February 26, 2014 will mark the 45th anniversary of Levi Eshkol’s passing. Commemorated on currency for his service as the third Prime Minister of Israel, he is generally considered one of the greatest Israelis of all time.
Recently, I visited Shearith Israel’s extraordinary archives, along with your Shamash, Zachariah Edinger. Zachariah, or “Z,” as he is popularly known, directed me to the portion of the collection containing the writings of my predecessor, Gershom Mendes Seixas. Seixas served as Minister of Shearith Israel in the years preceding and following the American Revolution. Known as the “Patriot Rabbi” for his staunch support for the revolutionary cause, Seixas fled New York when the British captured Manhattan, serving during the war as Minister of Mikveh Israel in Philadelphia. In this letter that I read, written to Shearith Israel’s Parnas, Seixas discusses the possibility of his returning to New York.

Holding this letter in my hand, this tangible, unique link to our past I was struck by how much we have lost in an age when all correspondence is electronic. In an age in which we no longer communicate primarily with penmanship, all individuality, effort is lost. An email, no matter from who it might be, is a hastily typed out bunch of bits and bytes in cyberspace, with no personality and no tangible nature. A letter, on the other hand, a letter from someone special, in his or her hand, painstakingly composed, becomes an embodiment of its author, a constant and concrete reminder of the composer. Through a letter the writer continues to speak to us, if we hearken to the letter’s words.

It is with this in mind that we can consider a fascinating story in the Talmud. The gemara in Menachot reports that when Moshe ascended Sinai to receive the Torah, he found God sitting like a sofer, a scribe, slowly writing out the Torah, carefully and painstakingly attaching tashkim, little lines, on top of the letters, one by one. Moshe asks the Almighty, why he was taking the time and trouble to make such lovely letters. God responds, in the future, there will be a man named Akiva ben Yosef, who will deduce from every one of these letters, from every one of these tiny tashkim, tons of exegetical insights. The Torah, the Talmud is trying to tell us, Torah is his carefully crafted correspondence. Like a letter from a loved one, and therefore, in the future every little line on these letters, will be treasured, and seen as enormously significant. As Rabbi Jonathan Sacks has written, Jews survived millennia in exile because “so long as the Torah was with them, God was with them... Wherever they were in Eastern Europe, in Spain, in Yemen—wherever they were—when they read Torah, they heard the voice of God and they knew we were together. The Torah is not a conventional text at all. It is like a letter from a father to a child.” Torah, in Rabbi Sacks’ words, is “the world we enter when, through an act of active listening, we hear the voice of God.”

Soon after reading Seixas’ letter, I was handed by Zechariah something even more incredible: the 1789 Thanksgiving address delivered by Seixas in 1789, the first national Thanksgiving proclaimed by America’s first president, painstakingly composed in Seixas’ own hand. In the address, Seixas proclaimed the community’s gratitude to God for the equality they experienced in this nascent nation, while exhorting his flock to remain loyal to the Torah. As I wrote recently in the Wall Street Journal, as I held the handwritten pages, Jewish generations merged, and in his handwriting I heard the voices of all those who had come before, Jews who remained loyal to God in the New World. They maintained this loyalty because they, so many miles away from most Jews, continued to hear the voice of God in the letter of love that was his Torah. May we merit to hear their voices, exhorting us to follow the voice of God, the voice of the Torah, as they did in Jewish generations past.
CONGRATULATIONS

We wish mazal tov to our members and friends:

Jacob Bengualid upon becoming a bar mitzvah. Jacob is the son of Mark and Beth Bengualid and the grandson of Jacob Bengualid.

Josh Berman upon becoming a bar mitzvah. Josh is the son of Sara and David Berman.

Bentsi and Naomi Cohen upon the marriage of their daughter Ilana Cohen and to Dr. Jonathan Platkievicz.

Friends of CSI Dr. Alan and Mrs. Nita Corre upon the marriage of their grandson Alan Richter to Ms. Elisha Verschleisser.

Eitan Edinger upon becoming a bar mitzvah. Eitan is the grandson of Henry and Rose Edinger.

Shari and Josh Goldberg upon the birth of their son.

Trustee Michael P. Lustig upon being honored by the New York Legal Assistance Group for his help of Hurricane Sandy victims.

Brand Oren Neuwirth upon becoming a bar mitzvah. Brand is the son of Stephen R. Neuwirth and Nataly Ouaknine.

Yehudit and Sam Robinson upon the birth of their daughter Rachel Chaya. Yehudit is a member of the Shearith Israel faculty who assists our teens and bar/bat mitzvah students.

Claire Schweitzer upon becoming a bar mitzvah. Claire is the daughter of Valerie and Ted Schweitzer.

Aviva and Marvin Sussman upon the birth of a granddaughter and Els Bendheim upon the birth of a great-granddaughter, Meirav Rose, born to Amanda and Meir Katz, and upon the birth of a grandson and great-grandson, Phillip Judah, born to Shari and Josh Goldberg.

Friend of CSI Allan Toledano upon the marriage of his son Michael Samuel Toledano to Keren Elise Veilblat.

Daniel David Valencia upon becoming a bar mitzvah. Daniel is the son of Claudio and Mira Valencia.

Ariel Elizabeth Zbeda upon becoming a bar mitzvah. Ariel is the daughter of Miriam Davidson and Uri Zbeda.

IN APPRECIATION

Thank you to our Kiddush Sponsors and Contributors (from August 10 through November 9):

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Norman Benzaquen
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Zachary Edinger
Dr. Dennis and Estelle Freilich
Herlands Family
Joel and Laurel Marcus
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Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Turiel

Thank you to the Hebra for their sponsorship of the communal cemetery trip in August.

Thank you to the Sisterhood, who year after year, immeasurably enhance Succot at Shearith Israel with their care and beautification of the Elias Room Succah as well as by providing multiple breakfasts and kiddushim.

Thank you to the major sponsors of our Simhat Torah Dinner, Ronen and Fabiola Koren, as well as to the Haberman and Lustig families for sponsoring our annual ice cream event for yet another year.

Thank you to the generous sponsors of the Hatanim Luncheon honoring Gabriel Goldstein, Hatan Torah, and Alexander Seligson, Hatan Bereshit:

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Thank you to the sponsors and contributors of Rabbi Richard Hidary’s Investiture:

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Thank you to the volunteers of the Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks event:
Sarah Appel
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Ben Motola
Eric Olin
Howard Shultz
Sabina Shultz
Thank you to the sponsors of the repair of our West 70th Street flagpoles:
Anonymous
Ernest Grunebaum
The Shearith Israel League
Thank you to the Shearith Israel Sisterhood, under the leadership of Irma Lopes Cardozo and Carla Salomon Schein for purchasing a beautiful new tebah cover and mehitza for our High Holiday parallel services. Thanks also to Betty Capelluto Emden for her time and talent.
A special thanks to the children of the late Dr. Betzalel Levy, may his memory be blessed, Geula Levi-Freeman, Jordana Levi, and Samuel Levi, for the use of funds donated in memory of their father for the purchase of a new, top-of-the-line portable oven. Such donations of funds for the equipping of our kitchen greatly facilitate catering for now and for the future as our building and kitchen in particular enter a period of transition.

NEW MEMBERS
We welcome the following individuals to the Shearith Israel family:
Paul Bernstein and Lisa Marie Capelouto
Matide and Daniel Ferguson
Sidney Gerson
Joseph Gottlieb
Estelle Guzik
Ellen and Robert Kapito
Murray Orbuch
Joel Pelofsky
Aryeh and Raquel Rubin
Susan Wexner

IN MEMORIAM
We mourn the loss of our members:
Mrs. Rita Angel. Condolences to her husband, Joshua Angel, and children Nicole Angel Wachter and Spencer Angel.
Dr. Martin Finkel. Condolences to his children Dr. Richard Finkel and Mr. Lawrence Finkel and his siblings Paul Finkel and Blanche Moses.
Joyce Mosseri. Condolences to her children Jean Naggar, Jeffrey Mosseri, and Susan Danon.

CONDOLENCES
We extend sincere condolences to:
Carole Baker upon the loss of her mother.
Lori Fein Ramirez upon the loss of her brother, Richard G. Fein.
Our honorary trustee Eva Haberman and Michael Ochs upon the loss of their brother Dr. Abraham Daniel Ochs.
Herman Schwarz upon the loss of his sister, Ita Kaiser.
Gabriella Styler upon the loss of her sister Staphany Clarice Della Russo.
DINNERS & LECTURES

INTIMATE SHABBAT DINNERS IN THE ELIAS ROOM
A special opportunity for our full members

Over the course of the year, the rabbis of Shearith Israel will occasionally host Shabbat dinners for small groups of members. These intimate gatherings, set in our atmospheric Elias Room, in the company of friends, old and new, will allow us to enjoy the beauty of Shabbat, delicious food, the fascinating life stories of our diverse members and Torah insights by our rabbis.

Visit shearithisrael.org/shabbatinelias to indicate your interest and availability. Full members only.

After indicating your interest, members will receive their formal invitation approximately one to two weeks prior to a scheduled dinner.

Please note: In order to ensure the intimate nature of these dinners, we may not be able to accommodate all requests at this time but we hope to extend this opportunity to accommodate all members who express interest.

ONGOING SERIES

Shakespeare and Shiur: Hamlet and Halakha: a Tale of Murder, Mystery and Talmudic Law
Rabbi Meir Soloveichik
Shabbat, December 14

Join us for second installment of this lecture series illuminating Jewish themes through an exploration of Shakespeare’s plays. This exciting lecture will take place immediately following morning services.

Pre-Tu B’Shevat Dinner and Lecture
Rabbi Meir Soloveichik
Shabbat Shirah, Friday, January 10
Services begin at 4:30 pm


Shabbat Dinner with The Simpsons Writer Mike Reiss
Friday, January 31
Services begin at 5:00 pm

Mike Reiss has won four Emmys and a Peabody Award during his 25 years writing for The Simpsons. Together with Rabbi Soloveichik, Reiss will discuss Jewish themes, characters, writers and actors that left their indelible mark on America’s favorite animated family. You don’t have to love The Simpsons, or have even seen the series to enjoy this funny, fast-paced talk on Jewish humor and American pop culture.

The History and Afterlife of Jewish Lawyers
Rabbi Richard Hidary
Following morning services
Shabbat, January 28 and Shabbat, February 8

Join us on the lower level of the Main Sanctuary as Rabbi Richard Hidary delivers these fascinating public seminars.

Part 1–Roman Lawyers and Rabbinic Lawyers in the Talmudic Halakhah
Shabbat, January 25

Part 2–Why are there Lawyers in Heaven: Aggadot of the Divine Court
Shabbat, February 8

Shabbat Dinner and Conversation with Professor Christine Hayes
Friday, February 28
Services begin at 5:30 pm

Immediately following services, Professor Hayes will deliver a lecture entitled We’re no Angels: Perfectionism in Rabbinic Judaism. Beginning with the Talmudic phrase “The Torah was not given to Ministering Angels” this lecture explores radically diverse ancient Jewish conceptions of the nature of human perfection and whether or not humans can be, or should aspire to be, like angels. Following the lecture will be a conversation and Q&A led by Rabbi Richard Hidary.

Dr. Christine Hayes is Professor of Religious Studies in Classical Judaica at Yale University. She holds a BA from Harvard University and a Ph.D. from UC Berkeley. Her first book, entitled Between the Babylonian and Palestinian Talmuds (Oxford University Press, 1997) was honored with a Salo Baron prize for a first book in Jewish thought and literature, awarded by the American Academy for Jewish Research (1999). Her second book, Gentile Impurities and Jewish Identities: Intermarriage and Conversion from the Bible to the Talmud (Oxford University Press, 2002) was a 2003 National Jewish Book Award finalist. Hayes is currently completing a fifth book, entitled What’s so Divine about Divine Law?
SUNDAY

Jewish Thought through Aggadah
Rabbi Richard Hidary
8:40–9:40 am

This class will delve in the worldview of Hazal as presented in the Talmud and Midrash. We will cover the topics of predestination and fate versus freewill, forgiveness and repentance, suffering and punishment, reward and afterlife, marriage versus learning Torah, the evil inclination and the reasons for the commandments. For each topic we will analyze selected texts from the Talmud and Midrashim in order to survey the range of opinions on each topic as well as appreciate the literary devices and arguments used in making each case. We will also trace the backgrounds of these opinions in Tanak and in Second Temple literature as well look forward to how some Rishonim dealt with the Talmudic sources. Light breakfast served.

The Book of Beliefs and Opinions: The Unity of God
Šimon den Hollander
9:40 – 10:40 am

No class on December 22, January 5, January 12, January 19, January 26, February 16, February 23

The Book of Beliefs and Opinions (Emunot V’Deot), was the first serious attempt to synthesize the Jewish tradition with philosophical teachings since Philo (about 900 years earlier). It was written by Sādah Ga’on (882 - 942), the head of the Academy of Sura in Baghdad. This year the class will focus on the subject of the unity of God. Light breakfast served.

Hebrew Classes
Winter Session: February 2 – March 30
10:00 am – 11:00 am

Hebrew courses are $75 and include a light breakfast. Sessions include 7 classes. Registration required. For questions contact Rabbi Shalom Morris.

Level I: Learn the Hebrew alphabet and the basics of Hebrew reading.

Level II: Improve reading fluency and begin to focus on comprehension.

Level III: Develop Hebrew vocabulary and reading comprehension skills.

MONDAY

Bet Midrash
Winter Session: January 6 – March 3 (except February 17)
7:00 pm – 8:00 pm
8:00 pm – 9:00 pm

The Bet Midrash program featured high-level textual learning in small groups that encourages active participation and involvement. Rabbi Hidary and other visiting faculty lead discussion groups on a wide range of topics for all ages and levels. Light dinner served.

Visit our website or join our email list to view information on classes and new groups.

Help us strengthen educational initiatives at Shearith Israel by supporting a warm and inviting atmosphere to learn, debate, and grow together as a community. Sponsor food and refreshments for a class or semester of Bet Midrash by visiting shearithisrael.org/sponsoraclass.

Rambam’s Guide of the Perplexed
Rabbi Richard Hidary
7:00 – 8:00 pm

A close textual reading of the most important work of Jewish philosophy on topics of prophecy, providence, and the reasons of the commandments.

Please contact Rabbi Hidary for notifications about this class.

Jewish Rhythm: The Jewish Day, Year and Lifecycle
Rabbi Shalom Morris
7:15 – 8:15 pm

The Jewish day, year and life cycle collectively aid in the creation of a holistic and compelling Jewish lifestyle. Explore both the thought that forms the basis of these elements and the practices that bring them to fruition. The course is ideal for those seeking a greater understanding of Judaism, increasing their religious observance or actively pursuing conversion. Newcomers are welcome throughout the year.

Jewish International Connection of NY (JICNY) Learning
7:00 – 9:15 pm

Start the work week off with a drink, a bite to eat, new friends, and stimulating Jewish thought with fellow young professionals. Steve Eisenberg shares inspiration from the weekly Torah Portion from 7:00 to 8:15 pm.

Rabbi Shalom Morris joins the group at 8:30 pm to discuss Jewish perspectives on sensitive subjects such as organ donation, land for peace, and stem cell research.

$5 per person includes refreshments and both classes.

— continued —
TUESDAY

Hellenism and Hebraism: Reading the Rabbis on the Background of Greco-Roman Culture
Rabbi Richard Hidary
Midtown Offices
5:00 pm
Final class meets on Tuesday, December 31

The Talmud and Midrash include thousands of Greek words as well as allusions to Greek mythology, fables, institutions, and ideas. We will study how the Rabbis adopted many Greek ideas they found helpful, adapted others to suit their worldview, and rejected still others as wrong and dangerous. This confrontation between the two great traditions of Biblical Hebraism with Greek Hellenism has had a major impact on both cultures and their after-effects are still felt today.

Shiur: Masekhet Kiddushin and the Jewish Philosophy of Family
Rabbi Meir Soloveichik
8:00 pm

This shiur will combine both conceptual lomdut (analysis) with Jewish philosophy in the study of the Talmudic tractate delineating the laws of Jewish marriage and family life. Sources will include classical commentaries as well as Family Redeemed, Rabbi Joseph Soloveichik's philosophical reflections on marriage and the raising of children. This class is open to those with Talmudic background, as well as those with less textual experience but with a deep interest in what Jewish thought has to teach us about what it means, for example, to be husband and wife, father and mother. Sushi served.

Help us strengthen educational initiatives at Shearith Israel by supporting a warm and inviting atmosphere to learn, debate, and grow together as a community. Sponsor food and refreshments for a class or semester of our Tuesday evening Talmud shiur by visiting shearithisrael.org/sponsoraclass.

THURSDAY

Tai Chi
Lewis Paleias
11:00 am – 12:00 pm

This ancient practice helps balance, strength, circulation, mindfulness and more. Tai Chi is a wonderful form of exercise for all ages, especially seniors. Our teacher offers individual attention and adapts the class based on the group. $10 per class or $50 paid in advance for 6 classes. No refunds. Walk-ins and beginners welcome.

SHABBAT

The Misunderstood Masterpiece: A New Approach to Pirkei Abot
Rabbi Meir Soloveichik
1 hour before minnah

Pirkei Abot is often understood as a mere series of unrelated ethical adages. In fact, each brief and much-cited maxim in Pirkei Abot actually hints at the extraordinary, and unique, life story and worldview of its rabbinic source, and the chapters of Abot are joined together in a structure that actually tells the story of the transmission of the Oral Law. We will see how studying the history of the rabbinic figures cited lend an entirely new understanding to these statements, and how Abot represents the diverse response of the rabbis to an age of crisis and transition that was, in many ways, not unlike our own.

CULTURE & ENRICHMENT

Sephardic Music Festival
Tuesday, December 3
7:15 pm

Celebrate Hanukkah with our annual Sephardic Music Festival featuring Tavche Gravche, Hazzan George Mordecai, and Hazzan Victor Esses. Join us for an evening of music from the Jewish liturgical traditions of the Sephardic world as well as songs from the Ladino repertoire. This diverse and dynamic group of performers crosses over between materials of Balkan, Mediterranean, and Iraqi origin. Buy your tickets today at shearithisrael.org/sephardicmusicfestival.

Faith and Film Series

Enjoy fun and intellectually stimulating Saturday movie nights hosted by Rabbi Soloveichik, theologian and resident film aficionado. Adults and teens can enjoy powerful films (and popcorn) followed by an exploration of the tests of faith that the central figures navigate.

THE HOBBIT (2012)
December 2013. Date to be announced via our emails and website.

Seminar following morning services

A younger and more reluctant Hobbit, Bilbo Baggins, sets out on an unexpected journey to the Lonely Mountain with a spirited group of dwarves to reclaim their stolen mountain home from a dragon named Smaug.

Please note that we will not be screening this particular film but rather hosting a seminar on the writing of JRR Tolkien.

Discussion Theme: Hobbits and Hebrews: The Biblical Writing of JRR Tolkien

GROUNDHOG DAY (1993)
Saturday, January 11
7:00 pm

A weatherman finds himself in a time loop, repeating the same day again and again. After indulging in hedonism and numerous suicide attempts, he begins to re-examine his life and priorities.

Discussion Theme: Groundhog Day and the Jewish Concept of Time

A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS (1966)
Saturday, February 8
7:00 pm

The story of Thomas More, who stood up to King Henry VIII when the King rejected the Roman Catholic Church to obtain a divorce and remarriage.

Discussion Theme: A Man for All Seasons and the Nature of Belief
Schussing and Shiur: A Shearith Israel Ski and Snowboard Trip
Wednesday, December 25
First-timers and black diamond skiers and snowboarders alike! Hit the slopes for a day at Hunter Mountain with Rabbi Richard Hidary. Bring your own lunch to enjoy in the company of friends. Transportation provided. All levels and ages welcome. Minimum number of registrants required in order for the trip to be finalized. Pricing and details to follow.

Screening and Discussion of “Children of the Inquisition”
Wednesday, February 26
7:00 pm
Join us for a screening of clips from the upcoming film, Children of the Inquisition. The film follows a group of descendants of Jews persecuted during the Spanish and Portuguese Inquisitions, each on a quest to determine and embrace their distant Sephardic Jewish roots. A discussion with filmmaker Joe Lovett led by Rabbi Shalom Morris will follow.

Tuesday Morning Minyan and Katzap Breakfast
Minyan 7:15 am
Breakfast 7:30 am
Sponsored annually by our member, Chaim Katzap, our morning minyan crew has been meeting for a weekly breakfast on Tuesdays. All morning minyan attendees are welcome. Contact Rabbi Ira Rohde if you would like to sponsor a minyan breakfast in honor of a special occasion.

Literary Lunch
Monthly on Thursdays December 19, January 16, February 13
12:15 pm–1:45 pm
Janet R. Kirchheimer
Join our monthly gatherings where we read and discuss a variety of works (fiction, nonfiction, memoir, personal essay, poetry) from across the ages and around the world. Led by Shearith Israel’s own poet and member, Janet R. Kirchheimer, each lunch is an independent session and is accompanied by a delicious lunch and stimulating conversation. Meets in the Elias Room. $10 per session.

Tuesday Morning Run
Before Morning Services
Join our Hazzan, Rabbi Ira Rohde and other serious runners in the congregation on a weekly run through Central Park prior to Tuesday morning minyan and breakfast. Contact Rabbi Ira Rohde for details.

THE SHEARITH ISRAEL HEBREW SCHOOL
Polonies Talmud Torah School (PTTS)
All ages meet on Sundays from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Elementary school-aged children also meet on Thursdays from 4:00 – 6:00 pm
For students aged 3 – 16 years old
For more information and to enroll, visit shearithisrael.org/hebrewschool. You may also contact our Educational Director and Hebrew School Principal, Rabbi Shalom Morris.

SHABBAT AND HOLIDAY CLUBS
From 10:00 am until the end of services
Children, ages 5 – 12, gather before and after Junior Congregation with our experienced and engaging leaders for fun activities connected to the parashah of the week and other Jewish themes.

YOUTH PROGRAMMING
There is a new, yet familiar face at Junior Congregation. Samuel Neumark has been an active member at Shearith Israel for over 20 years and was an early pioneer in helping launch the first Junior Congregation service. Sam recently graduated from the Robert H. Smith School of Business at the University of Maryland, with a B.S. in Finance. Now back in New York, Sam wished to get involved in our youth programming to foster a love of Shearith Israel just as he experienced growing up in our congregation. Sam is the adult leader at Junior Congregation, while Rabbi Shalom Morris oversees the administration and parts distribution during the week. We are excited by the energy, leadership and enthusiasm that Sam brings to his role, and we look forward to learning from his years of experience and knowledge of our community and minhag. Sam will work closely with our assistant coordinator Mrs. Lisa Rohde, our exceptional teen leaders, Tova Goldstein, Ali Haberman and Jack Jerusalmi as well as with our wonderful and numerous prefects and junior prefects.
ASSIGNED JUNIOR CONGREGATION
Shabbat, December 14, January 4, February 22

Junior Congregation is a lively, participatory service for children ages 5–12. While prayer is always a part of youth groups, this more formal youth service takes place on select weeks. Children learn Shearith Israel’s melodies and have opportunities to lead prayers, read Torah and perform mitzvot. Regular Shabbat groups still begin at 10:00 am and continue at the conclusion of Junior Congregation. For more information and to have your child lead a part of the service contact Rabbi Shalom Morris.

SHIR FUN: A MUSICAL HEBREW IMMERSION PROGRAM
Winter Session begins January 9

Thursdays
10:15 am – 11:00 am

For children 10 months – 3 years of age

Leveraging the positive effects on the brain of musical enrichment and cultural pride, the Shir Fun program immerses children in using musical instruments, and a specially designed curriculum which includes original songs, movement-based activities, holiday celebrations and personal interactions. Contact Alana Shultz at ashultz@shearithisrael.org to register.

CULINARY CORNER

This edition’s Culinary Corner features Shearith Israel member Fiona Amiel.

Fiona Amiel’s family traces their origins to Spain, Syria, and Iraq. For over 200 years, however, the Amiel family resided in India. A traditional community until today, the Jews of Cochin, India (located in present-day Kerala) enjoyed relatively peaceful lives and did not experience significant difficulties in retaining their religion, social and cultural traditions. The haggim at the Paradesi Synagogue of Cochin (constructed in 1568) are quite distinctive and reflective of its Sephardic roots and South Indian surroundings. For example, in honor of Shemini Hag Atseret, a special ark is constructed for the Torah scrolls and then adorned with a gold embroidered silk parokhet. Since the independence of both Israel and India, the majority of Jews emigrated to Israel and the United States. In 1995, Fiona immigrated to the United States and has been a member of Shearith Israel ever since.

The Cochin Jews include South Indian spices and flavors such as coriander, turmeric, coconut, and chilies in their cuisine. The daily diet consists of fish and vegetable and rice flour dishes. Chicken is generally served only for Shabbat. This Shabbat hamim, traditionally slow-cooked in a brick oven, is prepared for Shabbat afternoon or festivals.

Cochin Hamim
1 chicken skinned and cut into 8 pieces
1 cup raw rice
2 large onions (sliced)
3 large tomatoes (chopped)
1 tsp. turmeric powder
1 can of coconut milk
3-4 cups water
Olive oil
Salt to taste

Heat olive oil on stovetop. Add sliced onions and sauté until golden brown. Add turmeric and tomatoes. Fry until tomatoes are pulpy. Add the coconut milk and one cup of water and salt. Once boiling, add chicken. Cover and cook for 15 minutes.

Then add the rice and enough water to cover the chicken and rice. Transfer this into a crock pot and add enough water to cover the chicken and rice. Set the crock pot on low for 6 hours. After 6 hours, the rice should be semi-thick and the chicken falling off the bone. Add water if the consistency is too thick when ready to serve.

The Paradesi Synagogue of Cochin, India
Dec 20-21
Candle Lighting 4:14 pm
Sunset 4:32 pm
Friday Evening Services 4:15 pm
Shabbat Morning Services 8:15 am
Zemirot Jack Daar
Torah Reading Shemoth
Exodus 1:1-6:1
Haftarah Noam Kaplan
Zachariah Edinger
Ezekiel 37:15-28
Genesis 41:1-44:17
Numbers 7:24-29
Haftarah Jacob Seligson
Zachariah 2:14-4:7
Saturday Class 3:15 pm
Saturday Minha/Arbit 4:00 pm
Habdalah & 5 Hanukkah Candles 4:57 pm

Dec 27-28
Candle Lighting 4:18 pm
Sunset 4:36 pm
Friday Evening Services 4:15 pm
Shabbat Morning Services 8:15 am
Zemirot Zachariah Edinger
Torah Reading Vaera
Exodus 6:2-9:35
Haftarah Jack Daar
Ezekiel 28:25-29:21
Saturday Class 3:15 pm
Saturday Minha/Arbit 4:00 pm
Habdalah 5:03 pm

Jan 10-11
Shabbat Shirah
Candle Lighting 4:30 pm
Sunset 4:30 pm
Friday Evening Services 4:30 pm
Shabbat Morning Services 8:15 am
Zemirot Rev. Salomon L. Vaz Dias
Torah Reading Beshallah
Exodus 13:17-17:16
(Reading of the Shirah-Crossing the Red Sea)
Haftarah Louis Alexandre Berg
Judges 5:1-31
Saturday Class 3:15 pm
Saturday Minha/Arbit 4:15 pm
Habdalah 5:16 pm

Jan 17-18
Shabbat Yitro
Candle Lighting 4:38 pm
Sunset 4:36 pm
Friday Evening Services 4:45 pm
Shabbat Morning Services 8:15 am
Zemirot Adam Jackson
Torah Reading Yitro
Exodus 18:1-20:23
(Reading of the Ten Commandments)
Haftarah Jack Daar
Isaiah 61-13
Bat Mitvah Claire Schweitzer
Bar Mitzvah Ariel Elizabeth Zbeda
Saturday Class 3:30 pm
Saturday Minha/Arbit 4:30 pm
Habdalah 5:24 pm

— continued —
Jan 24-25
Candle Lighting.............4:46 pm
Sunset........................5:04 pm
Friday Evening Services.....4:45 pm
Shabbat Morning Services....8:15 am
Zemirot........................................Jack Daar
Torah Reading......................Mishpatim
Exodus 21:1-24:18
Haftarah........................Joseph A. Solomon
Jeremiah 34:8-22 and 35:23-26
Saturday Class...................3:30 pm
Saturday Minhah/Arbit........4:30 pm
Habdalah...........................5:33 pm

Jan 31-Feb 1 Shabbat Rosh Hodesh
Candle Lighting.............4:55 pm
Sunset..........................5:13 pm
Friday Evening Services.....5:00 pm
Shabbat Morning Services....8:15 am
Zemirot.............................Sjimon Den Hollander
Torah Reading...............Terumah-Rosh Hodesh
Exodus 25:1-27:19
and Numbers 28:9-15
Haftarah..................Alexander Haberman
Isaiah 66:1-24
Saturday Class..................3:45 pm
Saturday Minhah/Arbit.........4:45 pm
Habdalah........................5:42 pm

Feb 14-15
Candle Lighting.............5:12 pm
Sunset..........................5:21 pm
Friday Evening Services.....5:15 pm
Shabbat Morning Services....8:15 am
Zemirot........................................Jack Daar
Torah Reading......................Ki Tissa
Exodus 30:11-34:35
Haftarah........................Hillel D. Neumark
1 Kings 18:20-24
Saturday Class...................4:00 pm
Saturday Minhah/Arbit........5:00 pm
Habdalah...........................6:01 pm

Feb 21-22
Candle Lighting.............5:20 pm
Sunset..........................5:38 pm
Friday Evening Services.....5:30 pm
Shabbat Morning Services....8:15 am
Zemirot.............................Avery E. Neumark
Torah Reading.................Vayiqhel
Exodus 35:1-38:20
Haftarah......................Jesse Epstein
1 Kings 7:13-26
Class..........................4:15 pm
Minhah/Arbit......................5:15 pm
Habdalah..........................6:10 pm

Feb 7-8
Candle Lighting.............5:03 pm
Sunset..........................5:21 pm
Friday Evening Services.....5:00 pm
Shabbat Morning Services....8:15 am
Zemirot..............................Adam Jackson
Torah Reading......................Tetsaveh
Exodus 27:20-30:10
Haftarah
Ezekiel 43:10-27
Saturday Class...................3:45 pm
Saturday Minhah/Arbit.........4:45 pm
Habdalah..........................5:22 pm

Feb 28-Mar 1 Shabbat Shekalim
Candle Lighting.............5:28 pm
Sunset..........................5:46 pm
Friday Evening Services.....5:30 pm
Shabbat Morning Services....8:15 am
Zemirot..............................Sjimon Den Hollander
Torah Reading......................Pekude-Shekalim
Exodus 38:21 - end
and Exodus 30:11-16
Haftarah........................Steven A. Okin
II Kings 11:17-12:17,
1 Samuel 20:18 and 20:42
Class............................4:15 pm
Minhah/Arbit......................5:15 pm
Habdalah..........................6:19 pm

DAILY SERVICES
Mornings(Shabhrit):
Sunday........................................8:00 am
Monday-Friday.............................7:15 am
Evenings (Arbit only)...................6:30 pm

MINOR HOLIDAYS
(Follow Daily Service Schedule unless otherwise indicated)

HANUKKAH HOLIDAY
Wednesday Evening November 27th through
Thursday, December 5th
Kindling of first Hanukkah light
Wednesday Evening, November 27th
Thanksgiving Morning, First Day of Hanukkah
Thursday, November 28th
Morning Service.............................7:45 am
Parade Viewing and Hot Chocolate...........8:30 am

TWO-DAY ROSH HODESH TEHUET
The Sixth & Seventh Days of Hanukkah
Monday Evening Dec. 2nd through Tuesday &
Wednesday, December 3rd & December 4th

FAST OF TEBET
Friday, December 13th
Dawn (Fast Begins)..................5:43 am
Sunrise....................................7:12 am
Morning Service......................7:15 am
Evening Minhah & Arbit...........3:45 pm
Friday Candle Lighting.............4:11 pm
Sunset...............................4:29 pm
End of Fast.............................4:29 pm

SECULAR YEAR-END LEGAL HOLIDAYS
Wednesday, December 25th & Wed., January 1st
Shabhrit................................8:00 am
Evenings (Arbit).........................6:30 pm

ONE-DAY ROSH HODESH SHEBAT
Wednesday Evening, January 1st through
Thursday, January 2nd

HAMISHA ASAR B‘SHEBAT (TU B‘SHEBAT)
Wednesday Evening, January 15th through
Thursday, January 16th

TWO-DAYS ROSH HODESH ADAR RISHON
Thursday, January 30th, through Friday
and Saturday, January 31st and February 1st

PRESIDENTS’ DAY LEGAL HOLIDAY
Monday, February 17th
Morning Service.........................8:00 am
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