

Tzav: *Hametz* of the Heart

Every job has its unglamorous parts. Even the holiest among us, the High Priest himself, had to take out the trash:

“Command (*tzav*) Aaron and his sons thus: [He] shall take up the ashes to which the fire has reduced the burnt offering on the altar and place them beside the altar ... and carry the ashes outside the camp to a pure place.” (Leviticus 6:2–4)

One might have thought that a lesser priest would be given the grunt work of clearing the schmutz from the altar. Not so, says Rabbi Bahya ibn Pakuda: God uniquely commanded Aaron (only here is the word *tzav* directed toward an individual) in order to “induce lowliness and remove arrogance from his heart.” None of us is too holy to be humbled.

We are also commanded to clean—as anyone in the thick of cleaning for Passover knows full well (and if you haven’t started yet, let this be your reminder). We rid our houses of *hametz*, leavened bread products, and eat only the *matzah* our ancestors ate as they fled Egypt in haste. But *hametz* is symbolic in itself, according to Hasidic thought, of that which puffs up, sours, and spoils; in a word, arrogance. Like Aaron, we are required to remove not only the ash from the altar or the *hametz* from our homes, but the hubris from our hearts. And, like him, we can’t delegate either chore.

So as you’re clearing out your kitchen cupboards this Passover, remember, too, the cupboards of your soul.

Shabbat Shalom, and hag kasher v’sameach.  
Rabbi Moe Howard



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Affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

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Special thanks to the staff and lay leaders who make Shabbat services exceptional:

- Jessica Green - Executive Director
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Mehrzad Roshan, Sinai Temple President



MISSION STATEMENT

Sinai Temple is dedicated to providing a welcoming and caring community for its members, devoted to Jewish learning and support for Israel and the Jewish people, and committed to improving ourselves and the world through a growing relationship with God from generation to generation. We are committed to the principles and values of Conservative Judaism and we welcome Jews of all backgrounds and affiliations to observe life cycle events, and pursue our mission through prayer, rituals, learning, music and the other gifts God has given us.

SHABBAT CHILDCARE

- Ages Potty Trained - 5 Years Old
9:45 AM | Room 114
Ages 6 - 10 Years Old
9:45 AM | Youth Lounge

MINCHA & KABBALAT SHABBAT

in Kohn Chapel
Every Friday at 5:45 PM
Also available to watch on YouTube

DAILY MINYAN

in Kohn Chapel
Monday–Friday at 7:30 a.m.
Sunday morning at 8:30 am
Sunday-Friday evenings at 5:45 pm
Saturday evenings 9:00 p.m. (online only)
Please consult the website for holiday locations and times.



SINAI TEMPLE

10 NISAN 5786 | 28 MARCH 2026



PARASHAT TZAV | תצא
SHABBAT HAGADOL
THE B’NAI MITZVAH OF SKYLER KAMJOO AND COLIN NAIM
Torah reading begins: Leviticus 6:1 (page 612)
Maftir: Leviticus 7:7-10 (page 617)
Haftarah: Malachi 3:13-24 and 23 (page 1297)
‘No Place Like Home’ - Sermon by Rabbi Nicole Guzik

SHABBAT SERVICE

in Ziegler Sanctuary at 9:00 a.m.
The Bat Mitzvah of Skyler Kamjoo
The Bar Mitzvah of Colin Naim
Also available to watch on YouTube

TORAH AT THE TABLE

in Blumenthal Library Classroom at 9:00 a.m.

TORAH IN THE ROUND

in Kohn Chapel at 9:30 a.m.
The Bar Mitzvah of Daniel Matian

Honor or remember someone special with a meaningful gift to Sinai Temple. Scan this QR code to make a contribution in their name and create a lasting tribute.



Find us on YouTube at www.youtube.com/@SinaiTemplePresents



## A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT MEHRZAD ROSHAN

Once a month, on Sundays, we open our doors at Sinai Temple to children and young adults with disabilities for a day of connection, play, and community. These gatherings give them a chance to build friendships, stay active, and simply enjoy being together in a welcoming environment.

This past Sunday, I had the privilege of joining this meaningful program alongside our lay leaders, Sindy Paikal, Brian Ghodsian, Michelle Taus, and a few others. It was a powerful reminder of what community truly means. This is what we do at Sinai Temple: create spaces where people feel seen, supported, and connected.

Many of you call Sinai Temple your spiritual home and attend our Shabbat services regularly.

Membership dues alone do not cover the full cost of sustaining our synagogue, offering inspiring Shabbat services, and the programs that enrich so many lives. Your generous tax-deductible donations allow us to keep building these meaningful experiences and invest in a vibrant future together.

Please support our fundraising efforts and become an active partner.

Together, we can make a difference. Please scan the QR code to contribute.



## TEMPLE EVENTS

### Fast of First Born Service

This Wednesday, April 1, 2026 | 7:30 AM

Join us on the 14th of Nisan for Daily Minyan and Siyum Ta'anit B'khorot (Fast of the First Born) in Ziegler Sanctuary. This is followed by breakfast, sponsored by the Diamond and Smotrich families. Options to participate in person or via livestream.

### First Day of Passover Service

This Thursday, April 2, 2026 | 9:00 AM

### Passover Playroom for Young Children

#### First Day of Passover

This Thursday, April 2, 2026 | 10:00 AM

Join us for a Passover Playroom in Gold Hall for Bubblemania, play stations, and snacks. Designed for ages 0-5, children must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver.

### Eighth Day of Passover - Yizkor

Next Thursday, April 9, 2026 | 9:00 AM

Join us for the Eighth Day of Passover in Ziegler Sanctuary, with **Yizkor** at approximately 10:30 a.m. (in person and streaming), a meaningful and reflective service.

### Sinai Speaks: Echoes of Memory with Maria Ross

Monday, April 13, 2026 | 7:00 PM

Join us on Yom HaShoah for a conversation led by Rabbi Gavriella Kornsgold and Holocaust survivor Maria Ross, honoring the memory of Holocaust victims through personal stories and reflections, followed by a candle lighting to commemorate the six million lives lost.

### Let's Talk: A Men's Group with Dr. Michael J. Whitman, Psy.D.

#### Understanding Dreams and the Unconscious

Tuesday, April 14, 2026 | 7:00 PM

Join other members of Sinai Temple for an informal gathering focused on understanding dreams and the unconscious while exploring relevant mental health topics. Exclusively for men, all ages welcome.

## Learning with Rabbi David Wolpe

Join Rabbi David Wolpe to explore the wisdom, texts, and teachings that have shaped Jewish life across generations. Together, participants will trace Jewish thought from its ancient foundations through medieval interpretation and into its enduring relevance today.

The next session will take place at 7:00 PM on April 30 in Kohn Chapel.

## Sinai Temple Sisterhood

Join Sinai Temple Sisterhood for two meaningful opportunities to connect, learn, and celebrate together.

On **Thursday, April 16**, gather for a special **Rosh Hodesh Iyar** evening with Rabbi Gavriella Kornsgold, featuring dinner, community, and reflection in an intimate Westwood setting.

Then, continue the connection at our **Sisterhood Book Group on May 5**, as we come together for a thoughtful discussion of *Spinning Silver* by Naomi Novik.

Both events offer a warm and welcoming space to build community and engage with one another.

For more information or registration, please visit [sinaitemple.org/community/sisterhood/](https://sinaitemple.org/community/sisterhood/).

## SAVE THE DATE

Join us on May 17 for the annual Sinai Temple Gala, a festive dinner and dance honoring President Mehrzad Roshan.

## WANT TO PLAN AN EVENT?

Host your next event at Sinai Temple, where exquisite catering meets a stunning setting to create unforgettable experiences. Let our expert caterers transform your special occasion into a celebration filled with flavor, elegance, and impeccable service. For more information, please contact Judy Begin at [jbegin@sinaitemple.org](mailto:jbegin@sinaitemple.org) or 310-481-3222.

## SPONSOR AN ONEG SHABBAT



Honor a simcha or yahrzeit by sponsoring an oneg! Your sponsorship will be featured in the Shabbat bulletin and announced from the bimah on Shabbat.

To sponsor, contact Judy Begin at [jbegin@sinaitemple.org](mailto:jbegin@sinaitemple.org) or 310-481-3222.



Scan the QR code to RSVP and to learn about more events.

For more information contact Amanda Harrison at [aharrison@sinaitemple.org](mailto:aharrison@sinaitemple.org) or 310-481-3246