

Passover Q+A



Q: When is the Fast of the First Born?

A: The Siyum of the Fast of the First Born will be held on Monday, April 22 at 8:00am. We will conclude a seder (order) of Mishna at the end of services so as to negate the need to fast.

Q: When do we search for Chametz?

A: Following a thorough cleaning of the house, the search for leaven is held on Sunday evening, April 21 after night fall. Breadcrumbs are placed conspicuously in rooms where food is normally eaten. Using a candle, a search is made and the crumbs are whisked with a feather onto a wooden spoon and then into a paper bag. The prayer said at this time is found in the Haggadah.

Q: What do we do with the crumbs in the bag? Where is Chametz burned?

A: Chametz should be burned on Monday, April 22. After morning Minyan (7:00am), we will have a small bonfire in a steel drum in the parking lot to burn your Chametz. Parents and children can come from 8:30—9:00am that morning to share in this ritual.

Q: How and why do I sell my Chametz?

A: On Pesach it is forbidden to possess Chametz.
B: All Chametz that will not be eaten or burned needs to be sold to a non-Jew through a transaction facilitated by the Rabbis of Beth El. (Sale of Chametz form below or online at bethelsnj.org/passover) It should be mailed, dropped off, or returned by email no later than Monday, April 22 at 10am.

Foods During Pesach

The following foods are forbidden for use during Pesach: All uncertified products of the 5 specified grains traditionally identified as Chametz: oats, wheat, barley, rye and spelt. This includes such products as bread, cakes, biscuits, crackers, cereal, etc. Ashkenazic custom has us refraining from eating rice, corn, peas and legumes because when ground they can be confused for those grains listed above. However, in a different form, some of the derivative products of these foods are permitted such as peanut oil. With so much hechshered food available in our area, it is best just to look for the certification on foods.

Kashering Utensils

Pots and Pans: Silverware and pots must be thoroughly scrubbed, cleaned and then completely immersed in boiling water. Pots should not be used for a period of at least 24 hours between the cleaning and the immersion in boiling water. Metal baking utensils cannot be kashered.

Earthenware: China and pottery etc. may not be kashered.

Ovens & Ranges: Every part that comes in contact with food must be thoroughly scrubbed and cleansed. Oven and range should be on as hot as possible for ½ hour.

Microwaves: After a thorough cleansing, a cup of hot water should be brought to a boil until most of the water disappears.

Dishwasher: The Rabbinical Assembly has ruled that after not using the machine for 24 hours, running a full cycle through empty with detergent will kasher a dishwasher for Pesach.

Tables, Food, Closets & Counters: Should be thoroughly cleaned and covered for Pesach. Then they may be used.

Kitchen Sink: A metal sink can be kashered by thoroughly cleaning and then pouring boiling water over it. A porcelain sink should be cleaned and a sink rack used. If, however, dishes are to be soaked in a porcelain sink, a dish basin must be used.

Charitable giving before Passover is called **Ma'ot Chittin**. Donations that accompany your chametz sale will be directed toward the needy of our community. To fill out the Sale of Chametz form online, [CLICK HERE](#).

Delegation of Power: Sale of Chametz Form

I hereby authorize Rabbi David Englander to be my agent to sell all kinds of Chametz including, but not limited to, any leavened food, dishes, pots, pans, and utensils used with leavened food, which may be in my possession at the address below. Rabbi Englander is also empowered to lease all places wherein Chametz owned by me may be his stead and said substitute shall have full right to sell and to lease as provided herein. I understand that the sale will be effective at noon on Monday, April 22nd.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

This form is to be returned to the office by 10am on April 22nd; taking a picture of it and emailing to denglander@bethelsnj.org is also acceptable.