

ק"ק בית ישראל
ADELAIDE HEBREW CONGREGATION

'THE VOICE'
PESACH NEWSLETTER
2010 - 5770



"CHAG SAMEACH" FROM
THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT
AND RABBI NETANEL FRIEDLER

ABOUT PESACH



Passover, 'Pesach' in Hebrew, celebrates that G-d "passed over" the Children of Israel during the final plague of ten plagues that led to their freedom and the exodus from Egypt around 3,300 years ago. The ten plagues were: the Nile turning to blood, frogs, vermin, wild beasts, pestilence, boils, hail, locusts, darkness, and the death of the firstborn.

G-d instructed Moshe to command each household to guard a lamb from the tenth of the month of Nisan, and slaughter it on the fourteenth. The sacrificial lamb was to be roasted and eaten and its blood used to mark the doorposts and lintels of their houses. This marked them as G-d's people when the plague of the firstborn passed over Egypt during the night.

They were told to eat the lamb "with your belts tied, your shoes on your feet, and your staff in your hand" ready to leave. Their bread dough was packed before it could rise. It is a Torah commandment to observe Pesach with a feast of unleavened bread throughout the generations:

"This day shall be for you as a memorial, and you shall celebrate it as a festival for G-d. For all generations you shall celebrate it as an eternal statute" (Shemot 12:14)

Pesach is also known as '*zman heiruteinu*' – the "season of our freedom" as the Israelites were freed from slavery and oppression after two centuries.

A Paschal offering was brought on the eve of the festival when the Tabernacle and Temple stood.

Pesach is when family and friends gather to relate the story from the Haggadah at the Seder and celebrate.

Removing and Selling Chametz

We prepare for Pesach by removing all Chametz from our possession. What is Chametz? It is any of the 5 major grains, i.e. wheat, barley, rye, spelt and oats, even in minute amounts, that have come into resting contact with liquid for at least 18 minutes. After this time it is considered to have started leavening. Ashkenazic Jews also will not partake of other grains and legumes such as rice, peanuts, lentils, beans, peas, and corn which when ground into flour would look like the five grains. Sephardi Jews, however, have no restriction on these foods.

Matzah can be eaten when it is labelled Kosher for Passover, because special precautions have been taken to avoid the onset of the leavening process. Check that your box of Matzah is indeed labeled Kosher for Passover as some are not for Passover use.

Also there are two types of Matzah for Pesach – regular kosher l'pesach matzah, and shmura matza. The latter is matzah that has been rabbinically supervised from grain harvest to production and is frequently hand made. One should use shmura matzah for the seder and first two days of Pesach.

BEFORE PESACH - Remember to sell your Chametz

Any remaining Chametz in our possession **must** be sold to a non-Jew through an independent broker. The Rabbi represents the community to ensure that this is done according to halacha.

A form for the sale of your Chametz was distributed to all members.

Cleaning Up for Pesach

Before Pesach, the house must be thoroughly cleaned to remove chametz. Clean carpets and under cushions. Go through cupboards and drawers to check and clean. Throw out out-of-date foodstuffs. Vacuum the car, check the glove box and boot. Check children's bags for lunchboxes or crumbs and bedrooms for remainders of food.

The kitchen is the major area requiring extensive cleaning. Fully clean one small area to store Passover supplies until everything is ready.

Benches - scrub then cover with foil, plastic or other non-porous covering.

Ovens - thoroughly clean with a strong chemical cleaner, rinse, then heat on High for 2 hours, unless you have a self-cleaning oven then use that process.

Cook-tops must be thoroughly cleaned, covered in heavy duty foil, then burnt on high for 20 mins if gas, and an additional 5 mins after turning red if electric.

Sinks must be thoroughly cleaned and koshered with boiling water then if you wish, have a plastic basin insert. Or if it is steel, clean thoroughly, leave it unused for 24 hours, then pour boiling water over all surfaces including tapware, using a hot stone to maintain the heat in the trough.

Microwave ovens can be koshered by cleaning thoroughly, then filling a new container with water, turn the microwave on High for 10 mins, so that it is very steamy. Wipe out the inside. Repeat this process twice.

Fridges and freezers must be thoroughly cleaned and all shelves should be lined with heavy-duty foil; preferably also the inside walls, with slits to allow the cool air to circulate.

Cupboards can be used for Pesach dishes and goods once they have been thoroughly cleaned and re-lined with fresh paper or plastic.

Toddlers' **high chairs** must be thoroughly scrubbed, and the tray covered with contact paper.

Basic Kosher L'Pesach Products

Pesach is a time when we can eat plenty of fresh fruit and vegetables. Other foods need to be checked they are kosher for Pesach. Remember that many of these need to be purchased **before Pesach**.

Fish - ensure that the fish has both fins and scales (check the printed Kosher Australia directory for a list of kosher fish); it is preferable to purchase the fish WHOLE to wash thoroughly then fillet at home. If you wish your local fish merchant to fillet your fish, you must ensure that the board and knife used are clean.

The **Kashrut Authority Pesach Directory** (from NSW) is online at: http://www.ka.org.au/index.php/Pesach_Products_Directory/

Kosher Australia in Victoria distribute a printed Pesach guide to subscribers.

SOME READILY AVAILABLE ITEMS FROM THE KOSHER AUSTRALIA LIST:

MILK – use only plain white full-cream milk purchased before Pesach and frozen if necessary, not UHT milk

TEA - All plain unflavoured loose tea purchased before Pesach.

COFFEE – **Bushells** Instant Coffee, Granulated Instant Coffee, Pulverised Coffee; **Maxwell House** Instant Coffee; **Nescafe** (in glass jars only): Blend 43, Mild Roast, or Espresso;

Robert Timms Coffee beans, or Ground Coffee NOT Coffee bags

OIL - **Coles Extra Virgin Olive Oil, Ollo Cold pressed Extra Virgin Olive Oil** (either Fresh and Fruity, or Mild and Mellow) are produced Chametz-free but should be purchased before Pesach.

BUTTER - **Mainland Dairy** - Butter, Butter Soft and Butter Soft Less Salt are readily available but should be purchased before Pesach.

SUGAR – **CSR White Sugar** (1kg or 2kg) or **CSR Caster Sugar** (500g, 1kg, or 2kg) bought before Pesach.

SWEETENERS - **Hermesetas** Saccharin Sweeteners Tablets (Parev)

MINERAL WATER – **Evian still mineral water, Perrier natural carbonated mineral water**

JUICE – Due to the additives in manufactured juices, juice should be made at home during Pesach from freshly squeezed fruit. Enjoy!!

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR PESACH



Sunday 28 March after nightfall

Search for chametz. Recite the blessing prior to the search:

Baruch atah Adonai Elohainu melech ha'olam asher kidshanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu al biur chametz.

Blessed are You, Lord our G-d, King of the universe, who has sanctified us with His commandments and commanded us concerning the removal of the chametz.

Following the search, recite the nullification of the Chametz (*Kol Chamira*) in a language you understand. If you do not understand Aramaic, repeat it in your own language:

Kol Chamira v'chamia de'ika virshuti, de'lah chamitei u'delah vi'artei u'delah y'danahleh, li'batel v'le'hevei hefker k'afra d'ara.

All chametz and leaven that is in my possession, which I have not seen, have not removed and do not know about, should be annulled and become ownerless, like dust of the earth.

Monday 29 March, 14 Nisan, Erev Pesach

Fast of the Firstborn begins at 6:11am and ends at 7:40pm.

When the tenth plague struck Egypt, all the firstborn sons of the Egyptians died. However the children of Israel were spared and none of their sons died. So as a sign of gratitude, all firstborn sons fast on the day before Passover. The fast can be broken to participate in celebration of a Mitzvah such as completion of the study of a Talmudic tractate by a scholar. Once the fast is broken by the seudat mitzvah there is no need to fast for the rest of the day.

Chametz may not be eaten after 11:22AM for those not fasting. It is forbidden to eat matzah on the day before Pesach begins. Burn remaining (unsold) chametz by 12:21 pm. The nullification of the chametz (*Kol Chamira*) recited while burning the chametz must be recited by 12:21pm. The declaration is:

Kol Chamira v'chamia de'ika virshuti, da'chaziteh u'delah chaziteh d'chamiteh u'delah chamiteh d'viarteh u'de'la viarteh, li'batel v'leh'hevei hefker ke'afra d'arah.

All chametz and leaven that is in my possession, whether I have recognized it or not, whether I have seen it or not, whether I have removed it or not, should be annulled and become ownerless, like dust of the earth.

PREPARE A PRE-EXISTING FLAME

Light a long-lasting yahrzeit candle, or use a pilot light, as a pre-existing flame with which to light candles and oven during the Festival. Light the Yom Tov candles by 6:58pm. The following blessings are then recited:

Baruch atah Adonai Elohainu melech ha-olam asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu l'hadlik ner shel Yom Tov

Blessed are You, Lord our G-d, Ruler of the universe, Who has sanctified us with His commandments, and commanded us to kindle the light of the Festival.

Baruch atah Adonai Elohainu melech ha'olam she'he'cheyanu vekiyemanu vehigi'ya'nu lazman hazeh

Blessed be the Lord our G-d, Ruler of the universe, who has given us life, and sustained us, and has brought us to this season.

Evening service is at 6:30 pm. Complete Hallel is recited during Maariv.

The first Seder is held in the evening at home.



THE SEDER

The Seder (or "order" of) service is held on the first, and in the Diaspora also on the second night of Pesach. It is a ritual meal at which we tell the story of our ancestors' exodus from Egypt.

What you need (as well as your festive meal):

Haggadah -The Haggadah (which literally means "the telling") is the book containing the order of Seder service, blessings and prayers. There should be at least one Haggadah between two, preferably one copy per person at the table.

Matzah - to remind us how our ancestors left Egypt in such a hurry that they did not have time for their dough to rise. There must be 3 matzot, covered at the head of the table, which are part of the seder ritual and enough others for all participants to share during the meal.

Wine – symbol of joy and gladness – each person drinks 4 cups of wine during the Seder, and a 5th is poured for the Prophet Elijah whose coming, according to tradition, will herald the coming of the Messiah.

The Seder Plate - a regular plate with a section for each item, or a specially decorated seder plate for the following symbolic items:

Maror – bitter herbs – (romaine lettuce, endives or fresh horseradish). To symbolize the bitter life endured by the Israelites during their Egyptian slavery.

Charoset – (a mixture of grated apples, cinnamon, red wine and ground almonds) representing the mortar used by the Israelites to make the bricks to build the Egyptian cities.

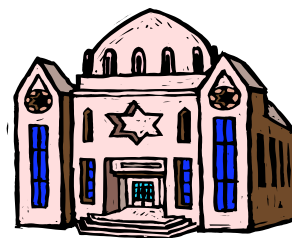
Salt water – representing tears shed by the people in their misery.

Karpas – vegetable – (parsley, potato, onion).

Shankbone – a reminder of the Paschal sacrifice. A shankbone is usually used because its Hebrew word is zeroah – arm – as used to describe G-d's outstretched arm as He delivered us from bondage.

Egg – roasted or boiled - a reminder of the festival offering in the Temple.

PESACH 5770 - 2010 SYNAGOGUE SERVICE TIMES and candlelighting



MON 29 MAR	Fast of the Firstborn begins 6:11am ends 7:40pm Others finish eating Chametz before 11:22am Burn Chametz before 12:21pm		
	Light candles BY 6:58pm	MAARIV - 1 st night Pesach	6:30pm
TUES 30 MAR		SHACHARIT - 1 st day Pesach	9:00am
	Light candles AFTER 7:53pm No preparation for 2 nd night seder till after 7:53 SECOND NIGHT AHC COMMUNAL SEDER (PREBOOKING NEEDED)	MAARIV - 2 nd night Pesach	7:00pm
WED 31 MAR		SHACHARIT - 2 nd day Pesach	9:00am
	Say Havdalah prayer AFTER 7:51pm omit spices and candle		
FRI 2 APRIL	Light candles BY 6:52pm	KABBALAT SHABBAT MAARIV	6:30pm
SAT 3 APRIL	Havdalah AFTER 7:47pm	SHACHARIT - Shabbat	9:00am
SUN 4 APRIL	Light candles BY 5:49pm	MAARIV - 7 TH night Pesach	6:00pm
MON 5 APRIL		SHACHARIT - 7 th day Pesach	9:00am
	Light candles AFTER 6:45pm	MAARIV Acharon shel Pesach	6:00pm
TUES 6 APRIL		SHACHARIT Acharon shel Pesach YIZKOR	9:00am
	Pesach ends at 6:43pm Say havdalah prayer, do not use the spices or candle. Wait half an hour before eating any sold chametz to allow the Rabbi time to buy your chametz back.		