04	10:20	9:36	8:03	7:45	6:42
Lakewood	8:38	7:26	9:45	9:04	7:25	7:07	6:05
Las Vegas	8:19	7:07	9:30	8:51	7:06	6:48	5:46
Los Angeles	8:30	7:18	9:44	9:06	7:17	6:59	5:57
Miami	8:52	7:40	10:14	9:40	7:39	7:21	6:21
Monsey	8:39	7:27	9:44	9:02	7:26	7:08	6:05
Montreal	8:41	7:29	9:40	8:54	7:28	7:10	6:06
New York	8:38	7:26	9:44	9:02	7:25	7:07	6:04
Orlando	8:58	7:46	10:18	9:43	7:46	7:28	6:27
Passaic	8:39	7:27	9:45	9:02	7:26	7:08	6:05
Philadelphia	8:42	7:30	9:49	9:08	7:29	7:11	6:09
Toronto	9:03	7:51	10:04	9:20	7:49	7:31	6:28
Yerushalayim	8:18	7:02	9:31	8:54	7:01	6:25	5:52

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