



Ta'anis Esther, Shabbos Parshas Zachor and Purim Schedule

Wednesday, March 12th: The weekly women's shiur at 8:15pm will be on the topic of hilchos megilla and Purim

Ta'anis Esther: Fast is observed on Thursday. It begins 6:00am and ends at 7:43pm. Shachris at 6:30 & 8:00, Mincha at 2:00 and 6:35 in the Reibel Beis Medrash (including the mitzva of Machatzis Hashekel).

Shabbos Zachor (P. Tzav/March 15): An additional reading of Zachor will take place in the main shul immediately after davening is over.

Purim Motzei Shabbos: Shabbos is observed as usual with mincha, shalosh seudos and maariv taking place at their regular times. The only difference is that maariv will pause after the kaddish of Shemoneh Esrei and continue with the Megillah reading at 8:20pm followed by the conclusion of maariv and havdalah. No preparations for Purim should take place on Shabbos. Post-Shabbos preparations can only begin after either 1) saying *ata chonantanu* in the amidah or 2) just saying *baruch ha'mavdil bein kadosh l'chol*. For those unable to be in shul to hear havdalah after the Megillah reading, another havdalah will be said at the beginning of the chagigah. Those who will not be in shul for the first Megillah reading and will not be attending the chagigah, should make havdalah after Shabbos before hearing the Megillah.

The chagigah will begin in the Levy Auditorium after the conclusion of maariv of the main minyan.

There will be additional Megillah readings at 10:00 in the main shul and at the conclusion of the chagigah in the Reibel Beis Medrash.

Purim Day

Shachris at 7:00 and 8:30 in the main shul (including the mitzva of Machatzis Hashekel if not completed previously), later Reading of the Megillah at 11:00am in the Reibel Beis Medrash

Mincha at 1:40 and 3:30 in the Reibel Beis Medrash

Sunset is 7:05. Seudas Purim must be well on its way before this time

Maariv 9:00pm in the Reibel Beis Medrash

The Mitzvos of Purim are:

Megillah reading night and day,

Mishloach manot: On the day of Purim one must send two items of ready to be eaten foods to at least one person

Matanot La'evyonim: On the day of Purim, a person must give one gift each to at least two poor people of money or food. It is better to spend more on Matanot La'evyonim than on Mishloach Manot. Money can be given to Rabbi Herman for distribution to poor on Purim.

Seudas Purim: The meal may be eaten anytime on Purim day, until sundown. Ashkenazim have the minhag to eat the meal after mincha, while many Sephardim have the minhag to eat the meal in the morning.

If anyone cannot attend any of the Megillah readings in the shul and is need of a private reading please call Rabbi Herman (908)220-7317.