



Rosh Chodesh



This week is Shabbos Mevorchim for Rosh Chodesh Nissan. Rosh Chodesh Nissan is next Shabbos, Shabbos Parashas Tazria - HaChodesh. The Molad for Chodesh Nissan is Friday, 1:27 AM and 17 Chalakim.



Reminders

This Shabbos, we lein Parashas Parah, which discusses the preparation and usage of the *Parah Adumah*. Many congregations say *yotzros* during Shacharis.

Daf Yomi: Erev Shabbos is Chullin 122.

Make sure to call your parents (and in-laws), grandparents and Rabbi to wish them a good Shabbos. If you didn't speak to your kids today, make sure to do the same!

Next on the Calendar



Pesach begins on the evening of Friday, April 19th.



Parshah in a Paragraph

SHEMINI: The sacrifices on the eighth day, after the seven days of inauguration • Moshe and Aharon bless the people • Hashem's Glory is revealed • Nadav and Avihu offer unauthorized incense and are consumed by Hashem's fire • Aharon and his surviving sons receive instruction regarding mourning • Restrictions on Kohanim serving while inebriated • Moshe and Aharon differ over consuming sacrificial meat while in mourning • Laws of Kosher and

non-Kosher animals, fish, birds and insects • The various forms of tumah •

Taryag Weekly

613

Parashas Shemini contains 91 pesukim and 17 Mitzvos, 6 positive and 11 negative commandments.

1. A Kohen may not grow long hair
2. A Kohen may not enter the Mikdash with torn clothes
3. A Kohen may not interrupt an Avodah
4. A Kohen may not enter the Mikdash intoxicated
5. Do not eat non-kosher animals
6. Check animals for the signs of kashrus
7. Check fish for signs of kashrus
8. Do not eat non-kosher fish
9. Do not eat non-kosher birds
10. Check for the signs of kashrus on creeping creatures
11. Tumah of the eight *sheratzim*
12. Tumah regarding foods
13. Tumah of a *neveila* animal
14. Do not eat *sheratzim* that crawl on the earth
15. Do not eat *sheratzim* which emanate from plants
16. Do not eat amphibious *sheratzim*
17. Do not eat maggots

Mitzvah Highlight: "*Rasheichem al t'fra'u*" "Do not leave your heads unshorn" (Vayikra 10:6).

During the time of the Beis HaMikdash, a Kohen could not go without a haircut for more than 30 days. The Rambam explains that this command applies only to a Kohen who is doing *Avodah* in the Beis HaMikdash.



For the Shabbos Table

"*V'es eilah tishaksu min ha'of...v'es hachasida*"

"These shall you abominate from among the fowl...the *chassidah*" (Vayikra 11:19)

The Sefer Hachinuch explains that the birds deemed non-kosher are forbidden because of the negative behaviours they engage in. These instincts can influence the person who consumes them. Among the forbidden species is a bird called *chassidah*. Rashi explains that the *chassidah* earned its name from its characteristic of doing chessed with her friends in regard to her food. This seems to be a praise of the *chassidah*; if so, why is this bird forbidden?

The Chiddushei HaRim explains that while the *chassidah* bird engages in chessed, it does so only for her friends. Only those in her circle benefit from her kindness. This discriminatory behaviour makes the *chassidah* unfit for Jewish consumption, as the Torah wants us to give freely without compunction. As we approach the busy holiday season, and determine where to donate *kimcha d'pischa* and who to assist in Pesach preparation, it behooves us all to keep the lesson of *chassidah* in mind

This space is for you.

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