

The Jewish Association of the Philippines

Kislev/Tevet 5769

January 2009

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Parashat

January 3 *Vayigash*
 January 10 *Vayechi*
 January 17 *Shemot*
 January 24 *Va'era*
 January 27 *Bo*

SHABBAT CANDLE LIGHTING

January 2 5:20PM
 January 9 5:24PM
 January 17 5:28PM
 January 23 5:32PM
 January 30 5:35PM

WEEKLY:

Sunday: 8:00 am Minian/ 9:30 am Hebrew School

Monday: 7:15 am Minian Shacharit

Tuesday: 11:00 am class with Rabbanit

Thursday: 7:15 am Minian Shacharit

Friday: 6:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat

Shabbat: 9:30 am Minian followed by Kiddush
 12:45 pm Mincha/ 4:15 pm class with Rabbi
 Followed by Seudat Shlishit, Arvit and
 havdala

MASTER TEACHER REBBETZIN ESTHER JUNGREIS



Rebbetzin Esther Jungreis



Rebbetzin's Azaria, Jungreis, Rabbi Azaria and Paul Rosenberg

The rooster crowed January 7 for the arrival of Rebbetzin Esther Jungreis in Manila to give a wonderful emotional, moving, and educational talk to the community. The evening started with cocktails and hors d'oeuvre in the ballroom of the Mandarin Hotel. Rabbi and Rabbanit Azaria spent the prior day and night koshering the kitchen. Rebbetzin Jungreis' spoke for about one and half hours, without notes, without sitting or stopping. She was amazing. Her talk went from her experiences in Bergen Belsen concentration camp, to her experiences of returning to her homeland of Hungary, to inspirational messages from the Torah and her own wisdom. The title of her talk was "Life is a Test, How to Meet Life's Challenges Successfully". At times there were very few dry eyes. To hear more of Rebbetzin's messages you can find a lot on YouTube.



Hannah Schranz, Rebbetzin, Rose Abreu, Nanette Keston, Poalabelle Safarti, Marilyn Fragman



Rebbetzin signing her books



Rebbetzin, Chava Wang, Santiago, Itzik Harel



Isi Gilan



Bob Fragman, Paul Rosenberg and Rebbetzin

1st ANNUAL JEWISH GOLF OPEN



John Berry, Barak Newman, Lee Blumenthal, Sinai Djamal, Tubia Levy, Simon Malca, Rabbi Azaria, Tal Shem Tov, Salito Malca, Udi

Last November, the first of what is to be an annual golf tournament, was organized by Simon Malca and Tal Shem Tov. It was a smashing success. We were fortunate to have a good turnout with such notables as the Israeli Ambassador Vapni and Rabbi Azaria, among many others. The field included from low handicappers to first time players. The format was alternate shot one ball per 2 man team. The grand prize winners were the team of Tubia Levy and John Berry. The prize for best dressed went hands down to John Berry. It was great fun and fostered great camaraderie in the community.



John Berry Best Dressed



Udi , John Berry, Tal Shem Tov, Tubia Levy, Itzik Harel, Aizik Zeituni

TU B'SHEVAT



Pictures from yesteryears Tu B'Shevav planting a tree in front of the Synagogue and children making dolls that will grow hair

Tu B'Shevav, the 15th day of the Jewish month of Shevat, is a holiday also known as the New Year for Trees. The occasion has long been a Jewish tradition to honor trees and appreciate the food, shade and shelter they provide.

As in prior years, we will gather together to eat, sing, and rejoice in the miracle of the tree! Come with your children and loved ones to celebrate this joyous occasion. There will be many activities such as planting of trees and eating different kinds of fruits, biking, boating and fishing. We will be serving many types of foods.

This year, as in prior years, we will celebrate it at La Mesa Eco Park on February 8 . Emails, texts and flyers will be distributed with more details and directions or call the Synagogue office and the Rabbanit will give more details.

KOSHER DAIRY PRODUCTS

Rabbi Azaria has made arrangements with a local dairy produce company that will allow us to have kosher milk, yogurt and soft cheeses. Currently available are:

Fresh Milk: (Pasteurized), Full Cream, Low Fat, Non-Fat and chocolate flavored.

Cheese: White soft cheese (Quesong Puti), Cottage Cheese and Ricotta

Yogurt: (Full Cream) Plain and Flavored.

Sour Cream

For orders, prices and delivery please call Claire in the Synagogue office



MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

I would like to thank Lee Blumenthal for taking on the task of reviving our newsletter and serving as the Editor. We all look forward to an interesting newsletter each month.

This month we had a very special event at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel with Rebbetzin Esther Jungreis giving us a very interesting and inspiring talk. Our thanks to Rabbanit Miriam Azaria who was the guiding spirit behind the visit of Rebbetzin Jungreis and who did an enormous amount of work in making it come true. Rabbi and Rabbanit Azaria worked very hard and were able to kasher the kitchen at the Mandarin and all the food was kosher and delicious.

These are difficult times and we are improving the level of security at the synagogue. We ask everyone to cooperate fully with the security guards and any procedures that may be implemented.

Finally, please update your contact information – phone numbers, fax, email, address, etc. – with the Jewish Association office. As much as possible we would like to communicate with members by email because it is fast and easy. But for those without email, please let us know what would be best.

PAUL ROSENBERG

MESSAGE FROM OUR RABBANIT



Last January 7th we had an event that brought all the way to Manila the Rebbetzin Esther Jungreis... What is so special about this lady and why bring her all the way from New York???

One of the reasons that moved us to contact her is her continuous work and commitment to reinstall "Jewish identity". She lived and survived a period in history when it was very hard to keep all kind of Jewish traditions, not only physically but also spiritually. We have no idea how many questions of G-d and faith were raised to the Jews in a time where the "chosen People" were sent to death by the millions, and with no sign of opposition from G-d.

In Judaism we have a believe, that the best way of continuity, is through Education. We teach our kids and install within them a Jewish Identity.

We live in a generation where we are gifted by the great possibility of learning, everything is given in our hands; How many schools, yeshivot, and universities are there around the world. How easy and affordable is it to find all kind of books in almost any language that we can think of. We need to press only one button to make our browser surf around and find anything we can imagine. But are we really fulfilling the purpose?? Are we using all these gifts to our benefit and to the assurance of continuity of our Judaism??

After all the benefits we have in the 21st century, it is sad to say that we have become a nation with amnesia, a nation without a past and without memories.... And guess what? We, the average Jew don't even feel the absence and the lose of ourselves. We forgot our identity and what our sages taught is not only in the books and can not be passed through the internet; but is inside us. Our example is how we teach. All the values, all the great honor of being Jewish; the more than 4000 years of history on our backs. Is your destiny to be the last sign of Judaism in your family and break this great chain that not even the mightiest empires were able to extinguish through 4000 years???

I know it is not easy to be a Jew, it demands different kinds of sacrifices according to the generation; sometimes the trials are more physical and other times are spiritual; but we should be ready to respond to it and react the right way to keep our nation's survival, our history and our path.

Lets stop blaming our families, our neighbors and all the external causes that took our Judaism away, we are responsible for learning and recognizing what is our part in the master plan.. And yes, it would be easier if we got it from our parents, but if we didn't, maybe let's think about building it for ourselves and our kids.

Today the call is for each one of us. What will be your answer??

MESSAGE FROM OUR RABBI



During this moth we read the story about the exodus of Egypt. At the time Egypt presented a great challenge, how can a people of only 70 souls descended, remained there for 400 years and keep their Jewish Identity?

What is more puzzling is that instead of losing their Identity, they became a great nation.

How did they manage to do this?

When the children of Israel came to Egypt, Yosef chose a land for them in Goshen where they could keep their traditions, the first thing he did was to build a place for Jewish Education (Yeshiva),Our language, our clothing and our Hebrew names were carefully guarded by our parents.

Modern challenges can be compared to the challenges in Egypt. How can we keep our Jewish identity in modern society? How can we implant in our children an identity with our people, our culture and values?

If we want our children to have a Jewish Identity we need to learn from the Egypt experience and address these same issues, we need to get our children and families involved in a Modern land of Goshen, Our Community, and get our children involved in the many learning programs we offer, in this way B"H we will be able to overcome our modern Egypt.

Please contact us if you wish to give your child the tools he needs for a strong Jewish education.
rabbiazaria@gmail.com
miriaza@gmail.com
815-0263, 815-0265

Rabbi Azaria

Rabbanit Miriam Azaria



The Class of the Synagogue

I am happy to write my first article about the class in the synagogue!

This outstanding class is taught by Rabbi Azaria on Sundays. He teaches Hebrew and the Weekly Parsha (Parts of the Bible). If you see how Rabbi Azaria teaches you will be thrilled how the children learn and have fun. I will be interviewing kids from the class and you will see comments from the children on the next issue.

-Belinda Fragman-



of Rina

Dear to Rina
I wish you
fill betet
have a Happy
Hanukkah.



JEWISH ASSOCIATION OF THE PHILIPPINES

110 H. V. Dela Costa Street
Salcedo Village, Makati City
Philippines
Tel: (632) 815-0265
Fax: (632) 840-2566
Email: rpjewish@gmail.com
