

To the families of *Kehilas Anas"h at the EU - Brussels Belgium* שי  
and of [Virtualcommunity@Sichosonline.org](mailto:Virtualcommunity@Sichosonline.org)

### **Reminders for Pesach 5777**

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

**Please print and display on the refrigerator etc. or a place where it can be in clear view.**

May not be posted on any internet website without prior consent from the author.

**My phone numbers:**

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**Mechiras chometz: 1468 Union St. (bet. Kingston and Albany avenues – basement entrance). I suggest that you text me at the above cell number before you come.**

**May we celebrate this Pesach in the Bais Hamikdosh Hashlishi!**

**Rabbi Levi Y. Garelik**

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The following are only Reminders. On [Sichosacademy.org](http://Sichosacademy.org) you can find many more details.

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**During the month of Nissan (in general):**

1. **Tachanun:** *Tachanun* is not recited throughout the entire month.
2. **Nossi:** From *Rosh Chodesh* until *Yud Gimmel Nissan* the נשיא is said.
3. **Brocho on Trees:** During *Chodesh Nissan* there is a special *Brocho* to be said on trees that blossom.
4. **Taanis Bechorim (Fast of the first born):** If the household has a *Bechor*, he [or his father] should not forget to finish his *Masechta* by *Erev Pesach*. (In case he wasn't able to, he can listen to one from the *Rov*).
5. **Matzo:** We don't eat *Matzo Shmuro* until the *Seder*. You may give the children machine *matzo* (which you do not serve on *Pesach*) until the evening before *Erev Pesach*.
6. **Mivtza Matzo Shmuro to acquaintances:** One of the *first Mivtzoim* of the *Rebbe* was that everyone should distribute *Matzo Shmuro* to friends, neighbors, doctors, etc. that we come in contact with. **For your convenience, Tza"ch has made a service available - [giftmatzah.com](http://giftmatzah.com) - and they will ship the Matzo to whomever you wish.**

7. **Ma'os Chittim:** Give money to help others with *Pesach* needs. Mothers, especially, should give, to educate their children.
8. **Learning the *Halochois*:** It is customary that fathers set aside time to learn the *Halochois* of *Pesach* with their children. (They can start with the “reminders”....)
9. **Four Questions:** Review with the children the פיר קושיות.
10. **Selling the *Chometz*:** Any time after *Rosh Chodesh*, the head of the household goes to the *Rov* to appoint him to sell the *Chometz* of the home, office, summer home, etc. It is advisable/educational to take along the children. Those that are traveling eastward for *Pesach* [e.g. *Eretz Yisroel* or further east] should sell the *Chometz* at their destination or discuss this with the *Rov* who will assist them. Those living in Europe and traveling to the USA should sell it in Europe. In any case, it should be discussed with the *Rov*.
11. **Not home for *Pesach*:** Those who are going away for *Pesach* and sell their entire home through the *Rov* (and no one will enter their home during *Pesach*), do not need to do *Bedikas chometz* in their home [they will do *Bedikas Chometz* at their destination]. It is advisable to discuss the details with the *Rov*.
12. ***Koshering* the Kitchen for *Pesach*:** If help is needed for *Koshering* the kitchen, you may contact: in Crown Heights: R' Shaltiel Lebovic (1-888-gokosher).
13. **Medicines and special gluten free diets:** Those who take medicines on a regular basis should consult with their doctor if it is necessary to do so during *Pesach*. If yes, contact the *Rov* **but please don't wait for the last minute** as many times it may take a few days for research. The same applies to gluten free diets.
14. **Bais Nissan, Yorzzeit of the Rebbe Rashab:** See *Sefer Haminhogim* page 86 regarding the customs of a *Yom Hahilula* of a *Rebbe*.
15. ***Yud Alef Nissan*:** Make all the relevant preparations for **the Rebbe's 115<sup>th</sup> birthday**.
16. **Haircuts:** Remind the men and boys to get haircuts before *Yom Tov*, and not wait until *Erev Yom Tov*, for there are many *Shailos* regarding this matter. From *Erev Pesach* after *Chatzos* (midday) until *Erev Shavuos* it is our custom not to cut one's hair.
17. ***Bedikas Chometz* in the office:** If the office will be used on *Pesach*, and it is distant from the house, or it will be difficult to access it on Sunday night prior to *Pesach*, ask the *Rov* for the procedures of an “early” *Bedikas Chometz*.

#### Things to buy in advance:

1. ***Bedikas Chometz* set:** consisting of a paper bag, a candle, a feather, a wooden spoon, string and a paper to wrap all of the above.
2. ***Matzos*:** Buy enough *Matzo* for the *Sedorim*, all 8 days of *Pesach*, guests, etc. Don't wait for the last minute.
3. **Wine:** Buy enough wine for the *Sedorim*, all 8 days of *Pesach*, the 4 cups for *Acharon Shel Pesach*, as well as for guests, etc. Suggestion: if you have an אינו-יהודי/יה working in the house, or are making a public *seder* etc. buy only יין מבושל (unless you can have special arrangements).
4. ***Haggadas*:** Buy enough *Haggadas* for the parents and adults, as well as for the children **with pictures** – per the Rebbe's instruction, (if they don't have yet, or they haven't received one from school, etc.)
5. ***Siddurim* and *Benchers*:** We try not to use the same *siddurim* on *Pesach* that have been around the house during the rest of the year, so it is suggested to purchase new ones.
6. **Scale:** There are those who buy a small kitchen scale (portion control) to measure the correct amounts of *Matzo* and *Moror*.

7. **Candles and candle-holders:** Those that use glass holders that need to be cleaned after each use should ensure that they have enough for two days of Yom Tov, as on Yom Tov there is a *shailo* regarding the removal of the washer that is stuck to the wax.
8. **Long-lasting candles** (like a *Yartzeit Licht*): At least two long-lasting candles should be purchased for those who do not have a gas flame lit over *Yom Tov*. However, those who have household help should light one even if there is a gas flame lit, for sometimes they may turn off the flame.
9. **Clothes and Jewelry:** One should buy clothes and jewelry for his wife and children according to his means.
10. **Carbon monoxide detector:** Those who have the gas on for a prolonged time should ensure that they have proper ventilation and that they have a proper carbon monoxide alarm system in place. Make sure to test it a couple of days before *YomTov*.
11. **Vacuum cleaner bag:** To be replaced on *Erev Pesach*.

Also to plan the purchases of those things that will be bought closer to *Yom Tov*, such as:

1. Fish.
2. Chicken.
3. *Zeroa* for the *Ke'oro* (the neck of the chicken).
4. Eggs.
5. Lettuce.
6. *Maror*.
7. Potatoes.
8. Onions.
9. Nuts.
10. Fruits for *Charoses*: **apples, pears, nuts**, etc. If one is using fruits from *Eretz Yisroel*, ensure they have a proper *Hechsher* so that *Terumos* and *Ma'aseros* have been taken (and that they are not from *shmitah* etc.)

### **Wednesday - *Bais Nissan* , ב' ניסן, The Rebbe Rashab's Yohrzeit.**

See *Sefer Haminhogim* page 86 regarding the customs of a *Yom Hahilula* of a *Rebbe*.

### **Friday, *Yud Alef Nissan* , י"א ניסן, The Rebbe's 115<sup>th</sup> birthday.**

\*After *Davening* we begin to say the Rebbe's new *Kapittel*, 116, in *Tehillim*.

\* We meditate on the "Hayom Yom" of today. This is a day for reflection and taking on *Hachlotos Toivos*, and it is appropriate to read additional details in *Sefer Haminhogim* p. 85.

\* It is worthy to mention that when the Rebbe was born it was also on **Friday** *Yud Alef Nissan* 5662.

### ***Shabbos HaGodol*, 12 Nissan**

\* After *Mincha* we read the *Haggadah* from "עבדים היינו" until "לכפר על כל עונותינו" (at the end of the paragraph "על אהת כמה וכמה"). The *Rebbe* would say it with the *Minyan*, while sitting at his place.

On our website, there is a wonderful *shiur* based on *Likutei Sichos*, where the *Rebbe* beautifully explains why it is called *Shabbos Hagadol* and why we say part of the *Haggadah* .

<http://theonlinerabbi.com/sichosonline/parshas-bo/>

## **Motzo'ei Shabbos Hagadol**

\*In *Ma'ariv* we do not say "ויהי נועם" and "ואתה קדוש".

\* **Kidush Levono:** If one did not yet say *Kiddush Levana* and there is a visible moon, then it should be recited tonight.

\* **Havdolo:** Right after *Havdolo* don't forget to put away the *Bsomim* in the *Chometz* (as our custom is not to use *Bsomim* on *Pesach*).

\*If one has braces, retainers, fillings or false teeth he should refrain from eating hot (or sharp) *Chometz* from now on, and at least to ensure that cold *chometz* does not get stuck, and to clean these well. (See further concerning what must be done tomorrow night.)

## **Sunday, 13 Nissan, י"ג ניסן, יום ההילולא של הצמח צדק.**

See *Sefer Haminhogim* page 86 regarding the customs of a *Yom Hahilula* of a *Rebbe*.

\* Today, instead of the נשיא, we say from "זאת חנוכה המזכה" until "כן עשה את המנורה" and we do not say the *Yehi Rotzon*.

## **Sunday evening:**

### ***Bedikas Chometz (In NY: after 7:58):***

**Ensure before *Bedikas Chometz* that the *Chometz* was sold!! Do not begin *Bedikas Chometz* until this has been done!**

1. We search for the *Chometz* after *Ma'ariv*.
2. *Chometz* that is left to be eaten tomorrow morning should be put away so that the children do not get to it. The areas that are to be sold to the *goy* **should be closed off and marked.**
3. All the areas where *chometz* is stored should be locked and marked at this time.
4. We prepare: 1. A **bag** to place the *Chometz* which is found during the *Bedika*, 2. A **wooden spoon**, 3. A **feather**, 4. A **paper** to wrap around all of the above, 5. **String** to tie the paper, 6. **Ten pieces of *Chometz*** as follows:
  - a. Ten pieces of *Chometz* are taken, preferably something that does not make crumbs.
  - b. Each piece should be less than a *kezayis*.
  - c. Each one is wrapped in a paper or napkin, not foil, so that it should burn well.
  - d. They are placed in various locations around the house.
  - e. It is better to put them in the corners of the rooms rather than in the middle of the rooms.
5. Someone should write down where each piece was placed.
6. There are those who have the custom to wash נטילת ידים before beginning the search.
7. The father should gather the members of the household next to him when he makes the *Brocho*.
8. After the *Brocho*, one should not speak until completing the *Bedika*. The search should be performed slowly and meticulously, and should begin in the room closest to where the *Brocho* is recited.
9. The places that will be sold to the *goy* and are sealed for the duration of *Yom Tov* do not have to be searched.
10. The *Chometz* that is found is placed in the paper bag.
11. If one of the ten pieces is lost or misplaced, call the *Rav* after the *Bedika*.

12. After the *Bedika* say the first "*Kol Chamiro*" and then wrap the paper around the bag, the candle, the feather and the spoon, making sure that the handle of the spoon is visible and then tie it. Ensure that there is at least a *Kezayis* of *Chometz* to burn.
13. **Thank you!!!** The father should give a heartfelt "Thank you" to the mother and the children for having done such a superb job in preparing the house so nice and clean for *Pesach*.
14. If the father has not yet done *bedikas Chometz* in the office (and it will not be sold in the *chometz*), he should do so at this point.
15. **Car:** Don't forget to make a *Bedika* in the car (if it will be used on *Pesach*). It may be done with a flashlight.

\* **Vacuum cleaner bag:** Remember to empty and discard the vacuum cleaner bag.

\* **Retainers, fillings and braces:** Whoever has fillings or braces should rinse their mouth with hot or warm water (hot or warm as they would usually use when having a tea or coffee). Whoever has retainers for their teeth, should also pour hot water on them (not boiling water that may ruin them).

\* **Be very careful with any *Chometz* left over for the next day. It should be placed out of reach of the children.**

## Monday, *Erev Pesach* - י"ד ניסן, ערב חג הפסח יום הולדתו של הרמב"ם - *Rambam's* birthday

In the morning until after *Biur* (burning of the) *Chometz*, in brief:

\* *Mikva*.

\* *Shacharis* (we don't say *לתודה* מזמור).

\* *Siyum* for the *Bechorim* (first-born).

\* End of the time for eating *Chometz*: In NY: before 10:44 am.

\* End of the time for burning *Chometz*: In NY: before 11:51 am.

### The Morning in Detail:

1. *Mikva*.
2. *Shacharis* (we don't say *לתודה* מזמור).
3. ***Siyum* for the *Bechorim*:** All *Bechorim* (first-born) fast on *Erev Pesach* unless they participate in a *Seudas Mitzva* or *Siyum*. If the father is a *Bechor*, or he has a son younger than *Bar-Mitzva* that is the first-born to his mother or father, the father should participate in a *Siyum* that is usually held after *Shacharis* in *Shul*, and bring the child along as well.
4. ***Mechiras Chometz*:** If it has not yet been done, **run** to the *Rov* and take care of it.
5. **Nails:** It is best to cut your nails before *Chatzos* (midday).
6. **Haircut:** Must be done before *Chatzos* (In NY: **12:57**). If one forgot, it may be done after *Chatzos* through a *Goy*.
7. **Eating *Chometz*:** Stop eating *chometz* before: In NY: **10:44 am**.
8. **Garbage:** Remove all garbage from the house: In NY: **before 11:51 am**.

### Burning the *Chometz*:

1. **Checking the pockets:** Prior to burning the *Chometz*, check the pockets of clothing, especially of the children, in their coat pockets, etc. for any *chometz*.
2. **Ten pieces:** Burning of the *Chometz* must also be with ten pieces. Therefore, if any pieces were lost during the *Bdika*, be sure to add the correct amount of missing pieces.
3. **End of the time for burning *Chometz*: In NY: before 11:51 am** after which one says the second “כל” “המירא” and the “יהי רצון”. Gas should not be used, just a regular fire.

### Monday, ערב חג הפסח—from *Biur Chometz* until the evening:

- \* **What we do/don't eat:** We do not drink wine nor eat *Matzo*. We also don't eat any of the foods that are used in the *Keoro* for *Charoses* (apples, pears and nuts) and *Maror* until after “*Korech*” of the second Seder. Eggs and potatoes may be eaten. This applies to children as well.
- \* **Sleeping:** If possible, children should nap during the day so they will be able to be awake for the Seder.
- \* **Rambam's birthday:** we study something in honor of the *Rambam's* birthday.

### Preparations for the *Sedarim* and the meals:

1. **Roasting:** On both nights of the *Sedarim* we do not eat meat or chicken that was roasted.
2. **Checking Lettuce:** Check the lettuce leaves for bugs and wash and dry them.
3. **Maror (Chrein):** Grind the *Maror*. Some store it in a tightly sealed container so it should not lose its sharpness.
4. **Charoses:** Prepare the *Charoses*, which consists of apples, pears and nuts. The *Rebbe* brings down a nice “*siman*” from the *Ariza*”I for these ingredients: It says in the *posuk* “הרושת אבן”. **אבן** Is the acronym for **א**יפל **ב**ארין **נ**יסן. (*eppel*-apple, *baren*-pears, *nissn*-nuts). [At the Seder, some wine is added before the *Maror* is dipped in the *Charoses*.]
5. **Eggs:** Cook the eggs for the *Sedarim* until they are hard-boiled. (If one forgot, they may be cooked at night. However, since one is not allowed to prepare on the first-day of *Yom Tov* for the second-day of *Yom Tov*, cook only what is needed for the first Seder, and be sure to eat them that night or the next day, and cook more eggs on the second night of *Yom Tov* for what is needed for the second Seder.)
6. **Zeroa:** Roast the *Zeroa* to put on the *Ke'ara*. (If one forgot, they may be roasted at night. However, since one is not allowed to prepare on the first-day of *Yom Tov* for the second-day of *Yom Tov*, roast only what is needed for the first Seder, and be sure to eat them the next day, and roast more on the second night for what is needed for the second Seder, and be sure to eat them the next day, for roasted meat may not be eaten at night.)
7. **Salt-water:** Prepare the salt-water.
8. **Matzos:** Open the packages and boxes of *Matzo* and make sure there are enough whole *Matzos* to use for the Seder.
9. **Wine:** Open the bottles of wine.

### Preparations for *Yom Tov*:

1. **Nails:** It is best to cut your nails before *Chatzos* (mid-day). If one forgot, they may be cut after *Chatzos*.
2. **Shabbos Clock:** Ensure that the *Shabbos* clock is set for both *Sedarim*.
3. **Eiruv Chatzeiros** (in apartment buildings, two-family houses, neighbors etc.): For those who need—don't forget to make an *Eiruv Chatzeiros* to be used the entire year.

### *Mincha* and *Seder Korban Pesach*

- \* **Mincha:** We daven earlier than usual for time is needed to say "*Seder Korban Pesach*" before *Sh'kia*.
- \* **Seder Korban Pesach:** After *Mincha* and before *Sh'kia* one says the "*Seder Korban Pesach*". One should read it in the proper time so the reading should be in place of the sacrifice, and one should entreat *Hashem* to rebuild the *Beis Hamikdash* speedily in our days and we should be able to bring the *Korban Pesach*, Amen. (See לקוטי שיחות חלק (ל"ב ע' 36)).

### Right before *Yom Tov*:

- \* **Long-lasting candles** (like a *Yartzeit Licht*): **Light the long-lasting** candles for those who do not have a gas flame lit over *Yom Tov*. [Those who have household help should light one even if there is a gas flame lit, for sometimes the maid turns off the flame].
- \* **Candles and candle-holders:** Those that use glass holders that need to be cleaned after each use should ensure that they have enough for two days of *Yom Tov*, as on *Yom Tov* there is a *shailo* regarding the removal of the washer that is stuck to the wax.

### *Hadlokas Haneiros* – candle lighting

1. Candle lighting time is 18 (23) minutes before *Shkiah*. (In NY: **7:12** pm). If one missed the proper time, the candles may be lit later but only from **a pre-existing flame!**
2. **Those that are eating elsewhere - do not forget to light candles!** If one missed lighting candles tonight, a *Rov* should be contacted after *Yom Tov* to determine what should be done for the future.
3. **Tzedaka:** Give *Tzedaka* equivalent to two days of *Yom Tov*.
4. **Berochois/blessings:** The two *Brachos* said are: **שהחיינו** and **להדליק נר של יום טוב**.

### In the evening:

\***Preparing the Table:** While the father is in *Shul* davening *Ma'ariv*, those at home should set the table with all the necessary items and utensils needed for the *Seder*. The *Ke'ara* should not be set up, for the father will put it together as soon as he returns from *Shul*.

#### \**Ma'ariv*:

1. *Tefillah* starts from "שיר המעלות".
2. The *Amidah* is that of *Sholosh Regolim*.
3. After the *Amidah* the entire *Hallel* is recited.
4. *Aleinu leshabeach*.

\* The Father should see to it that he comes home from *Shul* **immediately** after *Maariv* so the *seder* can start in a timely manner before the children get tired.

## The First Seder:

\* **Minhag Beis HaRav – the custom in the Rebbe's house:** Throughout the generations, the custom was to begin the first *Seder* immediately after *Ma'ariv*, and to eat the *Afikoman* before *Chatzos* (In NY: **12:56** am).

\* Before beginning the *Seder* one should give the children nuts so they see a "change". This will cause them to ask "*Ma Nishtano...why is this night different?*" ...

**Before the Seder begins, ensure that all the women and girls have lit candles. If there are not enough candles, do not rely on lighting after the Seder, rather borrow candles from a neighbor so that all the women can light candles before beginning the Seder.**

\* [The details concerning the *Seder* are in a different document]

\* It is best to eat the *Afikoman* before *Chatzos*, (In NY: **12:56** am).

\* By *Mayim Achronim*, until the end of *Shvi'i Shel Pesach* we do not pass our fingers over our lips.

\* **Krias Shema:** In *Krias Shema* before going to sleep, recite only the first paragraph of *Shema* (until ובשערך) and the *Bracha* of המפיל.

## Tuesday, 15 Nissan, the first day of Yom Tov

\* **Sof Zman** (latest time for) **Krias Sh'ma:** In NY: **9:37** am.

\* **Birchas Kohanim:** Prepare the children to attend *Shul* to hear *Birchas Kohanim* which is done at the end of *Musaf*.

\* **Hallel:** After the *Amida* for *Shalosh Regolim* the entire *Hallel* is recited.

\* מוריד הטל:

• In *Musaf*, after the *Gabbai's* announcement, we begin to say "מוריד הטל".

• If one forgot and said "ברוך אתה ה' מהי המתים" משיב הרוח ומוריד הגשם: if one remembered before saying "ברוך אתה גבור". However, if one remembered after saying the *Bracha*, return to the beginning of the *Amida*.

• One who is *davening* at home should estimate what time *Musaf* is said in *Shul*, and should then daven *Musaf* and say מוריד הטל.

\* After *Musaf* we recite "*Shesh Zchiros*".

\* **Kiddush:** *Kiddush* is that of *Shalosh Regalim* beginning from "אתקינו וכו' אלה מועדי ה'".

\* **Birchas Hamazon:**

- **Yaale Veyovo:** We add "יעלה ויבא" in *Birchas Hamazon*. If one forgot and remembered after beginning the following *Bracha* (even if he only said "ברוך") must begin *bentching* again. However, if he remembered before beginning the next *Bracha*, he should say the text printed in the *Siddur*: "ברוך.. אשר נתן..".

• **הרהמן:** At the end of *Birchas Hamazon* we add *Horachamon* of "הרהמן הוא ינחילנו ליום שכולו טוב".

\* **During the day:** Because one is not allowed to prepare on one day of *Yom Tov* for the next, during the first day of *Yom Tov* one may not prepare anything for the *Seder* that night.



\* In Mincha we do not say "Tzidkoscho".

## The second night of *Yom Tov*—First night of *Sefiras Ha'Omer*

\* All preparations for the *Seder* and the *Seuda* may begin after *Tzeis Hakochovim* (nightfall): In NY: after 8:14pm.

### *Ma'ariv*:

1. *Tefillah* for *Shalosh Regolim*, beginning from "שיר המעלות".
2. After the *Amidah* the entire *Hallel* is recited.
3. *Sefiras Ha'Omer*: Tonight we start counting *Sefiras Ha'omer* (יום אחד לעומר).

### The second *Seder*:

#### • Candle Lighting:

- a. Candles should be lit after nightfall (In NY: after 8:14 pm.) or close to the start of the *Seder* from a pre-existing flame.
- b. The *Brachos* recited are "שהחיינו" and "להדליק נר של יו"ט".
- c. If it is necessary to bring a candle from a neighbor, cover it before walking outside so the wind should not extinguish the flame.

• *Sefiras Ha'omer*: Before beginning the *Seder*, remind everyone to count *Sefiras Ha'Omer*.

• **Before the *Seder* begins, ensure that all the women have lit candles. If there are not enough candles, do not rely on lighting after the *Seder*, rather borrow candles from a neighbor so that all the women can light candles before beginning the *Seder*.**

• *Minhag Bais Horav*, throughout the generations, was to spend more time on the second night at the *Seder*, and the *Rebbe* would elaborate on the explanations of the *Haggada*, *Divrei Torah* and *His'orerus* and were not particular to eat the *Afikoman* before *Chatzos*.

***Zeroa***: If one forgot to roast it on *Erev Yom Tov*, they may roast only what is needed for the *Seder*, and be sure to eat it the next day, as roasted meat may not be eaten at night and we may not prepare from *Yom Tov* for after *Yom Tov*.

***Beitza***: If one forgot to prepare the boiled eggs, they may be cooked at night. However, since one is not allowed to prepare on *Yom Tov* for after *Yom Tov*, cook only what is needed for the *Seder*, and be sure to eat them at the beginning of the meal or the next day.

### After the second *Seder*

- Until 5731 the *Rebbe* would come to the *Shul* downstairs, after the *Seder* (about 1:30 am) and say several *Sichos* on the *Haggada* and sometimes also a *Maamor*. May we merit this year to hear more *Maamorim* and *Sichos*!
- ***Krias Shema***: Before going to sleep, *Krias Shema* is said like by any other *Yom Tov*.

## Wednesday, 16 Nissan – second day of Yom Tov

\* **Sof Zman** (latest time for) **Krias Sh'ma**: in NY: 9:37 am.

\* **Davening**:

- **Birchas Kohanim**: Prepare the children to attend *Birchas Kohanim* which is done at the end of *Musaf*.
- **Hallel**: After the *Amida* of *Shacharis* for *Shalosh Regolim* the entire *Hallel* is recited.

\* **Meal**:

- **Kiddush**: *Kiddush* is that for *Shalosh Regolim* and we begin from "אתקינו וכי' אלה מועדי וגו'" .
- **Esther's Feast**: It is customary to mention/do something during the meal of the day to remember Esther's feast which was on this day.

\* **Birchas Hamazon**:

- **יעלה ויבא** is added. If one forgot to say it and remembered after he already began the next *bracha* (even if he only said *ברוך*) he must begin *bentching* again. But if he remembered before he said *ברוך* he should say what it says in the *siddur* . "ברוך.. אשר נתן..".
- **הרחמן**: We add "הרחמן הוא ינחילנו ליום שכולו טוב".

\* **מסכת סוטה**: We start learning *מסכת סוטה* – one page per day. Today we learn the שער בלאט as is explained at length in the *sicha* of תשמ"ה of הרב חג השבועות.

## Motzoei Yom-Tov – Beginning of Chol Hamoed

In *Ma'ariv* (In NY after 8:15 pm) in the *Amidah* we add four things:

1. **מורידי הטל**: If one said *משיב הרוח* and remembered before he said *מחיל המתים ה'* he goes back to *אתה גבור*. If, however, he remembered after that - he starts the *Amidah* again. (This applies for the next thirty days).
2. **אתה חוננתנו**: If one forgot to say it and remembers after he said *"ה"* of *חונן הדעת* he doesn't go back and just says *ברוך המבדיל בין קודש לחול* after he finishes davening.
3. **ותן ברכה**: **We say ותן ברכה for the first time.**  
If one mistakenly said *ותן טל ומטר לברכה* - then:
  - If he remembered before he finished the *bracha*, he starts the *bracha* again.
  - If he reminded himself before he finished the *Amidah* he goes back to *השנים*.
  - However, if he finished the *Amidah* – he has to repeat it from the beginning.
4. **יעלה ויבא**: We add *Ya'ale Veyovo* in the *Shmone Esrei*.  
If one mistakenly forgot to say it, then:
  - a. If he remembers before he says *"ה"* of *"המחזיר שכינתו לצייון"* he says *יעלה ויבא* there and then continues.
  - b. If he already said *ה'* and remembers before he begins *מודים* he says it there.
  - c. If he remembers before he says the second *יהיו לרצון*, he goes back to *רצה*.
  - d. If he remembers after the second *יהיו לרצון* he must repeat the *Amidah* again from the beginning.

\* **Sefiras Haomer**: Tonight we count two days to the *Omer*.

**\* Havdala:**

- We say the regular Havdala but we do not use the *Besomim* nor the candle.
- We don't say ויתן לך.

**Thursday, First day of Chol Hamoed – י"ז ניסן**

**\*In Shacharis:**

We don't say מזמור לתודה.

We add in the *Amidah*:

1. **מוריד הטל**: If one said משיב הרוח and remembered **before** he said מחי' המתים אתה ה' ברוך אתה ה' מחי' המתים he starts again from אתה גבור. If, however, he remembered after that - he starts the *Amidah* again from the beginning. (This applies for thirty days).
2. **ותן ברכה**: If one mistakenly said ומטר לברכה then:
  - a. If he remembered before he finished the bracha, he starts the bracha again.
  - b. If he reminded himself before he finished the *Amidah* he goes back to ברך עלינו.
  - c. However, if he finished the *Amidah* – he has to repeat the *Amidah* from the beginning.
3. **יעלה ויבא**: We add *Yaale Vayovo* in the *Amidah*.

If one forgot to say it, then:

  - a. If he remembers before he says "ה" of "המחזיר שכינתו לציון" he says יעלה ויבא there and then continues.
  - b. If he already said ה' and remembers before he begins מודים he says it there.
  - c. If he remembers before he says the second יהיו לרצון, he goes back to רצה.
  - d. If he remembers after the second יהיו לרצון he must repeat the *Amidah* again from the beginning.
4. Half הלל
5. *Mussaf* for שלש רגלים.

**\*Cup of wine:** Every day of חול המועד it is customary to drink a cup of wine with one of the meals.

**\*Bentching:** *יעלה ויבא* is added. If one forgot and remembered only after he began ברוך אתה... הא-ל אבינו ברוך אתה... הא-ל אבינו even if he only said ברוך, he continues *Bentching*. If, however, he remembered after saying בונה ברחמיו "ברוך אשר נתן..." but before he said ברוך of הא-ל אבינו ברוך, he should say what it says in the *Siddur* "ברוך אשר נתן..."

**\*During the day:** We learn מסכתא סוטה דף ב'.

**\*In Maariv:** *Sefiras Haomer* – Three days of the Omer.

**Friday, Second day of Chol Hamoed – י"ח ניסן, ערב שבת קודש, ה"י**

***Birthday of the R' Levi Yitzchok Schneerson – the Rebbe's father, and the day of the Rebbe's Bris.***

**\*Shacharis:**

1. We don't say מזמור לתודה.

We add:

2. מוריד הטל
3. ותן ברכה
4. יעלה ויבא

[If one forgot any of these – see above in the first page]

5. Half הלל

6. *Mussaf* for שלש רגלים

\***Cup of wine:** Every day of חול המועד it is customary to drink a cup of wine with one of the meals.

\***Bentching:** יעלה ויבא is added. If one forgot and remembered only after he began ברוך אתה... הא-ל אבינו even if he only said ברוך, he continues *Bentching*. If, however, he remembered after saying בונה ברחמיו but before he said ברוך of אבינו הא-ל, he should say what it says in the *Siddur* "ברוך אשר נתן..."

\***During the day:** We learn מסכתא סוטה דף ג'.

### Friday Evening, *Chol Hamoed*

\***Mincha:** We don't say הודו before *mincha*. We do say: עלינו (יעלה ויבא) עשרה (שמונה קרבנות, אשרי, שמונה עשרה)

\***Candle Lighting:** Candle lighting time is 18 (or 23) minutes before sunset (like every Friday): In NY: **7:16**.

**The Brocho:** The *Brocho* is שבת קודש בר של שבת קודש .

#### \* *Maariv:*

- We begin from מזמור לדוד .
- In לכה דודי we say בשמחה ובצהלה .
- *Amidah* is that of a regular *Shabbos* - **not** of *Yom Tov*.
- יעלה ויבא: In the *Amidah* we add *Yaale Veyovo*. If one forgot to say it, but remembers before he says "ה" of "ה" he says יעלה ויבא there and then continues. If he already said "ה" and remembers before he begins מודים he says it there. If he remembers before he says the second יהיו יהיו he goes back to רצה and then says יעלה ויבא. If he remembers after the second לרצון he must recite the *Amidah* again from the beginning.
- ***Sefiras Haomer*** – Four days of the Omer.

#### *Kiddush and the Meal:*

- Say quietly: שלום עליכם, אשת חיל, מזמור לדוד, דא היא סעודתא
- *Kiddush* is that of regular *Shabbos*.
- ***Bentching:*** After רצה והחליצנו we add יעלה ויבא. If one forgot and remembered only after he began ברוך ברוך אתה... הא-ל אבינו even if he only said ברוך, he continues *Bentching*. If, however, he remembered after saying בונה ברחמיו וכו' but before he said ברוך of אבינו הא-ל, he should say what it says in the *Siddur* ברוך אשר נתן..
- ***Horachamon*** of *Shabbos*.

### *Shabbos day, Third day of Chol Hamoed*

\****Shacharis:*** The *Amidah* is that of *Shabbos* and not of *Yom Tov* and יעלה ויבא is added. If one forgot- see above (in *Maariv*).

\*After *Shacharis*, half *Hallel* is recited.

\* We don't say "אב הרחמים".

\* *Mussaf* for שלש רגלים and we add the additions of *Shabbos*.

\* ***Velokachto Soles:*** After *Musaf* we say "ולקחת סולת".

#### \* *Kiddush and the Meal:*

- **Kiddush:** Everything before *Kiddush* is said like a regular *Shabbos*, but **quietly** until “*Savri Moronon*” which is said out loud (and the *Brocho Hagofen*).
- **Bentching:** After רצה והחליצנו we add יעלה ויבא. If one forgot and remembered only after he began ברוך, he continues *Bentching*. If, however, he remembered after saying הא-ל אבינו but before he said ברוך of הא-ל אבינו, he should say what it says in the *Siddur* "ברוך אשר נתן...".

\*During the day: Learn סוטה דף ד'.

### **Motzoei Shabbos Chol Hamoed – מוצאי שבת (in NY: 8:19).**

Four things are added in מעריב:

1. מוריד הטל :

2. אתה חוננתנו: If one forgot to say it and remembers after he said "ה" of חונן הדעת, he doesn't go back and just says ברוך המבדיל בין קודש לחול after he finishes *Davening*.

3. ותן ברכה.

4. יעלה ויבא.

[If one forgot any of these – see above in the first page]

\* ויהי נועם and ואתה קדוש are not recited.

\* **Sefiras Haomer**– Five days of the Omer.

#### **\*Havdoloh**

- It is customary not to use nor make a *Brocho* on בשמים.
- A candle is used and the *Brocho* האש מאורי האש is recited.
- ויתן לך is recited quietly.

### **Sunday, Fourth day of Chol Hamoed – כ' ניסן**

\**Shacharis*, Cup of wine and *Bentching* – same as previous days.

\***During the day:** learn סוטה דף ה'.

#### **Right before Yom Tov:**

\* **Long-lasting candles** (like a *Yartzeit Licht*): If one does not have a gas fire lit for the duration of *Yom Tov*, he should light a long lasting candle (like a *yorzeit licht*) that will last for a minimum of 26 hours, in order to be able to light candles the second night of *Yom Tov*. Those who plan to have a gas fire lit and have hired help should light a *Licht* as a precaution because sometimes the helper turns off the gas flame.

\* **Candles and candle-holders:** Those that use glass holders that need to be cleaned after each use should ensure that they have enough for two days of *Yom Tov*, as on *Yom Tov* there is a *shailo* regarding the removal of the washer that is stuck to the wax.

\* **Shabbos Clock:** Ascertain that the *Shabbos clocks* are set for both days and evenings of *Yom Tov*.

#### **\* Candle Lighting:**

- Light 18 minutes before sunset – in NY: **7:18**. If one missed the time, it is permitted to light later **but only from a pre-existing flame!**

- Those who are going to eat elsewhere (not at home) should not forget to light candles.
- **Tzedaka:** Give *Tzedaka* equivalent to two days of *Yom Tov*.
- Say the *Bracha* להדליק נר של יום טוב and do **NOT** say שהחיינו.

### The *Simcha* of *Shvii* and *Acharon Shel Pesach* is greater than the *Simcha* of the other days of *Pesach* (Sefer Haminhogim)

- \* **Maariv:** Begin from שיר המעלות. The *Amidah* is of שלש רגלים, and then count *Sefira*.
- \* **Sefiras Haomer** – Six days of the Omer.

### *Seudas Yom Tov*

\* **Be sure that all the women, especially the guests, have lit candles.**

\* **Kiddush:** Begin from סברי מרנן and **do not** say שהחיינו.

\* **ש"ש:** At an opportune time, it is proper to read the story of the *Rebbetzin* in her youth from ספר השיחות ת"ש, pages 71-72, סעיפים ב,ג,ד – and there is a fascinating explanation of the *Rebbe* about this in לקוטי שיחות חלק ל"ז page 14 and onward.

\* **Bentching:**

- **יעלה ויבא:** *יעלה ויבא* is added in *bentching*. If one forgot to say it and remembered after he already began the next *bracha* (even if he only said ברוך) he must begin *Bentching* again. But if he remembered before he said ברוך he should say what it says in the *Siddur* "... אשר נתן...".
- **הרחמן:** We add הרחמן הוא ינחילנו ליום שכולו טוב.

\* **Shvi'i Shel Pesach At Night:** It is customary in Lubavitch to stay awake all night and learn (until *Alos Hashachar* (dawn): in NY: 4:41 am).

### כ"א ניסן – שביעי של פסח - Monday

\* **Sof Zman** (latest time for) **Krias Sh'ma:** (in NY: 9:32)

\* **Birchas Kohanim:** Prepare the children for *Birchas Kohanim* at the end of *Mussaf*.

\* **Hallel:** After the *Amidah*, half *Hallel* is recited.

\* **שירת הים:** During *Krias Hatorah* when *שירת הים* is read it is customary to stand.

\* **Kiddush:** *Kiddush* is that for *Shalosh Regalim* and we begin from "אתקינו...אלה מועדי".

\* **Bentching:**

\* **יעלה ויבא:** *יעלה ויבא* is added in *Bentching*. If one forgot to say it and remembered after he already began the next *Bracha* (even if he only said ברוך) he must begin *Bentching* again. But if he remembered before he said ברוך he should say what it says in the *Siddur* "... אשר נתן...".

\* **הרחמן:** We add "הרחמן הוא ינחילנו ליום שכולו טוב".

\* **During the day:**

- \* Because one is not allowed to prepare on one day of *Yom Tov* for the next, during the first day of *Yom Tov* one may not prepare anything for the night meal before nightfall (In NY: 8:21).

- \* We learn סוטה דף ו' מוסכתא.
- \* תהלוכה: Lubavitch custom is to go on *Tahalucha* on *Shvi'i shel Pesach*.

## Evening of פסח של אחרון

- \* Preparations of the meal should only begin after צאת הכוכבים (In NY: 8:21).
- \* **Maariv**: Begins from שיר המעלות, *Amidah* is for שלש רגלים.
- \* **Sefiras Haomer** - Seven days – one week of the Omer.

## Candle Lighting

- \* Candles are lit after צאת הכוכבים (In NY: 8:21) or close to the time of *kiddush*.
- \* **Be sure to light from a pre-existing flame.**
- \* **Those who are going to eat elsewhere (not at home) should not forget to light candles.**
- \* Say only the *Bracha* of טוב של יום טוב and **DO NOT** say שהחיינו.
- \* **Kiddush**: Of *Sholosh Regolim*. Begin from סברי מרנן and **do not** say שהחיינו.

## \* During the meal –

- \* **Gebrochts**: We stress the concept of eating געבראקטס with every part of the meal.
- \* **Mayim Acharonim**: We once again put water over the lips.
- \* **Bentching**:
  - יעלה ויבא is added in *Bentching*. If one forgot to say it and remembered after he already began the next *bracha* (even if he only said ברוך) he must begin *Bentching* again. But if he remembered before he said ברוך he should say what it says in the *Siddur* ... אשר נתן...".
  - הרחמן הוא ינחילנו ליום שכולו טוב: הרחמן .

## כ"ב ניסן – אחרון של פסח – Tuesday

- \* **Sof Zman** (latest time for) **Krias Sh'ma**: (in NY: 9:31)
- \* **Birchas Kohanim**: Prepare children for *Birchas Kohanim* at the end of *Mussaf*.
- \* **Hallel**: After the *Amidah*, half *Hallel* is recited.
- \* יזכור: Before *Mussaf*, יזכור is recited. Those who cannot make it to *shul* (for whatever reason) can say it at home.
- \* שרוי': We stress the concept of eating *Gebrochts* with every part of the meal.
- \* מים אחרונים: We once again put water over the lips.

## **Bentching**:

- יעלה ויבא is added in *Bentching*. If one forgot to say it and remembered after he already began the next *Bracha* (even if he only said ברוך) he must begin *bentching* again. But if he remembered before he said ברוך he should say what it says in the *Siddur* "... אשר נתן...".

- הרחמן הוא ינחילנו ליום שכולו טוב: הרחמן .

\***During the day**: learn סוטה דף ז' מוסכתא.

- \* We *daven Mincha* and then prepare for *Seudas Moshiach*.

**Seudas Moshiach:**

1. We wash our hands like for any other meal (**before Shkiah** (in NY: **7:39**), and eat at least a **כזית** before *shkiah*).
2. Drink 4 cups of wine – “with the intention that this is for Geulah. If one is unsure if he had this in mind, he should surely drink again, being that through drinking this he hastens Moshiach’s arrival, and therefore it must be done properly”- The Rebbe’s Maamor on Acharon shel Pesach 5749. See a copy of the Rebbe’s holy handwriting regarding this at the end of the Hebrew section of the Reminders.
3. It is customary to sing *Niggunim* from all the *Rabbeim* and then **האפ קאזאק**.
4. **Moshiach’s Dance:** There are two explanations for this: The first, that it is a dance welcoming Moshiach, and the second – a dance in which Moshiach partakes. We explain it the way it is worth it for us - the second... (From a *Sicha* of the Rebbe).
5. **Bentching:**
  - **יעלה ויבא** is added in *Bentching*. If one forgot to say it and remembered after he already began the next *Bracha* (even if he only said **ברוך**) he must begin *Bentching* again. But if he remembered before he said **ברוך** he should say what it says in the *Siddur* “...אשר נתן...”
  - **הרחמן**: We add **הרחמן הוא ינחילנו ליום שכולו טוב**.

**The end of Yom Tov - מוצאי יום טוב**

\***Maariv** (or saying **המבדיל**): In NY: after **8:22**.

\***אתה הוננתנו** is said. If one forgot to say it and remembers after he said "ה" of **הדעת** he doesn't go back and just says **ברוך המבדיל בין קודש לחול** after he finishes the *Amidah*.

\***Sefiras Haomer** – Eight days- one week and one day of the Omer.

\* The custom is to wait some time after Maariv (or after **המבדיל בין קודש לחול**) before opening the *Chometz* places (until after the *Rov* and the *Orev Kablon* arrange the purchase). Some have the custom to wait about an hour after the end of *Yom Tov*.

\***Havdolo**: We do not use, and no *bracha* is said, on **אש** nor **בשמים**, and **ויתן לך** is not recited.

- **Tachanun**: Until the end of the month of *Nissan*, *Tachanun* is not recited.

On **מוצאי יום טוב** it is customary to wish:

**א געזונטן זומער און א פרייליכען תמיד!**

**בניסן נגאלו ובניסן עתידים להגאל**

Rabbi Levi Y. Garelik

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