

בס"ד. תחלת חודש סיון תשע"ח

Dear *And"sh* 'ש of the community at the EU – Brussels
And the virtualcommunity@Sichosonline.org

Reminders for Shovuos 5778 – תשע"ח

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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 be truly celebrated joyfully.

Please post this on the refrigerator or another central location.

May we merit to celebrate *Shovuos* in the *Bais Hamikdiosh Hashlishi* and hear the *Torah Chadosho* from *Moshiach!* ולקבלת התורה בשמחה ובפנימיות

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* **Tachanun** is not recited from *Rosh Chodesh* until 12 Sivan.

* **Haircuts:** Our *Minhag* is not to get a haircut prior to *Erev Shovuos*. This year it may be done on *Erev Shabbos* (*Bamidbar*), 4 Sivan.

To Remember and Purchase:

1. **Dairy Foods:** On the first day of *Yom Tov* dairy foods are eaten. Every individual should do so according to his family custom. One should be especially careful in the *kashrus* laws pertaining to separation of milk and meat.
2. **Pareve Knife:** If one does not already own one, a separate pareve knife should be purchased to be used only for cutting onions and other fruits and vegetables. Cutting onions with a *Milchig* or *Fleishig* knife can lead to serious *shailos*.
3. **Aseres Hadibros:** Ensure that one has help, if necessary, to be able to bring **all** the children to *shul* to hear the *Aseres Hadibros*. Infants and newborn babies should also be brought to *shul* if it will not affect their health. (And, if possible, to be present at *Birchas Kohanim* after *Musaf*).
4. **Long-lasting candles** (like a *Yartzeit Licht*): Those who do not have a gas flame lit over *Yom Tov* should light a long-lasting candle (that should last at least three days) to be able to light candles on both nights of *Yom Tov* (and to use for cooking). However, those who have household help should light one even if there is a gas flame lit, for sometimes the maid turns off the flame.
5. **Neironim:** If one uses glass holders for the *Shabbos/Yomtov* candles which must be cleaned between each use, make sure there are enough to use for three days, *Shabbos* and *Yom Tov* (as there is a *shailo* whether you are permitted to remove the metal washer on *Yomtov*).
6. **Tikun Leil Shovuos:** Purchase one (if you don't have one) and insert the corrections that are mentioned in *Likutei Sichos* vol. 28 page 315. (Copied at the end of this document).

7. **Carbon monoxide detector:** Those who have the gas on for a prolonged time during *YomTov* 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*.
8. Give extra **Tzedaka** for those who do not have basic needs for *Yom Tov* (like *Maos Chitim* before *Pesach*).
9. Prepare a *Dvar Torah* and a story of the Baal Shem tov to be said during *Shovuos*.

Preparations for the *Milchig* (dairy) meal of the first day of *YomTov*:

PLEASE – Do not use neither a dairy nor a meat knife to cut onions or other vegetables (or bread) because this can cause kashrus questions to arise. Use only a separate pareve knife (during the year as well.)

- * **Oven:** If one only has a single oven that is used for meat, and wants to use it to bake dairy foods, please contact the *Rov*.
- * **Dairy meal:** The custom to eat dairy foods is only on the first day of *Shavous* (except for those who have a personal family custom, etc.).

Friday, ד' סיון *Erev Shabbos*:

Haircuts are permissible.

Before *Shabbos* Begins:

1. **Fires:** If it is necessary—make sure the appropriate fires are lit (for *Shabbos* and both days of *Yom Tov*).
2. If there is no lit gas flame—light the long-lasting candle (*Yahrtzeit Licht*).
3. **Shabbos Clock:** Ascertain that the *Shabbos* clock is set for **three** days - *Shabbos* and for the two days of *Yom Tov*.

Lighting of the candles

4. **Tzedaka:** The *Rebbe* instructed that on this *Erev Shabbos* we give *Tzedaka* for **three** days: *Shabbos* and both *Yom Tov* days.
5. **Lighting Candles:** The correct time to light candles is like every *Erev Shabbos* (see local calendar for the times). If one forgot, they may not light later.
6. **Those who will not be eating in their own homes should not forget to light candles before *Shabbos*, at the right time!!**
7. The *Bracha* for lighting candles is: להדליק נר של שבת קודש.

Shabbos day

- * *Davening* and the meals are like a regular *Shabbos*.
- * One may **not** prepare from *Shabbos* to *Yom Tov*.
- * In *Mincha* we do not say צדקתך and after *Mincha* we say the sixth chapter of *Pirkei Avos*.

Motzoei Shabbos – Once *Yom Tov* begins

- * **Preparation for the meal:** Preparations of food may commence only after nightfall (see local calendar for the times).
- * Before any preparations are commenced, the women must say **“Boruch Hamavdil Bain Koidesh Lekoidesh”**. They may say this (and even make preparations) before *Maariv*.

The Frierdiker Rebbe writes in a letter:

“Shavuos is an opportune time to do everything for the benefit of learning Torah and Avodah with Yiras Shomayim; and also to do תשובה in regards to Torah without interference from the שטן, similar to the time of תקיעות on Rosh Hashono and the day of Yom Kippur.”

The Rebbe added to this: **“This letter must be learned, and publicized amongst those who do not know about it.”**

Once *Yom Tov* begins:

1. One must wait until nightfall (see local calendar) to *daven Ma'ariv* because we have to make sure that there are “seven complete weeks” for *Sefiras Haomer*. Therefore, if one generally takes in *Shabbos* (or *Yomtov*) early, it is not done so on *Shovuos*.
2. *Ma'ariv* is for *Sholosh Regolim (Yom Tov)* and starts with “*Shir Hama'alos*”.
3. In the *Amida* of *Sholosh Regolim* we add “*Vatodienu*”. If one forgot to say it, he does not have to repeat the *Amida*, however, after the *Amida* he should say “*Boruch Hamavdil bain Koidesh Lekoidesh*”.

Lighting candles

1. Although the candles may be lit after nightfall (see local calendar for the times), many have the custom to light the candles right before *Kiddush*.
2. Candles must be lit from a **pre-existing flame**. [If one is bringing a flame from a neighbor, he should ascertain that it is well protected from the wind etc.]
3. *Brochos* said are: טוב ויהי לנו יום טוב and להדליק נר של יום טוב.
4. **Those who will not be eating in their own homes should not forget to light candles!! If one forgot, call the *Rov* after *Yom Tov* to see what must be done.**

The *Yom Tov* meal

1. **Before the meal begins, ensure that all the women and girls have lit candles. If there are not enough candles, do not rely on lighting after the meal, rather borrow candles from a neighbor so that all the women and girls can light candles before beginning the meal.**
2. For those who usually take in *Shabbos* early, today (*Shovuos*) they may not do so and *Kiddush* may not be recited before nightfall. (See local calendar for the times).
3. *Kiddush* has five parts, זיקנה"ו: 1. *Hagofen*. 2. *Kiddush* קידוש. 3. Blessing over the fire - “*Bore Meorei Hoeish*”. 4. הבדלה *Havdolo*. 5. זמן *Shehechyanu*.
4. When saying the blessing “*Bore Meorei Hoeish*” we do not look at the nails (like during the year), we just look at the candles (without moving them).

In *Birchas Hamozon*

1. **יעלה ויבא:** We add "יעלה ויבא" in *Birchas Hamozon*. If one forgot and remembered after beginning the following *Bracha* (even if he only said "ברוך") one must return to the beginning of *Bentching*. However, if he remembered before beginning the following *Bracha*, he should say the text printed in the *Siddur*: "ברוך.. אשר נתן..".
2. **הרחמן:** Towards the end of *Birchas Hamozon* we add "הרחמן הוא ינחילנו ליום שכולו טוב".

Tikun Leil Shovuos

*The men remain awake all night and say *Tikun Leil Shovuos* and then they go to the *Mikvah* before *Alos Hashachar* (see local calendar). There are a few corrections from the Rebbe regarding the *Tikun*, noted in *Likutei Sichos* vol. 28 page 315. (also brought at the end of this document).

* The Previous Rebbe said (Sefer Hasichos Tof Shin Daled page 127) that on Shovuos night one has to accept on himself the yoke of Torah, in his heart and in speech by saying: **“Ribono Shel Oilom, I am accepting upon myself the yoke of Torah!”**

Sunday, י' סיון, First Day of Shovuos - *Yahrtzeit* of the Baal Shem Tov:

1. **Krias Shma:** Latest time for *Krias Shma*: (see local calendar).
2. **Aseres Hadibros:** Prepare all the children, even the babies (if it will not affect their health), to attend *Shul* to hear *Aseres Hadibros* during the reading of the *Torah* (and after that – if possible - *Birchas Kohanim*, which is done towards the end of *Musaf*).
3. **Hallel:** After the *Amida* for *Sholosh Regolim* the entire *Hallel* is recited.
4. **Haftorah:** It is very important to hear the *Haftorah* of the first day of *Shovuos* because it discusses the *Maase Merkovo* - the “Charriot” that *Yechezkel Hanovi* saw, which is compared to *Matan Torah*. According to the Alter Rebbe, it should be read by someone who is knowledgeable in the subject and everyone should honor it by standing when it is read.

The YomTov meal

1. **Kiddush:** *Kiddush* at the start of the meal is that of *Sholosh Regolim*, beginning from "אתקינו וכי" אלה מועדי".
2. We eat dairy foods (each one according to his custom).
3. **Birchas Hamozon:**

יעלה ויבא: We add "יעלה ויבא" in *Birchas Hamozon*. If one forgot and remembered after beginning the following *Bracha* (even if he only said "ברוך") must return to the beginning. However, if he remembered before beginning the following *Bracha*, he should say the text printed in the Siddur: "ברוך.. אשר נתן..".

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

* **During the day:** One may cook food on *Yom Tov* as permitted by *Halochah*, but during the first day of *Yom Tov* one may not prepare anything for the second day of *Yom Tov*.

* **Tahalucha:** The custom in Lubavitch is to go on "תהלוכה" during the first day of *Yom Tov*.

* **Mincha:** קרבנות, אשרי, ובא לציון ותפלת שלש רגלים.

Second night of Yom Tov:

1. **Ma'ariv:** Is that of *Sholosh Regolim* starting with *Shir Hamaalos*.
2. **Preparations for the meal:** Preparations for the meal may commence after nightfall (see local calendar).
3. **Candle Lighting:** Candles may be lit after nightfall (see local calendar). However, many have the custom to light candles right before *Kiddush*.
4. Candles must be lit from a **pre-existing flame**. If one is bringing a flame from a neighbor, he should make sure that it is well protected from the wind etc.
5. **Brochos** said are: שהחיינו and להדליק נר של יום טוב.

6. Those who will not be eating in their own homes should not forget to light candles!! If one forgot, call the *Rov* after *Yom Tov* to see what must be done.

Yom Tov Seuda (meal):

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

* ***Kiddush***: *Kiddush* is that of *Sholosh Regolim (Yom Tov)*, and שהחיינו.

* In ***Birchas Hamozon*** we add "יעלה ויבא" (If one forgot – see yesterday) and "הרחמן הוא ינחילנו ליום שכולו טוב".

Monday, ז' סיון, second day of Shobuos

1. Arrange for the children to attend ***Birchas Kohanim*** which will take place towards the end of *Mussaf*.
2. *Aseres Hadibros* are read only on the first day of *Yom Tov*.
3. ***Yizkor: Shacharis*** is like the first day of *Yom Tov*, however, before *Musaf* we also add "***Yizkor***". Those who have to say *Yizkor* and cannot attend *Shul*, may say it at home.
4. Towards the end of *Musaf* there is *Birchas Kohanim*.

The Seuda

* ***Kiddush*** is like the first day of *Yom Tov*.

* In ***Birchas Hamozon*** we add "יעלה ויבא" (If one forgot – see yesterday) and "הרחמן הוא ינחילנו ליום שכולו טוב".

* ***Mincha*** is of *Sholosh Regolim (Yom Tov)* like yesterday.

* ***Farbrengen***: The *Rebbe* would start the *Farbrengen* before the *Shkia* (sunset). The *Rebbe* would wash for *Hamotzie*, eat *Challah*, say *Lechayim*, many *Sichos* (a *Maamor*), and continue through the night. During the *Sichos* the *Rebbe* would also remind everyone about **Chita's - חת"ת** and its connection to *Shobuos*: *Chumash – Moshe Rabeinu; Tehillim – Dovid Hamelech; Tanya – the Baal Shem Tov*. A special *Sicha* was devoted to the "*Kinus Torah*" that would take place the day after *YomTov*. At the conclusion of the *Farbrengen* the *Rebbe* would say *Birchas Hamozon*, daven *Maariv*, recite *Havdalah* and distribute *Kos shel Brocho*. Sometimes it would last almost until 3-4 am!

* This *Seuda/farbrengen* is a "*Simcha shel Mitzva*" – just like when a child goes into *Cheder* we celebrate with a *Seudas Mitzvah*, so too, *Klal Yisroel* started going to *Cheder* on *Shobuos*....

At the end of YomTov

*In ***Maariv*** we recite "*Ato Chonantonu*".

*We recite ***Havdalah***. However, we do not use *Bsomim* nor the *Havdolo-candle* and we do not say *Veyiten Lecho*.

* The day after *Shobuos* is called "*Yom Tovuach*" (the day they brought some of the *Korbonois* connected to *Shobuos*).

* We do not say *Tachanun* until after 12th of Sivan.

“A healthy summer and a joyous *Tomid* (always)”

May we merit this *Shovuos* (and even prior to that) to receive the “*Torah Chadosh Me’iti Tetze*” ולקבלת התורה בשמחה ובפנימיות.

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P.S. An exercise for the family:

All the *Halocho*s of *Shovuos*, are the same as all *Yomim Tovim* (Cooking, lighting fires, carrying etc.) There are some *customs/Minhogim* that make *Shovuos* different (eating *Milchigs*, *Tikun Leil Shovuos* etc.).

Do you know of a *Halocho* – that is different on *Shovuos* than all *Yomim Tovim*? Can you write it to me?... at the above email address.

Thanking you in advance.

Corrections of the *Rebbe* to the *Tikun Leil Shovuos*

א) ב"תיקון ליל שבועות" – בכל הדפוסים שראיתי – הסיום דספר יצירה הוא: „... נאמנת בפנים. . אחד בפה ואחד בלב”.

ולפענ"ד אינו נכון. כי (נוסף לזה שחסר סיום בדבר טוב, הרי) נוסח זה אינו מובן כלל.

וצריך להיות, כמו שהוא בכ"כ הוצאות דספר יצירה הנדפס בפ"ע: „... נאמנת ג' רעות ללשון דיבור רע והמלשין והמדבר אחד בפה ואחד בלב ג' טובות ללשון שתיקה ושמירת הלשון ודיבור אמת”.

ומענין לענין: ב"תיקון" שנדפס בסלאוויטא (ועוד) בהעתקת מאמרו של רשב"י: „אנן בחביבותא תליא מילתא דכתיב כו", הובאו רק ב' פסוקים.

וצ"ל כבזהר: „אנן בחביבותא תליא מילתא דכתיב ואהבת את ה' אלקיך וכתיב מאהבת ה' אתכם וכתיב אהבתי אחכם אמר ה'”².