

J.L.C. Connections

The Jewish Learning Connection's Weekly Newsletter



Shavuos
May 21, 2026 / 5 Sivan 5786
Volume 31, Issue 30
Candlelighting: 8:27 pm

Waxman Torah Center · 2195 S. Green Road · University Heights, OH 44121 · (216) 691-3837 · www.clevelandjlc.com

Friday, May 22

See Shavuos schedule

Shabbos, May 23

See Shavuos schedule

Sunday, May 24

- 9:15am *Parsha Class*
(R. Nisenbaum)
- 10:00am "The 613 Mitzvos"
(R. Stoll)

Monday, May 25

- 8:00am **Legal Holiday**
Shacharis, Breakfast, and Class
- 8:00pm A Taste of Mussar and Chassidus – Slabodka
(R. Nisenbaum)

Tuesday, May 26

- 8:00pm Tanna d'vei Eliyah
(R. Stoll)

Wednesday, May 27

- 8:00pm Nach Still Speaks – MISHLEI
(R. Stoll)

Thursday, May 28

- 8:00pm Sefer HaChinuch: R. Stoll
- 10:15pm *Parsha Class*
(R. Nisenbaum)

Torah Podcast

Listen to Rabbi Nisenbaum's "Torah Podcast" at Spotify, Apple Podcasts, iHeartRadio, and more, or download at www.maverickpodcasting.com

Weekday Minyanim

- 7:00am Shacharis (M-F)
- 8:00am Shacharis (Sun)
- 10:00pm Maariv (Sun-Th)

Class Connection

R. Nisenbaum:
425-436-6200 #352171

"The Torah Podcast" weekly at all podcast locations

R. Stoll:
Zoom: 876-619-3551
Audio: 669-900-9128

Shavuos

Seven weeks after the Jewish people left Egypt, G-d felt they were ready to receive the Torah, the purpose of their redemption from Egypt. After camping at Sinai, the people purified themselves three days prior to receiving the Torah, in preparation for the event. In many ways this purification and preparation were like a conversion of sorts, enabling the people to accept the mitzvos and become a nation. It is interesting to note that the account of the experience at Sinai follows the

account of the conversion of Yisro, Moshe's father-in-law.

That is one of the reasons it is customary to read the Book of Ruth on Shavuos. The Book of Ruth is also the story of a famous convert, who went on to become the grandmother of King David and the Messianic dynasty.

At Mount Sinai the people heard the Ten Commandments. The Midrash explains that when G-d uttered the first two commandments, the experience was too powerful for the people to behold. They pleaded to Moshe that they would die if they heard any more. Moshe then repeated the remainder of the Ten Commandments to the nation. The Talmud finds a

hint to this in the passage, "Moshe commanded us the Torah..." The numerical value of the Hebrew word "Torah" is 611. This alludes to the 611 mitzvos, besides the two that the people heard directly from G-d. Although the people only heard the Ten Commandments on that day, all the mitzvos are

alluded to in the Ten Commandments. That is why we say that the Torah was given on this day, despite the fact that they only heard the Ten Commandments.

After the Commandments, Moshe climbed the mountain where he remained for forty days. During that time he received all the details of the mitzvos. This is referred to as the Oral Tradition. G-d also dictated to Moshe the Written Torah, from the beginning of Bereishis (Genesis) until the middle of Exodus, where it describes the Sinai experience. Moshe transcribed everything he was told. The remainder of the Torah was dictated to Moshe throughout the rest of the forty years in the desert.

Shavuos is the day we celebrate the Sinai Revelation. It is the day we are supposed to rededicate ourselves to Torah study and observance.

Condolences

Larry and Lori Weissman upon the loss of her mother

Insights: Shavuos

...and He gave us a Torah of truth (Shavuos liturgy) Rav Nosson Tzvi Finkel. Rosh Yeshiva of the Mir Yeshiva, suffered from Parkinson's Disease. He had a difficult time moving and speaking clearly, but his joy and desire to study Torah and teach it did not diminish at all. Shavuos night he would speak in the yeshiva, but without a microphone it was very difficult to understand. A Yerushalmi chassid was once seen standing in the back with his young children while the Rosh Yeshiva spoke on Shavuos. After the talk, a student asked the chassid if he understood the talk. The chassid replied that he could not even hear the Rosh Yeshiva speak but he wanted his children to witness the Rosh Yeshiva's face beaming with the sheer joy of Torah, as he felt that would speak louder than any talk

Did You Know?

It is customary for a bride and groom to be escorted to the chuppah, the marriage canopy, with candles. The reason for this is to recall the fiery smoke at Mount Sinai when the Jewish people were wedded to G-d. Another reason offered is that the candles suggest a prayer to G-d to illuminate the way for the bride and groom as they face the unknown challenges of life. The groom is led to the chuppah before the bride. This is also reminiscent of Mount Sinai, where the Torah relates that G-d, the Groom, preceded the Jewish people, the bride, to the mountain.

THURSDAY, MAY 21 ERUV TAVSHILIN

CANDLELIGHTING 8:27PM
MINCHA 8:30PM
MAARIV 9:27PM

ALL-NIGHT LEARNING 12:15AM

FRIDAY MAY 22 SHAVUOS DAY 1

SHACHARIS 1 5:15AM
SHACHARIS 2 8:45AM

EARLY MINCHA / MAARIV 7:00PM
EARLIEST CANDLELIGHTING 7:17PM

LATEST CANDLELIGHTING 8:28PM
MINCHA / MAARIV 8:30PM

SHABBOS, MAY 23 SHAVUOS DAY 2

SHACHARIS 8:45AM
YIZKOR ~ 10:45AM

NEILAS HACHAG 7:30PM
MINCHA & SHIUR 8:20PM
MAARIV 9:37PM