



בית כנסת מרכז קהילתי ע"ש גולדשטיין

**McDonald International Shul**

ORTHODOX ASHKENAZI COMMUNITY NETANYA

קהילה דתית לאומית אשכנזית נתניה

בס"ד

**07/01/21**

**פרשת שמות תשפ"א**

## **CHAIRMANS CORONA UPDATE**

**It has been just over 6 weeks since my last update to the Kehilla. I hope that all is well with our members and friends.**

**Nearly 12 months have passed since the term "Corona" came into our lives and it has certainly had an effect on all of us.**

**As of Thursday night, as you all know Israel is going back into a closedown very similar to the closedown earlier in the year over the Chagim. Throughout the last few weeks we have continued to conduct daily & Shabbat services in the shul, keeping in line with the regulations as dictated by the Health Ministry. We hope to continue having services during the closedown with Shabbat minyanim planned**

outside, please bring warm jackets!

The Rav continues with his daily Gemmara Zoom Shiur and other Shiurim. The "light at the end of the tunnel" seems to be appearing in the distance with more than 1 million citizens having already been vaccinated, many of our members have already received their 1<sup>st</sup> vaccine and will soon be receiving the 2<sup>nd</sup> dose.

My opinion is that getting back to a "new normality" will take a bit longer than we think and that although many people will be vaccinated shortly, restrictions will carry on for a while longer and it will not be like a "magic wand". We have to be patient and take this 3<sup>rd</sup> closedown seriously.

### הודו ל ה' כי טוב

A member of our Kehilla called the office today and told Laura that she feels that everyone who gets a vaccine against the Corona virus should be grateful to HaShem and should make a donation to the Shul. The vaccine itself is given free (you have to buy other vaccines, as she knows having had 2 vaccines for other

conditions not too long ago) and so a donation to the Shul in thanks would be very appropriate - everyone choosing how much they wish to give for each shot.

She just gave a donation of 120 shekels for receiving the first shot and will give another for the second.

As I have mentioned in the past, a very large portion of the shul's income is made of donations, from Aliyot, using the hall for Semachot, Yahrzeit and much more, we have lost much of this over the last year. I hope that our members and friends will join with this initiative from one of our members and make similar donations, everyone to choose what he or she feels is the correct donation. Please call Laura during office hours or send an email, or by PAYPAL.

Most of you have relatives and friends in other countries and have been following the situations overseas. Everyday I thank my dear parents z"l for having encouraged my family and making Aliya many years ago. With all the problems we have in our dear Country - and they are

many, whether it is in politics, economy, with our neighbouring countries, bureaucracy and much more, we can be proud of the situation that we are in being able to vaccinate such a large proportion of the population in such a short time. We have taught the rest of the world a thing or two, and however many problems we may have had with our Kupot Cholim or hospitals, the NHS and American public health systems together with the WHO can learn a thing or two from our little Country.

הודו ל ה' כי טוב

Keep well, keep healthy and safe, and hopefully we will meet shortly in our special Bet Knesset.

Jeremy Rosenstein - Chairman