

Adar 5777

Reminders for the days of Purim – 5777

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To the families of Anash שיחיו of the community at the EU – Brussels
And virtualcommunity@sichosonline.org

Experience has shown that it is best if both husband and wife (and children...) review this each day thoroughly so that miscommunications and last-minute panics can be avoided, and Yom Tov can truly be celebrated joyfully.

Please post this on the refrigerator or another central location.

Wishing you a true Simchas Yom Tov, which we will celebrate in the Bais Hamikdosh Hashlishi.

Rabbi Levi Yitzchok Garelik
Rabbigarelik@sichosonline.org

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During the month of Adar:

1. It is customary to learn the *Halochois* (laws) associated with *Purim*, [details can be found on Theonlinerabbi.com], in *Nigle* and in *Chassidus*.
2. We add in the giving of *Tzedoko*.
3. We make the necessary arrangements for "*Mivtza Purim*".

What to prepare before *Purim*:

1. **Assorted food** - for *Mishloach Manos* (even if you will participate in communal baskets.)
2. **Kreplach** - for the *Purim Seudah*.
3. **A Kosher Megillah** - if possible.
4. **Graggers** - and noisemakers for the children.
5. **Money** – for *Machatzis heshekel*, *Matanos Le'evyonim* and those who deliver *Mishloach Manos*.
6. **A Ba'al Koreh** - if necessary, to read the *Megillah* at home by night and day.
7. **Mivtza Purim** - Arrange where the family will perform "*Mivtza Purim*".

י אדר - Wednesday Evening

- After one goes to sleep, even if he wakes up in middle of the night, he is not permitted to eat. If one wants to wake up before *Alos Hashachar* to eat, he may do so, but must declare his intentions (before he goes to sleep) to wake early and eat. He must finish eating and drinking before *Alos Hashachar* (see local calendar for the times).

יא אדר Thursday תענית אסתר - Fast of Esther

Fasting: One who is ill, and women who are pregnant or nursing (a child up to 24 months) etc. - do not have to fast.

Shacharis: "והוא רחום" after the words "כי אין עוזר" we add סליחות and the long אבינו מלכנו. These are said even if one is not fasting. [Then we read in the *Torah*, *Vaychal* and no *Maftir*].

Before *Mincha*:

- ***Machatzis HaShekel*:** Before *davening Mincha* one should give 3 *half-Shekel* coins for *מחצית השקל*. It is customary that a father also gives on behalf of his wife and their small children (and if the wife is pregnant – some give for the unborn child). Usually, the *Gabbai* of the *Shul* has the coins for "מחצית השקל". [If one forgot – see *Shacharis of Purim* below].
- On one occasion the Rebbe mentioned that children, with the assistance of the parents, should be encouraged to give *Machatzis Hashekel* from their own money.

Mincha:

1. ***Krias HaTorah*** - *Vaychal* and *Maftir*.
2. ***Tachanun*** - is recited.
3. ***Aneinu*** - We add *Aneinu* in the *bracha* of "שומע תפלה". If one forgot, it can be said after "אלקי נצור" before the second "יהיו לרצון". One who is not fasting does not say *Aneinu*.
4. ***Ovinu Malkeinu*** - The long אבינו מלכנו is recited.

ערב שבת זכור *Erev Shabbos Zochoir*:

- Remember to bring your *Megillah* to *Shul* (or at least to prepare it in a manner that on *Motzoei Shabbos* it will be ready right away).

זכור *Parshas Zochoir*:

- All males are obligated to hear *Parshas Zochoir* being read in *Shul*.
- All women and girls should go to *Shul* to hear *Parshas Zochoir*, as this is the *Minhag Yisroel*. However, women who generally don't go to *Shul* because they are tending to their young children and it's hard for them to arrange to go to shul, are not obligated to hear *Parshas Zochoir* being read. Instead, they can read it in a *Chumash*. It is found at the end of *Parshas Ki Seitze (Dvorim 25, 17)*.

Mincha: We don't say צדקתך.

Motzo'ei Shabbos:

- Some shuls arrange for Maariv to start a little later than usual, to give a chance to those who did not bring their Megillah on Friday to bring it now. However, those who do so **must** remember to first say: **"Boruch Hamavdil Bein Koidesh Lechol"** - otherwise they are not allowed to carry!

In Maariv:

- **In the Shemonei Esrei we add:**
 1. **Ato Chonantonu.**
 2. **V'al Hanissim:** We add "ועל הניסים". If one forgot, and remembered before he said the word "ה" of the *bracha* "הטוב שמך ולך נאה להודות" he should go back and say "ועל הניסים". If he remembered after saying the word "ה" he does not go back.
- **Megillah:** After *Shemone Esrei* (and *Kaddish Tiskabel*) the *Megillah* is read.
- We make noise by "*Haman*" only when it is accompanied by a title or description, such as "המן האגגי", "בן המדתא האגגי", "המן הרע" etc.
- If during the *Megillah* reading, one finds a פסול in the *Megillah* but most of the letters are *Kosher*, it is permissible בדיעבד to continue.
- After the *Megillah* reading, we say ויהי נועם then ואתה קדוש (Kadish without Tiskabel) and עלינו.

At Home:

1. **Ensure that everyone, especially the women who did not go to Shul, hear the Megillah being read.**
2. Generally, the order of events is *Maariv*, *Megillah* reading, and *Havdolo*. However, if someone needs to eat right away, he first makes *Havdolo* and then hears the *Megillah*.
3. **Reading the *Megillah***, for those who did not hear it in *Shul*:
 - a. If one was already *yotzei* the *mitzvah* and is reading for someone else, (one of) the listener(s) recites the *Bracha* of "לשמע מקרא מגילה" and the other two *Brochois*.
 - b. When the *Brochois* are recited, everyone must be standing, however, they may sit while the *Megillah* is being read.
 - c. The listeners should not respond *Boruch Hu Uvoruch Shmo* to the blessings.
 - d. If there is no *Minyan* present, the *Brocho* הרב את ריבנו (after the *Megillah*) is not recited, but שושנת יעקב is.

4. **Birchas Hamazon:** In the *Birchas Hamazon* of the *Melave Malka* (the evening meal), ועל הניסים is added. If one forgot, and remembered before saying the word 'ה' in the *Bracha* "על הארץ ועל המזון", he should go back and say ועל הניסים. If he remembered after saying the word 'ה', when he reaches "הרחמן הוא יזכנו" he should add: "הרחמן הוא יעשה לנו ניסים" כמו שעשה לאבותינו בימים ההם בזמן הזה, בימי מרדכי וכו'". If he forgot and already finished *bentching*, he doesn't repeat it.
5. We say *Magdil Yeshuos Malko* as usual (not like Yomtov that we say *Migdol*).

פורים-- Sunday, Purim- יד אדר

It is customary to wear a silk *Kapote* like on *Shabbos* and *Yom Tov*.

Shacharis:

1. **Tachanun** - is not recited.
2. **V'al Hanissim** - We add "ועל הניסים" in *Shemone Esrei*. If one forgot, and remembered before he said the word "ה" of the *Bracha* "הטוב שמך ולך נאה להודות" he should go back and say "ועל הניסים". If he remembered after saying the word "ה" he does not go back.
3. **Krias HaTorah** - If one did not yet hear *Parshas Zochoir*, he can fulfill his obligation through listening to this *Torah* Reading.
4. **Machatzis Hashekel:** One who did not yet give *Machatzis Hashekel* should do so now before the reading of the *Megillah*.
5. Before the reading of the *Megillah*, they should announce that when the *Baal Kriah* says the *Bracha* of *Shehecheyanu* (before reading the *Megillah*), one should also have in mind the other three *Mitzvos* that are done on *Purim*: סעודה and משלוח מנות, מתנות לאביונים.
6. **The Megillah** is read.
7. After the *Megillah* is read we say the *Brocho* of *Harov Es Rivenu*, *Ashrei*, *Uvo Letzion*, *Kadish Tiskabel* and the *Torah* is returned to *Aron Koidesh*.

During the day:

* We go on *Mivtzaim* to ensure that other *Yidden* also perform the *Mitzvos* of the day.

There are four *Mitzvos* to be done on this day:

1. **Reading the Megillah**, for those who did not hear it in *Shul*.
 - a. Before the reading of the *Megillah*, they should announce that when saying the *Bracha* of שהחיינו everyone should also have in mind the other three *Mitzvos* of the day: *Mishloach Monos*, *Matonos Loevyonim* and the *Seuda*.
 - b. If one was already *yotzei* the *mitzvah* and is reading for someone else, (one of) the listener(s) recites the *Bracha* of "לשמנו מקרא מגילה" and the other two *Brochois*.

- c. When the *Brochois* are recited, everyone must be standing, however, they may sit while the *Megillah* is being read.
 - d. The listeners should not respond *Boruch Hu Uvoruch Shmo* to the blessings.
 - e. If there is no *Minyan* present, the *Brocho* הרב את ריבנו (after the *Megillah*) is not recited, however we do say שושנת יעקב.
2. ***Mishloach Manos***: Men to men, women to women, or families to families, **and educate the children to do such**. Those who participated in “communal baskets” should nevertheless send at least **two** or **three** regular *mishloach manos*.
 3. ***Matonois Lo’evyonim***, to at least two poor people. If there are no poor people to give to, money should be given to the *Gabbai Tzedaka*, **and educate the children to participate as well**.
 4. ***Seuda*** – festive meal (see further for details).

The **Alter Rebbe** writes in ***Torah Or*** (and it is also brought in *Sefer Haminhogim*) **that the joy of Purim is much greater than the joy of Yom Tov.**

Mincha

1. ***Tachanun*** is not recited.
2. ***V'al Hanissim*** is added in *Shemone Esrei*. If one forgot, and remembered before he said the word ה' of the *Brocho* להודות שמך ולך נאה להודות he should go back and say "ועל הניסים". If he remembered after saying the word ה' he does not go back.

Seuda (festive meal) -

- **Time** - One may eat the *Seuda* in the morning, but it is customary to *daven* an early *Mincha* in the middle of the day and eat afterwards. One must wash and eat at least a *kezayis* before the *Shekia* (sundown).
- **We eat *Kreplach***.
- If the *Seuda* continues into the night, ועל הניסים is said in *Birchas Hamazon* because the meal began during the day. [If one *davened Maariv* in middle of the meal, ועל הניסים is not said in *Birchas Hamazon*.]
- **Do not forget to daven *Maariv* after the meal.**
- The Rebbe's *Farbrengen* would take place after *Maariv*.

Monday - שושן פורים - טו אדר

- ***Tachanun*** is not recited.
- ***Simcha and Maos Chitim***: We continue *Simchas Purim* and we start giving *Maos Chitim* (*Tzedaka* for the needy for *Pesach*).
- ***Matza and Hilchos Pesach***: *Matza* is not eaten from *Shushan Purim* until the night of the *Seder*, and we begin to learn the *Halachos* of *Pesach*.

כה אדר

Birthday of our *Rebetzin*.

May we merit to celebrate this Purim in the Bais Hamikdosh Hashlishi!

Rabbi Levi Yitzchok Garelik
Theonlinerabbi.com