

A MESSAGE FROM OUR RABBI

The blessings recited before public reading of the Torah indicate that the Torah is a precious gift from G-d to the Jewish People. Also, the Talmud teaches us that before a person exerts himself to learn Torah, the Torah is called G-d's Torah. Following a person's efforts to learn the Torah, it is called "his Torah."

These sources teach us that G-d intended us to feel that the Torah is ours. It is ours to love, to cherish, and to safeguard as we would protect a treasure that we had struggled to obtain. It would be beautiful for each and every one of us to participate in the writing of this Torah scroll. We will thereby make the Torah a true possession of ours, creating a stronger bond with the Torah and with G-d, and hopefully inspiring us to become more knowledgeable in its Divine wisdom.



TORAH SCROLL
CAMPAIGN

YOUNG ISRAEL
OF SUNNYSIDE

For dedication opportunities, please contact **Rabbi Levant** at (718) 786-7817 or via email at ylevant@verizon.net or contact **Jennifer Gordon** at (718) 255-6852, or via email at jenniferanngordon@gmail.com.

BE PART OF THE SCROLL

ועתה כתבו לכם *"And now write for yourself..."*

Our mystical sources teach us that there is a letter in the Torah for each and every Jew. Every member of our People is critically important. Every letter of the Torah is critically important.

In his final farewell at the end of his life, Moshe commanded each and every one of us to bring our letter together with the letters of the rest of the Jewish People – to write a Torah scroll.

Since a Torah scroll which lacks any part is invalid, our Sages teach us that even contributing a small part of a Torah scroll is as if you had written an entire Torah scroll.

Your participation in the writing of this first ever Young Israel of Sunnyside new Torah scroll will allow you to fulfill your personal mitzvah of writing a Torah scroll.

BE PART OF THE MISSION

את השירה הזאת *"...this song..."*

The Torah is called a song. The notes, the instruments and voices all come together in sync with one another to create a beautiful song. Through Torah, our people combine and connect with one another and with G-d, to form a harmonious universe.

The Young Israel of Sunnyside which dates back to the 1920's is experiencing renewal and growth. A night kollel, an eruv, Torah classes, Yom Tov celebrations, social events, and hands-on experiential learning opportunities reflect the vibrancy of our community. Even the New York Times printed a page one City Section article detailing the exciting developments of our community.

The Young Israel of Sunnyside is a beacon for Jewish observance and Jewish identity in Western Queens. Jews of all walks of life, ages and levels of observance are attracted to the warmth and Torah of our synagogue. Jews of different experience and knowledge will benefit from the Torah that is being written.

BE PART OF THE FUTURE

ולמדה את בני ישראל *"...and teach it to the Children of Israel..."* (Deuteronomy 31:19)

The most authentic and effective safeguard for the transmission of our heritage is education. Moshe implores us to teach the Torah to the Jewish People, so that everyone has the chance to learn it and to raise their unique voice in the song of our People.

The public reading of the Torah at least four times each week is an opportunity for sharing the message of G-d. This new Torah scroll will be at the center of that effort.

If past history can serve as a guide, this Torah scroll will be used for well over a hundred years. The merit that you can gain by participating in this mitzvah is almost unparalleled. Every time this Torah scroll is read, you will share in the mitzvah that is fulfilled, decade after decade.

