



## Shabbat Vayikra

March 27- March 28, 2020

Fri: Candle Lighting: 7:07 pm  
Shabbat Ends: 8:11 pm

### *Mazel Tov to:*

Deborah and Lou Davis on the birth of their grandson

and

Shaindel Simes on the birth of her grandson,  
a son to Malka and Yosaif Slotkin

Even if we cannot join together as a community in tefillah, we can still join together in learning Torah. [Please see our Calendar for all CBTO classes.](#)

### דברי הרב

#### Parashat Vayikra

אבינו מלכנו מנע מגפה

Our Father in heaven, withhold the plague. (Siddur)

While the siddur adds the word, 'from your heritage' to the above Hebrew statement referring to the people of Israel, according to the Dover Shalom commentary, based on a verse found in I Chronicles 21:17, we must expand that prayer to encompass all people regardless of religion. It is in the spirit of that prayer that we see Israeli doctors in Italy fighting to save lives. It is in that spirit that we see innumerable health workers, professionals and volunteers endangering themselves as they valiantly perform their holy work against all odds. It is in the spirit of those people who shop for the isolated and the quarantined. It is in that spirit that we see the best of humanity come out.

These are the people who sacrifice themselves on the altar of good deeds in a figurative way. These are the people who understand that the term used in our Torah

reading this Shabbat, 'korban; is not simply an offering, but an act where these people bring themselves closer to G-d (karov, the root of korban) in reaching out to those who cannot help themselves.

Those who give of themselves to help the victims of coronavirus call out to G-d in their unique ways to guide them and to enable them to channel their energies in providing relief to those who are suffering from Covid-19. In the beginning of the Torah reading this Shabbat, Hashem calls out to Moshe. It is our turn to call out to Hashem.

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On Wednesday, I participated in a Federation session with other communal leaders and rabbis to discuss the impact of the coronavirus on our community, Part of the meeting dealt with the topic of 'assessed needs', and the following were indicated which may be of help or interest to members of our shul and their contacts.

In terms of helping people in need in our congregation and elsewhere in Ottawa, the following were indicated as leads:

Hebrew Free Loan- Money is available through the good offices of Hebrew Free Loan. Jewish Family Services-JFS- gives out vouchers for food for those in need. It indicated it will also be providing Meals on Wheels Kosher for Pesach through Hillel Lodge. There is a Facebook group called '[Jewish Ottawa Helps](#)' that has volunteers willing to do shopping, etc.

Ten Yad has indicated it is prepared to help families that have been diagnosed with the Coronavirus.

There is a recognized need to remain in constant contact with those who are in isolation. We are all going through a traumatic time. I am in the process of contacting our full membership as a sort of a spiritual check up phone call. This process will take some time. It is important for all of us to be in contact with one another.

PERSONAL NOTE- Rivka and I look forward to our continued relationship with the families of our congregation.

[The last time for authorizing the sale of the chametz is be before 11 AM on April 8](#)

[DERASHA LESHABBAT HAGADOL](#)- Sunday, April 5 at 7:30 PM

[SIYUM BECHORIM](#)- Wednesday, April 8 at 8:00 AM.

Friends,

My heart is warmed with stories of our members reaching out to one another, calling, shopping and taking care of those in need. Our kehila is truly special and we should all be proud. Our shul is still active. Rabbi Finkelstein has been sending out wonderful emails, classes and more, making us all feel connected. [For details, please see here](#)

If you are need of help during these times of isolation, please let us know. The Federation also has many resources which are available to the Ottawa Jewish Community.

- For people who need help (e.g. counselling, financial assistance with basic necessities) - call JFS, their team is working remotely and will respond 613 722 2225
- For people who require assistance due to illness, Ten Yad will help Telephone Answering Service: 613-618-0485; Email: [info@tenyad.ca](mailto:info@tenyad.ca)
- For miscellaneous assistance – Federation's Facebook group Jewish Ottawa Helps

- For information on virtual events and resources  
- <https://jewishottawa.com/covid-19>.

I wish you all a Shabbat shalom and a healthy week.

Bobby Wollock  
President, CBTO

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### Yahrzeits To Be Observed Next Week: March 29 - April 4, 2020:

(Yahrzeits commence on the evenings prior to the dates listed below)

Ann Gordon z'l, observed on Sunday, March 29  
Tadesse Mekonnen z'l, observed on Monday, March 30  
Issie Avrutick z'l, observed on Tuesday, March 31  
Ben Fleisher z'l, observed on Tuesday, March 31  
Pearl Muroff z'l, observed on Tuesday, March 31  
Leon Rauchwerger z'l, observed on Tuesday, March 31  
Max Bergman z'l, observed on Thursday, April 2  
Jack Krakower z'l, observed on Friday, April 3  
Sylvia Fleisher z'l, observed on Saturday, April 4

### CBTO Donations

Please note that we are still accepting donations at this time, but will not be sending out cards to members. All donations will be listed in the Shabbat Flyer until further notice.

Mazel Tov to Deborah and Lou Davis and family on the birth of their grandson  
Marion Silver and Alan Brass

Mazel Tov to Shellie and Marty Kalson, on the birth of their granddaughter, Cohen Shivitiya Pe'er,  
daughter to Ezzie and Eliza  
Erin and Ben, Raviv, Ashley and Sienna Gailor, and Ashira, Bucky and Rena Prizant

Mazel Tov to Marion Silver and Alan Brass on the birth of their grandson  
Helen and Sol Rauch

Wishing Valerie Terkel a refuah shlema and a speedy recovery  
Eva and Viktor Eichler

## Community Events:

### Scholarship Awards for students from the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation:

Deadline for applications is April 17, 2020.

GJ Cooper Scholarship Award: Valued at more than \$15,000, this award is granted to an Ottawa student aged 18 - 30, who has displayed leadership qualities, academic excellence and has an interest in the Jewish community. It is specifically to advance formal education or apprenticeship in the fields of artistic, literary or social sciences.

Ilana and Steven Rubin Scholarship Award: Valued at \$1,800, this scholarship aims to help students who are planning to attend a Canadian or Israeli post-secondary institution in a program of at least 2 years. It is intended for high school students graduating in 2020 with a B average or higher, with demonstrated financial need, who are seeking their first academic award.

More info and to apply: [www.OJCF.ca](http://www.OJCF.ca)

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*Shabbat Shalom and Shavua Tov!*

**שבת שלום ושבווע טוב**

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