

Halacha Newsletter

by Rabbi Yisroel Rosenfeld

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Shavuos 5770

Sivan

Tachnun is not said from the first through the twelfth day of the month. During this time period fasting is forbidden except in the following two cases. A Chossan and Kallah fast on the day of their wedding. One who is accustomed to fast following a disturbing dream may do so.

The second day of Sivan is called "Yom HaM'yuchos." It was on that day that Hashem said to the Jewish people, "V'atem Tihyu Li Mamleches Kohanim V'goy Kodosh" (And you shall be unto me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation). The following Yom Kippur will fall on the same day of the week as the Yom HaM'yuchos.

The third, fourth and fifth days of Sivan are called "Shloshes Y'mei Hagboloh," the three preparatory days before Mattan Torah. Although haircuts are permitted during these three days, Minhag Chabad is to wait until Erev Shavuos.

Shavuos Night

Tuesday Evening
Sivan 6, May 18

Candlelighting time is 8:14 p.m. The following two Brachos are recited: 1) L'Hadlik Ner Shel Yom Tov; and 2) Shehechionu.

Maariv We daven later than usual to make sure that the forty-nine days of the Omer are complete. Beginning at Shir Hamaalos we recite Maariv L'Sholosh R'golim.

Kiddush We recite Kiddush for Shalosh Regalim in the following order:

1. Boreh P'ri Hagofen
2. Birkas Kiddush
3. Shehechionu

It is customary to stay awake all night to recite "Tikun Leil Shavuos" and to learn. This is to rectify the Jews' having slept the night prior to Mattan Torah. One who was up all night (until morning) washes "Negel Vasser" and says Birchas Hashachar. (For further details, refer to Likutei Sichos, Volume 9, page 276.)

Some have a custom to immerse in the Mikveh at dawn to receive the Torah in purity.

Shavuos Day

First Day of Shavuos
Wednesday
Sivan 6, May 19

Shacharis of Sholosh Regolim and Hallel.

Kriyas Hatorah After Vay'hi Binsoa we say "Hashem, Hashem" once, and take out two Sifrei Torah. From the first Sefer we read the portion concerning Mattan Torah in Parshas Yisro. It is

customary to stand facing the Sefer Torah during the reading of the Aseres Hadibros. For Maftir, from the second Sefer we read "U'vayom Habikurim" in Parshas Pinchas.

There has been an urgent call from the Lubavitcher Rebbe, מנחת, to ensure that all children, including infants, be brought to shul to hear the Torah reading, especially the portion containing the Aseres Hadibros.

Musaf of Sholosh Regolim. Note the special insertions describing the Shavuos Korbonos. Birkas Kohanim is performed.

It is customary to eat dairy foods on the first day of Shavuos. However, we are also obligated to eat meat on Shabbos and Yom Tov. Therefore, one should take caution to rinse the mouth out and wait approximately one hour (six hours after "hard cheese") between the dairy foods and any meat meals which follow.

Second Night

Second Night of Shavuos
Wednesday Evening

Candlelighting is not before 9:20 p.m. from a pre-existing flame. The following two Brachos are recited: 1) L'Hadlik Ner Shel Yom Tov; and 2) Shehechionu.

Maariv L'Sholosh Regolim

a project of Lubavitch Center

2100 Wightman Street Pittsburgh, PA 15217 412-422-7300

(beginning with Shir Hamaalos).

Kiddush L'Sholosh Regolim and Shehechiyonu.

Second Day

**Second Day of Shavuos
Thursday, Sivan 7, May 20**

Davening is the same as the first day. According to the Minhag of Chabad the book of Ruth is not read publicly.

Kriyas Hatorah "Vay'hi Binsoa" and "Hashem, Hashem (once)" are recited. Two Sifrei Torah are taken out. In the first we read "Kol Hab'chor" in Parshas Re'eh. Maftir is the same as for the first day. **Yizkor** is recited after Kriyas Hatorah. **Musaf** of Sholosh Regolim. Be sure to include the

Motzei Yom Tov 9:25 p.m. Havdolo is the same as every Motzei Yom Tov: Hiney Kel Yeshuosy, Borei P'ri Hagofen, and the Brocho of Hamavdil (B'somim and candle are **not** used).

Did You Know...

Shavuos means not only "weeks" but also "oaths." The name indicates that, on the day of the giving of the Torah, G-d and Israel exchanged oaths to remain faithful to each other forever. The true sanctification and holiness of the Jews began at Mattan Torah. Therefore, any "shchitah" done prior to Shavuos was not "kosher" for them afterwards. This holds true even according to those opinions which maintain that the Jews kept the laws of kashrus

"schecht" that day. Hence, the only thing available for them to eat was dairy. This is one reason we eat dairy on Shavuos. Another reason we eat dairy on Shavuos is because the word "cholor" (milk) has the numerical value of forty. This corresponds to the forty days which Moshe Rabeinu spent on Har Sinai to receive the Torah.

**Lubavitch Center
wishes you a
Happy Shavuos!**

You're Invited...

* Lubavitch Center will be open the entire 1st night of Shavuos

12:00 AM **Tikun Leil Shavuos** –

12:00 AM **Boys Grades 5-8 Shavuos Night Program until 2:00 AM**

1:00 AM **Lectures Begin** – Rabbis Yossi Rosenblum, Yisroel Altein and Shais Taub - Lubavitch Center

5:00 AM **Milchig Snack** – Lubavitch Center

* Children are encouraged to come hear the Aseres Hadibros at 11:15 am on Wednesday, May 19, followed by a Jr. Minyan Ice Cream Party after Birchas Kohanim!